

Report to Council



Date: March 30, 2026
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: 51st Annual Civic and Community Awards Finalist Announcement
Department: Sport & Event Services

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from Sport & Event Services, dated March 16, 2026, announcing the finalists for the 51st Annual Civic & Community Awards.

Purpose:

To announce the finalists for the 51st Annual Civic & Community Awards.

Background:

The City of Kelowna's annual Civic & Community Awards recognize the outstanding achievements and contributions made in our city each year. The program includes 13 awards that honour volunteers, artists, athletes, environmentalists, and businesses. Up to three finalists are selected in each category, with one recipient being announced during the awards ceremony.

Discussion:

The following categories will be awarded as part of the 51st annual awards:

- Bob Giordano Memorial Award - Coach or Sport Administrator of the Year
- Bryan Couling Memorial Award - Athletic Team of the Year
- Male and Female Athlete of the Year
- Augie Ciancone Memorial Award - Top Male & Female High School Athlete of the Year
- Teen Honour in the Arts
- Honour in the Arts
- Champion for the Environment
- Corporate Community of the Year
- The Central Okanagan Foundation - Volunteer Organization of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- The Fred Macklin & Sarah Donaldson - Treadgold Memorial Award - Citizen of the Year
- Anita Tozer Memorial Award - selected by Mayor and Council

Two categories also have scholarship components, with recipients in the Young Citizen of the Year Award receiving scholarships from the Payton and Dillon Budd Memorial Fund Youth Scholarship, and the recipient of the Teen Honour in the Arts Award receiving an entrance scholarship to UBC Okanagan.

In addition, the Volunteer Organization of the Year winner receives a \$3000 donation from the Central Okanagan Foundation.

Conclusion:

The 51st Annual Civic & Community Awards Gala, to formally announce the award recipients for each category, will be held on Monday, May 4th, at the Kelowna Community Theatre. Tickets will be allocated to finalists with additional tickets being available for purchase at a nominal fee.

Furthermore, each year the award recipients are recognized at Jim Stuart Park, with their names on an individual name plate.

Internal Circulation:

Active Living & Culture
Communications

Considerations applicable to this report:

Existing Policy: Council Policy 382 – Civic & Community Awards

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Consultation and Engagement:

Communications Comments:

Submitted by: C. Babcock, Event Development Manager, Sport & Event Services

Approved for inclusion: J. Gabriel, Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture