

# HONORARY DEGREE INFORMATION SHEET

## OVERVIEW

An Honorary Degree (HD) is the university's highest accolade, bestowed on those individuals whose extraordinary achievements and service to the community are deemed worthy of praise and note. Through their stature and example, honorary degree recipients provide inspiration and leadership to the graduating class, the University, and the community. This degree, conferred honoris causa, "for the sake of honor", is said to honor both the recipient and the spirit of the institution.

## WHO CAN BE NOMINATED?

An HD recipient is a Canadian or non-Canadian who has made an extraordinary and impactful contribution to their discipline, community, or society. The recipient will reflect positively on the University and will preferably have a connection to the University directly or the city of Calgary. As the University of Calgary enters its next 50 years, we continue to look to members of the community to nominate remarkable human beings to inspire our students and be part of the University of Calgary story.

Nominations cannot be submitted for active politicians or those currently serving the University as members of the Board of Governors, Senate, or University employees.

Previous recipients, forms and citations can be found online [here](#).

## HOW DO I NOMINATE SOMEONE?

1. An HD nomination may be submitted at any time. The nomination form and support letters can be completed online [here](#). **Only completed packages will be accepted.**
2. It is recommended that nominators complete background research to ensure their nominee has not already received an HD and read previous citations to identify the caliber of individuals receiving HDs.
3. Nominations require one primary letter of nomination and a minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 supporting statements from other individuals. The nominator should obtain the additional support letters with signatures then complete the nomination form online.
4. Please ensure your nomination letter clearly describes the reasons for the nomination and the candidate's contributions. Do not assume that committee members have personal knowledge of the candidate or the nominators. A summary of other accomplishments is helpful, but a full bio or resume is only required if it is deemed of importance by the nominator.
5. Nominees should not be informed of their nomination. Nominations are confidential.
6. It is preferable that an HD recipient personally attends the relevant convocation ceremony.
7. Approved nominations are held for a maximum of three years and will be considered for all convocations during that period.

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ONLY COMPLETE NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. CHECKLIST FOR A COMPLETE NOMINATION:

- NOMINATION FORM (Online)
  - 2-4 SUPPORTING LETTERS (Signed)
  - RESUME OR BIO (Optional)
  - LINK TO ARTICLE, PROFILE OR ONLINE SOURCE (Optional)
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## WHAT HAPPENS TO THE NOMINATION AFTER IT IS SUBMITTED?

An acknowledgement of receipt of a completed nomination package will be sent by email to the nominator only. Outside of this acknowledgement of receipt, no further communication regarding the nomination status will occur, unless a nominee is selected and contacted directly.

The completed nomination will be brought forward to the Honors Committee for review and consideration. If approved by this committee, the nomination is then voted on by the Senate of the University of Calgary. The Senate has responsibility for approving individuals for selection by the Chancellor and President Vice Chancellor.

The list of approved candidates is then submitted to the University Chancellor who, along with the University President and Vice-Chancellor, will select an Honorary Degree awardee. All proceedings regarding the selection of recipients are confidential.