

## Award Guidelines

### What Communities Can Apply?

For the purpose of the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Award, community is described as a Nova Scotian geographic area. It can be a neighbourhood, town, city or district anywhere in Nova Scotia.

### Four Essential Criteria

Any community that can **demonstrate** through evidence, measurement, anecdote and/or illustration each one of the following key criteria can apply for this Award:

- ability to build on unique strengths within the community;
- a high degree of citizen participation in community projects of a wide variety, range and interest;
- clear evidence of community pride; and
- a focus on creating an enduring community.

### Supportive Criteria

The following criteria will strengthen your nomination. If any of these apply to your community include them as well. Please use evidence, measurement, story and/or illustration as outlined in the Criteria checklist found at [communityspiritaward.ca](http://communityspiritaward.ca).

Your community also:

- recognizes history, tradition and cultural heritage
- includes others and encourages diversity in all its forms
- welcomes newcomers and encourages them to stay
- finds solutions to community challenges by working together
- is adaptable and flexible
- has a willingness to start positive change
- has wide-spread support for recreational and cultural activity
- demonstrates youth involvement
- has an authentic respect for seniors
- forms unique and lasting partnerships (formal and/or informal)
- listens to one another in order to form better decisions
- respects the environment as shown through activities or programs

- respects faith-based or spiritual groups as contributors to a healthy community

When looking at how to support your nomination through measurement, statistical data can complement your community's stories. Listed below are some suggestions – but don't be limited to these:

- number of self-generated community initiatives
- number of residents attending community events (including cultural, social and sporting events)
- number of citizen-sponsored programs for children, teens, and/or seniors
- community voter turnout
- number of volunteer agencies (also include approximate number of volunteers)

## **Nomination Limits**

### **Print**

Each story about your community should not exceed 300 words. The total nomination submission cannot exceed ten, one-sided, 8" x 11" pages, single-spaced, in a 12 point Arial font, in a Word document.

## **Where to Submit Your Full Nomination**

All completed application forms and submissions must either be emailed to [communityspiritaward@gov.ns.ca](mailto:communityspiritaward@gov.ns.ca), faxed to (902) 424-0710, or mailed to Communities, Culture and Heritage, Attn: Community Spirit Award, P.O. Box 456, Halifax, NS B3J 2R5 and received by midnight of the closing day March 31, 2016.

## **Super Celebrations**

Should your community be chosen for the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Award, it will be honoured through celebration and recognition. You will help determine the most appropriate way to celebrate with a special event suited to your community. It could be a picnic, regatta, concert, tea party, dinner or dance. Whatever way your community best celebrates! The Lieutenant Governor will attend and present an award that will stay in the community and there will be province-wide public recognition.

Up to four Nova Scotian communities will be honoured each year and are chosen by the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Award Selection Committee based on best fit with the criteria as listed on the criteria checklist found at [communityspiritaward.ca](http://communityspiritaward.ca).