



Land Awards

2022 Nomination Kit

PRESENTED BY





Celebrating big ideas and bold leadership in sustainable land use and real estate.

In 2010, the Land Awards were created by the Real Estate Foundation of BC (REFBC) to highlight and celebrate excellence in sustainable land use.

The awards recognize outstanding projects and standout leaders who work to protect the lands and waters we love, and create welcoming, inclusive, and socially just communities across BC.

The awards are presented at the Land Awards Gala, a night of camaraderie, revelry, and inspiration. This year's Gala will be held on **June 9, 2022**, at the Anvil Centre in New Westminster, BC.

AWARDS PROGRAM

Land Awards

Celebrating successful *projects* in five categories:

- » Land Use
 - » Built Environment
 - » Fresh Water
 - » Food Lands
 - » Real Estate
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Land Champion Award

Recognizing the outstanding achievements of an *individual or team*.

Emerging Leader Award

Highlighting early successes of an *individual or team*.

Land Awards *Categories*

Land Awards recognize projects that raise the bar for innovation, collaboration, equity, and sustainability in land use and real estate. Awards can be given for research, tools, policies, neighbourhood plans, buildings, programs, campaigns, and other initiatives.

Awards are given by subject area – one award will be presented in each of five categories:



Land Use and Conservation

This award celebrates projects that strengthen relationships between people and places they love, and contribute to more sustainable and socially just communities.

Projects nominated for this award could advance:

- More sustainable land use planning at a local, regional, or territorial scale
- First Nations' rights and title in land use decision making and stewardship
- Conservation and ecosystem protection
- Natural capital and ecosystem services protection or restoration

Previous Finalists:

- BC First Nations Land Use Planning Handbook (*Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council*)
- Municipal Natural Assets Initiative (*Brooke and Associates, Smart Prosperity Institute, David Suzuki Foundation, and the Town of Gibsons*)
- Embracing Our Potential (*Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association*)



Built Environment

This award celebrates built environment projects that support inclusive, resilient, low-carbon, sustainable communities.

Projects nominated for this award could advance:

- Affordable housing and more resilient and inclusive communities
- Green buildings, public spaces and infrastructure
- Low-carbon, inclusive or sustainable development and community planning
- Public transit and active transportation
- More complete, mixed-use, smart growth communities

Previous Finalists:

- Olivia Skye (*Atira Development Society*)
- BC's Affordable Housing Plan (*BC Non-Profit Housing Association*)
- BC Energy Step Code (*Energy Step Code Council*)
- Nuutsumuut Lelum (*Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre*)
- Westminster Pier Park (*New Westminster*)



Fresh Water

Land use and real estate practices have a significant impact on fresh water. This award category recognizes projects that help to protect, restore or steward freshwater ecosystems in BC that are healthy, sustainable and valued.

Projects nominated for this award could advance:

- Freshwater conservation
- Watershed governance
- Water quality, monitoring, and protection
- Habitat restoration and stewardship
- Climate action (mitigation, adaptation)

Previous Finalists:

- POLIS Water Sustainability Project (*POLIS Project on Ecological Governance at the University of Victoria*)
- Duteau Creek Watershed Assessment Response Plan (*Greater Vernon Water Utility*)
- Green Shores Program (*Stewardship Centre for BC Society*)



Food Lands

This award celebrates projects that connect lands and people to help build healthy, sustainable food systems in British Columbia.

Projects nominated for this award could advance:

- Indigenous food sovereignty initiatives
- Agricultural planning
- Extension services and training for new farmers
- Farmland access and tenure
- Local food movements
- Climate action (mitigation, adaptation)

Previous Finalists:

- Young Agrarians Land Matching Program (*FarmFolk CityFolk*)
- Southwest BC Food System Design Project (*Institute for Sustainable Food Systems at Kwantlen Polytechnic University*)
- The Beer Farm (Persephone Brewing Company)



Real Estate **NEW!**

Real estate professionals act as trusted advisors on property and land use decisions. This award celebrates real estate professionals who demonstrate leadership and innovation in advancing sustainable and inclusive land use and real estate practices in BC.

Projects nominated for this award could build:

- Real estate professionals' capacity to serve public interest by advising on sustainable or inclusive real estate, land use and built environment trends, laws and standards
- Collaborations between industry leaders, researchers, planners, policy makers and public educators
- The ability of real estate professionals to contribute to land use and real estate practices that support resilient, healthy communities and natural environments

This is a new award category. We welcome nominations from professional associations, real estate boards, teams of real estate professionals, and others.



WHAT KINDS OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

Land Awards can be given for any project relating to land use or real estate in British Columbia, including those that advance:

- » Sustainable land use
- » Traditional ecological knowledge
- » Diversity, equity and inclusion
- » Policy or law reform
- » Improved community planning, practices or tools
- » Research and education
- » New technologies, services
- » Innovative financial models
- » Public engagement (including citizen science and more diverse and inclusive ecosystem governance)

Land Awards *Eligibility & Judging*

To be eligible for nomination, projects must meet the following criteria:

- Project is based in British Columbia and led by an organization with strong ties to BC (can be non-profit, public, or private sector)
- Project is related to land use and/or real estate
- Project is undertaken in collaboration with others
- Project milestone reached within the last two years

Nominations

A complete nomination includes:

1. [Nomination Form - Land Awards](#)
2. Photos, images (3+)
3. Letters of support (2+)

Judging Criteria

Each Land Award is chosen by a Land Awards Selection Committee, which is made up of an REFBC Governor, staff person and five external judges who are chosen for their expertise in the award subject category.

In reviewing award nominations, judges will consider:

Creativity and impact

- The project finds a new or improved solution to a problem.
- The project can act as a useful model for others.
- The project makes a lasting contribution to a profession, a community, or a natural environment.

Collaboration and engagement

- The project brings diverse partners together to build a solution that works for many.
- The project advances the sustainability of land, water, and built environment.
- The project helps create more socially just, equitable, and inclusive communities and relationships



Emerging Leader Award

The Emerging Leader Award recognizes the positive impact that young leaders (age 35 and under) are having on land use, fresh water and food systems, community planning, conservation, or real estate in BC.

An Emerging Leader is helping advance sustainable, equitable, and inclusive communities through their community, organization, or profession, and has demonstrated early successes and the capacity to make wider change.

An Emerging Leader could be a student, young professional, community volunteer, or organizer. We will also consider small groups of young people for this award.

Eligibility

To be eligible for nomination, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Nominee(s) must be a BC resident (age 35 and under)
- Nominee(s) has made contributions to sustainable land use, fresh water and food systems, community planning, conservation, or real estate practices in BC

Nominations

A complete nomination includes:

1. [Nomination Form - Emerging Leader Award](#)
2. Photos, images (3+)
3. Letters of support (2+)

Judging Criteria

The Emerging Leader Award is judged by the Land Champion and Emerging Leader Committee, which includes the three most recent Chairs of REFBC's Board of Governors.

In reviewing award nominations, judges will consider:

Leadership and initiative

- The Emerging Leader demonstrates exceptional drive, determination, and initiative.
- The Emerging Leader has a vision for positive change, and has made contributions (at a community, professional, or organizational level) toward making that vision a reality.

Collaboration and community-building

- The Emerging Leader works to inspire and empower others.
- The Emerging Leader builds trust and capacity within their community.

Past Winners

Veronika Bylicki and Tesicca Truong (2018)

Veronika and Tesicca are the co-founders of CityHive, an organization that works to engage youth in civic affairs and sustainability. Together, they've launched pop-up "think-and-do" tanks, formed youth hubs on city building, and advocated for youth inclusion in planning.



Land Champion Award

The Land Champion Award recognizes a leader who has made a significant impact on land use, fresh water and food systems, community planning, conservation, or real estate practices in BC.

The Land Champion Award goes to a person who shares REFBC's view that, by making choices that respect the balance between nature and human needs, we can ensure that future generations continue to share the high quality of life we enjoy today.

Eligibility

To be eligible for nomination, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Nominee must be a BC resident
- Nominee has made a lasting contribution to land use, fresh water and food systems, community planning, conservation, or real estate practices in BC

Nominations

A complete nomination includes:

1. [Nomination Form - Land Champion Award](#)
2. Photos, images (3+)
3. Letters of support (2+)

Judging Criteria

The Land Champion Award is judged by the Land Champion and Emerging Leader Committee, which is comprised of the three most recent Chairs of the REFBC Board of Governors.

In reviewing award nominations, judges will consider:

Legacy and capacity-building

- The Land Champion has made exemplary contributions, over time, towards protecting and sustaining BC's shared land and water, and strengthening communities.
- The Land Champion has helped create resources, tools, or policies that can be used and adapted by other individuals, organizations, and communities.
- The Land Champion helps create more socially just, equitable, and inclusive communities and relationships.

Leadership and impact

- The Land Champion has championed a cause and inspired others to action.
- The Land Champion has a clear vision for positive change and has committed to making that vision a reality.



Past Winners

Lana Lowe (2018)

A Dene from Fort Nelson First Nation, Lana has worked to manage and protect water, land, and habitat in northeast British Columbia. As the Nation's Director of Lands, Lana has worked with community members and industry to manage the impacts of oil and gas development in the Nation's territory. She's also established community-led research and water monitoring programs which feed into a databank used for impacts assessment, policy review, land use planning, and legal actions to protect freshwater and caribou.

Deborah Curran (2016)

An environmental lawyer and educator, Deborah is a national leader in law reform, applied research, and education. Through her work as co-founder of Smart Growth BC, acting executive director of the Environmental Law Centre at the University of Victoria, and as a practicing lawyer, Deborah has established herself as a thought leader on sustainable built environments and freshwater governance.

Submitting a Nomination

To be considered complete and eligible, each nomination should include the following:

1. The appropriate nomination form ([Land Award](#) | [Land Champion](#) | [Emerging Leader](#))
2. Photos or images (3+)
3. Letters of support (2+)

Nominators may also include additional supporting documents (reports, CVs, news articles, links to websites and projects) to help communicate the project or person's impact.

If a nomination includes many links, or if the links are to long articles or videos, it is unlikely that judges will have time to read/watch them all. Please choose supporting material carefully.

If you have questions about eligibility or the nomination process, please contact Stephen Hui, REFBC Communications Manager, by phone (778-357-1423) or email (stephen@refbc.com).

Please submit a completed nomination by email to landawards@refbc.com by 6 pm on **December 1, 2021**. In fairness to other nominees, late submissions will not be considered.

Timeline

Nominations open: **Tuesday, September 7, 2021**

Nominations close: **Wednesday, December 1, 2021**

REFBC will inform Land Champion, the Emerging Leader, and Land Awards finalists in **spring 2021**. All awards will be presented at the Land Awards Gala on **June 9, 2022**.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I self-nominate?

Land Award nominations (for projects) may be submitted by the lead organization.

Land Champion and Emerging Leader nominations must be submitted by another individual (who is not a family member of the nominee).

I've nominated a project in a past year - can I nominate the project again?

Yes, if another project milestone has been met within the last two years.

My organization isn't a non-profit, are we still able to nominate a project?

Absolutely! We believe that all organizations and sectors have a role in championing sustainable attitudes and practices. Nominations are open to non-profit organizations, public institutions, and private companies.

Can I nominate someone who has passed away?

The Land Champion Award may be given posthumously, in recognition of a lifetime of work.

The Emerging Leader Award is intended to recognize someone who has made early successes and is poised to become a strong leader within their organization, community, or sector. This award should be given to a living person.

SAVE THE DATE: 2022 Land Awards Gala

June 9, 2022 | Anvil Centre, New Westminster



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ABOUT US

The **Real Estate Foundation of BC** is a philanthropic organization that helps advance sustainable land use in British Columbia. We provide grants to non-profit organizations working to improve BC communities through responsible and informed land use, conservation, and real estate practices.

In addition to funding research, education, and law reform initiatives, we conduct research on land use trends and work to convene and connect organizations working on BC land use issues.

While the Foundation makes grants to non-profits only, Land Awards are given in all sectors. We believe that sharing knowledge and connections builds bridges and supports real progress toward sustainability.