



OCISO Community Awards of Excellence 2010

Call for Nominations



Awards Presented at OCISO's Awards Gala Dinner on March 11, 2010

Centurion Conference and Event Center,

170 Colonnade Road, Nepean, Ottawa

Call For Nominations: 2010 OCISO Community Awards of Excellence. For more information, please contact: Joycelyn Glover, Fundraising and Communications Coordinator at (613)725-5671 ext 334; or email jglover@ociso.org; Address: OCISO. 959 Wellington Street West, Ottawa, Ontario. K1Y 2X5; Web Site: www.ociso.org

November 23, 2009.

Dear Community Member:

Call for Nominations for the 2010 OCISO Community Awards of Excellence (OCAE)

Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization is calling for nominations for the **2010 OCISO Community Awards of Excellence (OCAE)**. The goal of the OCAE is to recognize and honour community members, groups and organizations for making outstanding contributions to enable immigrants and their families to fully participate in an open and welcoming Ottawa. OCISO recognizes the need to raise public awareness about the contributions made for and by immigrants and refugees in their communities. We continue to engage the larger public to change the dominant narrative of immigrants in our community and to highlight their gifts, knowledge and skills that contribute to the social vibrancy and overall wellbeing our city. As a result, we created the OCAE as a vehicle to positively and publicly recognize and celebrate the achievements of these champions in the Ottawa community.

The OCISO Community Awards of Excellence is a community driven event. As a community member, you have the power to influence the focus and direction of the OCAE nomination process by nominating deserving person (s), groups and organizations doing great work in our community. There are three OCAE categories: The Youth Leadership Award, Heroes Among Us Award, and Organizational Leadership Award. **The deadline to receive completed OCAE nomination forms is January 29, 2010.** Completed OCAE nomination forms must be emailed to jglover@ociso.org or faxed to 613-725-9054 (Attention: Joycelyn Glover).

OCAE winners will be notified on February 18, 2010. OCAE will be presented at the **OCISO Awards Gala Dinner** on Thursday, **March 11, 2010 at Centurion Conference and Event Center**. For more information on the 2010 OCISO Community Awards of Excellence (OCAE) and the OCISO Awards Gala Dinner, contact Joycelyn at jglover@ociso.org or visit www.ociso.org.

Thank you for making the 2010 OCAE nomination process an open search for highly dedicated and committed leadership for in our community.

Sincerely,



Hamdi Mohamed
Executive Director

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This year there are three OCISO Community Awards of Excellence categories. These are:

1. Youth Leadership Award of Excellence (immigrant or second generation youth-up to 18 years)

- Are born outside or inside Canada.
- Have overcome barriers in starting a new life in Canada.
- Demonstrated resilience, motivation, and enthusiasm in school and in their community.
- Have contributed to the well being of their intimate community.
- Peer mentor demonstrating exceptional leadership at school or in their community.
- Are under 18 years of age.

2. Heroes Among Us Award (immigrant adult- above 18 years)

- Are born outside of Canada.
- Have overcome barriers in starting a new life in Canada (such as raising a family, working, schooling)
- Demonstrate through their residence/education/work and/or community activities a substantial contribution to their community.
- Have made contributions to immigrants, refugees and/or wider community in Ottawa by helping immigrants to build a new life in Canada.
- Are 18 years or over.

3. Organizational Leadership Award of Excellence (includes media, corporations, community groups)

- Organization or group that has demonstrated leadership in service delivery in the immigrant sector.
- Works to make Ottawa a welcoming place for immigrants. Please explain in detail.
- Has helped immigrants to build a new life in Canada. Two concrete examples required.
- Strong advocate for the immigrant population in Ottawa.
- Spearhead initiatives at work that highlight the skills, experience, contributions, and talents that immigrants bring to the economic, cultural, social and overall vibrancy in our community.

Terms and Conditions for the Nomination Process

- Candidates must be nominated by another person.
- Nominators must receive the nominee's permission to submit the nomination.
- All nominees are subject to a reference check.
- All recipients must agree to be publicly recognized and be available to attend the Awards Gala Dinner on March 11, 2010.

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- Information, photographs and video recordings of the recipients will be used by OCISO Awards Gala Committee.
- Brief information about the OCISO Community Award of Excellence recipients will be made available to the media and on the OCISO's website.
- Only completed forms will be considered. **Deadline for submissions is January 29, 2010.**

Nomination Process

Nominate a person, an organization and/ or a group that has demonstrated leadership in the immigrant community for any of the three OCAE categories by completing the nomination form attached. **You may email your completed nomination form to jglover@ociso.org or fax to 613-725-9054 (Attention: Joycelyn Glover). The deadline to receive all completed nomination forms is January 29, 2010.**

Upon nomination, the Nominee may receive a letter or a call from the Award Committee asking them for more detailed information about their background. **Please include a copy of the Nominee's current resume** (relating to the award category you are nominating them for). After careful deliberation of nominations, the Award Committee will shortlist three finalists for the three Awards of Excellence. The OCAE winners will be contacted on February 18, 2010. An announcement of the award recipients will be made on OCISO's website and via email.

Thank you for making this process an open search for highly dedicated and committed leadership for in our community. For more information, contact Joycelyn Glover at 613-725-5671 ext 334 or email jglover@ociso.org.

Who We Are

Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization (OCISO) has been providing settlement and integration services to immigrants and refugees in the Ottawa community since 1978. Our programs include Community Integration, Public Education, Multicultural Liaison Officers in schools, Language Instruction for Newcomers, Volunteer and Multicultural Counselling.

Our Vision

OCISO envisions Ottawa as an inclusive city in which all immigrants contribute their gifts, skills, values and culture; strengthening and transforming our community life.

Our Mission Statement

OCISO supports immigrants through the journey of making Canada their home by providing creative and responsive programs that are culturally and linguistically appropriate, by building community through mutual respect and partnerships, and by fostering healthy and inclusive spaces for open dialogue and healing.

Our Values

1. We believe in everyone's ability to enrich Canadian society through their unique contribution.
2. We believe that when we work from a foundation of respect for each person and diverse cultures we can create positive change in our communities.

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3. We are dedicated to being effective, adaptable and principled in our approach to people and situations.
4. Our clients and our staff have a right to a safe environment that is free of harassment and discrimination and the responsibility to foster and protect such an environment.
5. We believe that meaningful change towards social justice is only possible through the evolution of our systems and institutions.

Key Statement: Embracing diversity, building community.

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3. ACHIEVEMENTS

Please list any achievements in the award category for which your Nominee has been nominated including any recognitions and awards that they have received.

4. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Mention any activities that demonstrate your Nominee’s involvement in the community.

Please attach an extra page if more space is required.

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2. ACHIEVEMENTS

Please list your achievements in the award category for which you or your organization or group has been nominated including any recognitions and awards that you have received. You will be asked to verify this information providing the original copies or references when necessary.

3. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Describe any activities that demonstrate your involvement in the community.

*** Nominees may be requested to provide additional information at a later date.*

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