

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. TAMMY HORNAK
2020 Award of Merit

Dr. Hornak was recognized for her extraordinary public service and work to improve animal welfare. Over the past 10 years, she's held outreach clinics in underserved First Nations communities that have helped reduce heartworm disease in the dog population by more than 30 per cent.



DR. WALT INGWERSEN
2020 Outstanding Veterinarian Award

Dr. Ingwersen was recognized for his outstanding leadership and commitment to veterinary medicine. With almost 40 years of veterinary experience, he's

been actively involved with provincial, national and international associations, and is a role model and mentor to many practitioners.



DR. VERN CHASE
2020 Golden Life Membership Award

Dr. Chase was recognized for his extraordinary service to the veterinary profession during his 43-year career. He's served as a board member for several organizations and has

volunteered his veterinary skills to help animal rescues and the canine police unit. Dedicated to paying it forward, Dr. Chase has supported a wide range of charities and causes.



DR. TRACY GODFREY
2020 Associate of the Year Award

Over the last decade, Dr. Godfrey has demonstrated a commitment to patient care, client service and clinic development. A passionate advocate for pets in her care, she's described by her colleagues and clients as having superior medical and clinical knowledge, and a compassionate and supportive demeanor.



DR. SHAUNA O'BRIEN
2020 Rising Star Award

With a rapidly evolving skill set and a talent for surgeries of all kinds, Dr. O'Brien has quickly become a leader in her clinic. She's also dedicated to giving back to the profession and her community,

and she mentors veterinary students, serves on the board of directors for her regional veterinary association and volunteers for local wildlife organizations.



DR. MOLLY ROBINSON
2020 Rising Star Award

Dr. Robinson was praised for her ability to truly invest in each patient and build meaningful relationships with her clients. She's known for going above and beyond to help animals in need, and she

continually inspires her colleagues by helping to shape the clinic's culture.

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
420 Bronte Street South, Suite 205
Milton, ON L9T 0H9
Tel: 1.800.670.1702 • Fax: 1.877.482.5941
info@ovma.org • www.ovma.org



**DO YOU
KNOW AN
OUTSTANDING
VETERINARIAN?**

**NOMINATE SOMEONE
TODAY!**

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.



2019 OVMA Award winner Dr. Christian Heyerhoff

- 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.

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.



OVMA AWARDS PROGRAM NOMINATION FORM

NAME OF NOMINEE

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE NUMBER

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

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE NUMBER

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