

OVMA AWARDS

HERE'S A LOOK AT LAST YEAR'S WINNERS

The OVMA Award Program recognizes Ontario veterinarians for their contributions to the veterinary profession and outstanding work in their communities. Since the program was established in 1986, more than 100 individuals have been recognized with one of OVMA's prestigious awards.

To learn more about the OVMA Awards Program and the most recent winners, visit bit.ly/OVMA-awards.



DR. PATRICIA LECHTEN

Outstanding Veterinarian Award

Dr. Patricia Lechten was honoured for her outstanding contributions to the veterinary profession and for her work improving the health and well-being of animals for more than 30 years. She's a recognized leader

and advocate for the profession and a dedicated volunteer. She gives back to underserved communities by organizing spay, neuter and vaccination missions, and by supporting animal rescue and community groups.



DR. JOHN REEVE-NEWSON

Golden Life Membership Award

Dr. John Reeve-Newson has dedicated his 56-year veterinary career to enhancing the health of companion animals. He established The Animal Clinic, where he continues to practice, as well the

Veterinary Emergency Clinic, where he serves as CEO and chairman of the board. He's also served on multiple boards and committees, founded the Companion Animal Wellness Foundation and has judged at prestigious dog shows around the world.



DR. SCOTT WEESE

Award of Merit

A leader in veterinary infection control, Dr. Scott Weese was an instrumental resource for Ontario veterinarians during the COVID-19 pandemic. He worked with OVMA to develop a detailed guide to

help veterinary clinics safely continue operations. He also published pandemic-related articles on his Worms & Germs blog, fielded COVID-19-related questions, and participated in webinars to provide advice to veterinarians across the country.



YVONNE TANG, NICOLE HUANG AND HAYLEY GLAHOLT, FOUNDERS OF LINK COALITION TORONTO

Honorary Membership Award

Yvonne Tang, Nicole Huang and Hayley Glaholt established Link Coalition Toronto (Link T.O.) to assist

individuals fleeing domestic and intimate partner violence with their companion animals. On a mission to end the abuse of humans and animals in Ontario, the Link T.O. team was recognized for their selfless work in raising awareness about the interconnectedness of human and animal violence, and for helping survivors and their pets live in safety through the SafePet Ontario program.

How do I nominate someone for an OVMA award?

1. Choose an award category that best suits your proposed candidate.
2. Complete an OVMA Awards Program nomination form.
3. Compile your supporting materials (biography, supporting letters, newspaper clippings, etc.).*
4. Mail, email or fax your completed nomination form and supporting materials to OVMA at the address below.

**Please be sure to include biographical information about your nominee. This will serve as the basis of the award nomination and presentation.*

What do award recipients receive?

Award winners will receive an engraved OVMA award, complimentary registration to the OVMA Conference & Trade Show, accommodation for one night at the conference venue, and travel expenses to/from the conference.

When are awards presented?

Awards are presented during the annual OVMA Conference & Trade Show in January. Awards are not automatically awarded on an annual basis, but are awarded when at least one nominee meets the award criteria, as determined by the OVMA Awards Committee and Board of Directors.

When is the deadline for nominations?

Nominations must be received by Oct. 1 of each year. Nominations will be accepted after Oct. 1, but will not be considered until the following year's awards program.

About OVMA

Our mandate is to advance and promote excellence in the veterinary profession in Ontario, and to contribute to the betterment of animal health and the protection of human health. Our mission is to contribute to the betterment of animal health and welfare and the protection of human health by advancing and promoting excellence in the veterinary profession in Ontario.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

OVMA
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Milton, ON L9T 0H9
Tel: 1.800.670.1702 • Fax: 1.877.482.5941
info@ovma.org • www.ovma.org



ONTARIO VETERINARY
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Your Source. Your Voice.

DO YOU KNOW AN OUTSTANDING VETERINARIAN?

NOMINATE SOMEONE TODAY!



AWARD CATEGORIES & REQUIREMENTS

Nominees must meet the eligibility criteria and nomination requirements for each award as outlined below. Additional supporting materials are required.

OUTSTANDING VETERINARIAN AWARD

This award is presented to a veterinarian for outstanding contributions to the veterinary profession.

Eligibility/Requirements: All veterinarians who are members of OVMA are eligible. Nominees should demonstrate a suitable background of leadership in professional associations at the regional, provincial and/or national levels, plus involvement in the community leading to an enhanced image of veterinarians and/or the profession. A minimum of two letters of recommendation from two veterinarians – one of whom is an OVMA member – must accompany each nomination.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP AWARD

This award is presented to someone who is not a veterinarian but has contributed to animal welfare and/or the veterinary profession.

Eligibility/Requirements: Any person, other than a veterinarian, who has served the interests of the veterinary profession through various endeavours. A minimum of two supporting letters, both from OVMA member veterinarians, must accompany each nomination.

GOLDEN LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

This award recognizes OVMA members who are retired from full-time career pursuits of veterinary medicine or who have been a veterinarian for a minimum of 30 years and have served the profession in an extraordinary manner. Recipients receive an honorary lifetime OVMA membership.

Eligibility/Requirements: OVMA member veterinarians who are either retired or have been a veterinarian for a minimum of 30 years. A minimum of two supporting letters, both from OVMA member veterinarians, must accompany each nomination.

AWARD OF MERIT

This award recognizes individuals for their practice of, or help to, veterinary medicine. It is awarded for distinguished public service to the veterinary profession in any form.

Eligibility/Requirements: All veterinarians who are members of OVMA are eligible for nomination. Candidates may be nominated by the general public or by members of the veterinary profession. Supporting letters from members of the animal health sector, veterinarians or the general public must accompany each nomination.

ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award is presented to an associate veterinarian who has demonstrated superior customer service and has proven to be an asset to their practice as well as their community.

Eligibility/Requirements: All associate veterinarians who are OVMA members and who graduated more than five years ago are eligible for nomination. Nominees should demonstrate a suitable background of demonstrated client and patient service, and should be recognized as a leader in their clinic, community, or in organizations at local or provincial levels. A minimum of two supporting letters are required: one from a staff member and one from an OVMA clinic owner at their place of employment. The nomination should also include one letter from a client that can be requested by the clinic staff in support of the nomination.

RISING STAR AWARD

This award is presented to an associate veterinarian who has demonstrated superior leadership in their place of employment and their community for the betterment of animal welfare and/or their clients and/or their colleagues in the veterinary profession.

Eligibility/Requirements: All associate veterinarians who are OVMA members and who graduated five years ago or less are eligible for nomination. Nominees should demonstrate a suitable background of client and patient service, and should be recognized as a leader in their clinic, community, or in organizations at the local or provincial level. Their exceptional conduct should reflect an overall positive image of the veterinary profession. A minimum of two supporting letters are required: one from a staff member and one from an OVMA clinic member at their place of employment. The nomination should also include one letter from a client that can be requested by the clinic staff in support of the nomination.



The OVMA Awards Program honours those who have made extraordinary contributions to the veterinary profession, and provides OVMA with the opportunity to recognize and share the inspiring and exceptional work being done on behalf of animal welfare, veterinary medicine and the veterinary profession.



OVMA award recipients are recognized for their achievements in the following ways:

- Award winners are honoured at a ceremony during the annual OVMA Conference & Trade Show.
- Award winner profiles are published in OVMA's member magazine, *Focus*.
- Award winners are announced on the OVMA website (www.ovma.org) and OVMA social media platforms.
- Press releases are distributed to media in the recipient's local community.

OVMA AWARDS PROGRAM NOMINATION FORM

NAME OF NOMINEE

NOMINEE ADDRESS

NOMINEE TELEPHONE NUMBER

NOMINEE EMAIL ADDRESS

Is the nominee an OVMA member?

- Yes
 No

I would like to nominate the above named nominee for the following award:

- Outstanding Veterinarian Award
 Honorary Membership Award
 Golden Life Membership Award
 Award of Merit
 Associate of the Year Award
 Rising Star Award

NAME OF NOMINATOR

NOMINATOR ADDRESS

NOMINATOR TELEPHONE NUMBER

NOMINATOR EMAIL ADDRESS

Are you an OVMA Member?

- Yes
 No

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM, ALONG WITH ALL SUPPORTING NOMINATION MATERIALS TO:

OVMA Awards Program
420 Bronte Street South, Suite 205
Milton, ON L9T 0H9
Toll-free fax: 1.877.482.5941