



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Cochrane Community Awards 2016 now accepting nominations, new award category announced**

Cochrane, AB – Nominations are now open for the 2016 Cochrane Community Awards. A new award category, Equity and Inclusion Champion of the Year, has been added to recognize the activities Cochranites are undertaking to advance our community's ability to be welcoming to everyone.

"Residents of Cochrane recognize the importance of making sure everyone feels safe, comfortable and valued," says Valerie McCracken, chair, of the community awards committee. "The new Equity and Inclusion Champion of the Year Award will raise awareness of the activities that are underway to promote accessibility, cultural diversity, and/or social inclusion of marginalized groups.

Cochrane Community Awards is an annual program that recognizes outstanding local citizens, community leaders, schools, businesses and organizations who make Cochrane a great place to live.

The awards celebrate and recognize outstanding achievements and contributions in our community. There are a total of 13 award categories to choose from, including the prestigious Order of Cochrane, presented by Cochrane's mayor and council. Nominees in all categories are recognized at the awards ceremony. **The deadline to submit nomination is: Friday, April 8.**

It's now easier than ever to nominate by using the online nomination form. The option to nominate by completing and submitting a paper application form is still available. To nominate and for more information, visit: [www.ccawards.ca](http://www.ccawards.ca)

The Cochrane Community Awards program is overseen by a committee of local representatives including: educators, seniors, businesses, sustainability champions, as well as the Cochrane and District Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Cochrane. The program is funded through sponsorship from local businesses and groups who recognize the value in activities that encourage making Cochrane a vibrant place to live.

Awards will be presented Sunday May 29, 2016 at the Cochrane RancheHouse.

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