

Each year the Alberta Professional Planners Institute recognizes exemplary planning within the planning profession. Awards acknowledge meritorious plans and projects, undertaken in whole or in part by members of the Institute, that significantly contribute to the livability of communities in Alberta, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. Plans and projects specific to rural and indigenous planning are encouraged.

The 2021 awards will be presented at the APPI Virtual Planning Awards Ceremony in November 2021. Recipients receive a Certificate of Planning Excellence or a Certificate of Planning Merit. The award winning plans and projects will be featured on the APPI YouTube Channel and distributed in a media release.

CATEGORIES

The plan or project must be submitted for only one category and also meet the Eligibility and Submission requirements.

Comprehensive and Policy Plan

- A strategic, long-range policy plan for a municipality, a portion of a municipality (e.g. neighbourhood, downtown) or multiple municipalities (a region), often in the form of a municipal development plan, area structure plan, area redevelopment plan or inter-municipal development plan, also including a land use bylaw.
- A policy plan which addresses specialized areas such as the environment, housing, economic development, recreation and/or parks, social planning, roads or utility infrastructure of a municipality or region.

Design Plan

- A physical land use plan or project focusing on design elements for a specific site or larger area, including but not being limited to site design plans, park/trail plans, historic site/resource plans, revitalization plans, downtown improvement plan.

Special Study

- An original or clearly outstanding study/report, based on sound research and analysis through creative or outstanding approaches leading to findings, solutions and/or approaches of value to the planning profession, the livability of communities or the sustainability of resources.

Education

- Written or electronic materials and videos intended for use within or outside the planning profession to inform or educate the public or segment thereof about the benefits of planning, how planning makes a difference, how planning works and how to be effectively involved in planning processes.

PLANNING AWARDS
Call for Submissions – April 12, 2021
Deadline – 3:30 PM June 15, 2021

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for consideration of an award, the plan or project:

- (1) must have been prepared under the direction of and/or with the substantive involvement of an APPI regulated member (Registered or Candidate) in good-standing;
- (2) must apply to a community, resource, planning process, etc. located within Alberta, the Northwest Territories or Nunavut;
- (3) must have been adopted by bylaw, resolution or other form of acceptance by the appropriate authority; implemented and/or built, within the calendar years 2018, 2019, 2020 (by December 31, 2020).
- (4) must be submitted for only one category and only once (i.e. the project may not be submitted in different years unless the project has been substantially added to (i.e. phases) or substantially altered (i.e. updated).

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A complete submission includes a download of all files to the APPI office with the following.

- (1) a complete, signed application form;
- (2) a signed covering letter which confirms the category for which the submission is made, states that the eligibility requirements are met, summarizes the merits of the project and the role(s) of APPI members therein;
- (3) a summary of how the applicant feels the submission meets the evaluation criteria (*three pages maximum*);
- (4) project documentation, including the plan, report or other 'product' together with supportive illustrative materials (if any);
- (5) certification that the client is aware and supportive of the submission;
- (6) use of the file nomenclature specified on the submission form when sending the electronic files.

Please note:

- To be considered for an award **the submission must be complete** (see #1 – 6 immediately above) and received by the application deadline; if the submission does not include the first six of the submission requirements listed above, the submission is incomplete and will not be evaluated.
- No changes or additions to the submission will be allowed after the application deadline.
- The Awards Committee may determine a submission is better suited to a category other than the category applied for by the applicant.
- All submitted materials become the property of APPI.

ENQUIRIES regarding the APPI Planning Awards program may be made to:
Kellie Lau, Awards Committee Chair at kellie.lau@gov.ab.ca Phone: 780-415-1857

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EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Awards Committee appointed by APPI Council will evaluate submissions based on the following criteria (the weighting for each criterion is shown in parentheses):

Planning Process (20 %), in regards to an exemplary demonstration of:

- sound planning principles and knowledge
- a thorough, appropriate and methodologically sound approach
- the inclusion of the relevant public, stakeholders and decision-makers
- support for or alignment with other related plans and planning objectives
- acknowledgement and/or resolution of potential effects on other plans, objectives and policies and/or effects on adjacent and nearby lands and resources.

Originality, Innovation/Creativity/Outstanding Application (20%), in regards to an exemplary demonstration of:

- a process, product and/or solution that is original or uniquely visionary in its approach and/or outcomes
- a process, product and/or solution that applies markedly innovative approaches to existing techniques, procedures or concepts
- a process, product and/or solution that is an outstanding application of existing techniques, procedures or concepts.

Transferability (15%), in regards to an exemplary demonstration of:

- applicability to other jurisdictions and issues
- being instructive to other applications, issues and circumstances.

Results (20%), in regards to an exemplary demonstration of:

- achieving the intended objectives of the product, process or plan
- being appropriate to the nature of the challenges and issues addressed
- being supported by analysis and community/stakeholder input
- being carried out or feasibility to be carried out
- being effective and making a positive and measurable difference.

Significance/Impacts (15%), in regards to an exemplary demonstration of:

- furthering planning goals, principles and processes
- positive impact on the planning profession or approaches to planning.

Clarity of Presentation (10%), in regards to an exemplary demonstration of:

- organization, conceptualization, thought, analysis, writing, graphics
- application of planning goals, principles and/or processes
- being appropriate to the targeted audience.

Applicants are applying for an award recognizing exemplary planning. The Awards Committee determines the meritorious standing of all applications and if they qualify for a Certificate of Planning Excellence, a Certificate of Planning Merit or whether no award will be granted.

Note: Evaluation weighting is provided as information to entrants; detailed scoring of submissions is at the discretion of the Awards Committee and will not be disclosed to any or all, of the award applicants.