The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal
An Invitation to Nominate Candidates
The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

On February 6, 2012, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will mark the 60th anniversary of her accession to the Throne as Queen of Canada—an occasion marked only once before by her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, in 1897.

In celebration of this event, a commemorative medal has been created. The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal is a visible and tangible way to recognize 60,000 outstanding Canadians of all ages and from all walks of life, who have built and continue to build this caring society and country through their service, contributions and achievements.

To ensure that every field of activity is recognized, partnering organizations have been invited to select candidates from their community or organization for this national honour. The complete list of partnering organizations will be available on the Governor General’s website, www.gg.ca/diamondjubilee. Please note that members of the general public are welcome to contact members of Parliament, senators, lieutenant governors, territorial commissioners, or provincial and territorial premiers to suggest names of candidates. Recommendations can also be made to non-governmental organizations participating in this program, but only for individuals affiliated with these organizations.

This medal program is one of the elements of the year-long Diamond Jubilee celebrations. The Chancellery of Honours, as part of the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, administers the program.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this honour, a person...

• Must be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada, but need not necessarily reside in Canada;

• Must have made a significant contribution to a particular province, territory, region or community within Canada, or an achievement abroad that brings credit to Canada; and

• Must be alive on February 6, 2012, the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty’s accession to the Throne. The medal can be awarded posthumously, as long as the recipient was alive on that date.

Guidelines for the selection of recipients

The following guidelines have been developed to provide guidance in selecting deserving candidates:

• The awarding of the medal should focus on the achievements of persons who have helped to build the Canada of today, including seniors, volunteers, veterans and youth;

• Through their achievements and sustained contribution, the candidates have distinguished themselves from others employed in the same field;

• Recipients should be highly respected individuals within their community. The recipients’ names will be part of the public record;

• The list of recipients should be inclusive and reflect the demographics of the region or community;

• The selection process should be non-partisan and merit-based;

• The medal is to be awarded to individuals only, not to groups or couples.
Presentation Ceremonies

We encourage you to hold presentation ceremonies for recipients. The format and the scale of these ceremonies are left to your discretion. It is also each organization’s responsibility to contact and invite the recipients to presentation ceremonies. All medals should be presented by February 28, 2013.

Please note that, although there is no cost for the medal, no financial assistance will be provided to cover the costs associated with the presentation of medals.

Detailed information concerning the organization and preparation of presentation ceremonies will be sent to presenters in due course.

About the Medal

The design of the medal was developed by the Canadian Heraldic Authority and approved by Her Majesty The Queen. The medal is manufactured by the Royal Canadian Mint.

The medal bears, on the obverse, the contemporary crowned effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The reverse marks the 60th, or diamond, anniversary of the accession to the Throne of the Sovereign. The anniversary is expressed by the central diamond shape, by the background composed of a pattern of diamonds, and by the two dates, 1952 and 2012. The Royal Cypher consists of the Royal Crown above the letters EIIR (i.e., Elizabeth II Regina, the latter word meaning ‘Queen’ in Latin). The maple leaves refer to Canada, while the motto VIVAT REGINA means ‘Long live The Queen!’ The medal is worn suspended from a ribbon using a new arrangement of the blue, red and white colours found in the 1953 Coronation Medal, the 1977 Silver Jubilee Medal, and the 2002 Golden Jubilee Medal.
Nomination Process

Consideration should be given to the establishment of a selection committee within your organization to identify eligible candidates.

Once potential recipients have been selected, please submit your list of candidates electronically, by accessing the Governor General’s website at www.gg.ca/diamondjubilee. Detailed instructions regarding the online registration of your candidates are provided. We suggest you keep a separate list of alternate candidates to draw from, should the name of a candidate have already been submitted.

IMPORTANT: A short statement or a brief summary of your candidates’ achievements (40 words or 250 characters) must be provided.

Once the nominations have been submitted and validated, the medals and certificates will be mailed to the partnering organization or to the person who will be presenting the medals, along with background information and a guide on the wearing of decorations and medals.

Important Dates

- Nominations can be submitted on or after November 14, 2011. Please note that it is not mandatory to submit all your nominations at once.
- No medal will be shipped before February 6, 2012, the actual date of the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty The Queen’s accession to the Throne.
- The deadline for submitting nominations is December 31, 2012.
- All medals should be presented by February 28, 2013, the date on which the Diamond Jubilee Medal program will close.

For Additional Information

Questions concerning the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal program can be addressed by electronic mail to diamondjubilee@gg.ca or by telephone at 613-998-6790 or 1-800-465-6890 (toll free).

The Chancellery of Honours

The Chancellery of Honours, as part of the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, administers the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal program. For more information on the Canadian Honours System and the Canadian Heraldic Authority, please visit www.gg.ca.

The Chancellery of Honours
Rideau Hall
1 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A1
1-800-465-6890

www.gg.ca

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