

# Background and Previous Council Direction

## Background

The Calgary Awards Program (“the Program”) evolved from the Centennial Awards of Merit Program, which became the Calgary Awards in 1994. In 2018, Council adopted the recommendations of report PFC2018-0112 which provided policy for the Calgary Awards within the Recognitions by Council Policy, CP2018-2, which confirmed that “exemplary achievements by Calgarians shall be recognized through the Calgary Awards Program on an annual basis. The Calgary Awards are The City’s highest honour” (section 5.7.1).

In 2020, the marketing plan, nomination process and jury selection process of the Program were presented to the Gender Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Sub-Committee of the Social Wellbeing Committee, which advised making the Program more accessible, inclusive and diverse so the recipients better represent Calgarians. The following changes included: expanded marketing efforts to include new Canadians and marginalized communities; recruit more diverse juries (gender, race, age and jury experience); and, to provide unconscious bias training for jury members prior to reviewing nominations.

## Previous Council Direction

DATE	REPORT NUMBER	DIRECTION/DESCRIPTION
2024 March 19	C2024-0117	Council ratified 2024 Calgary Award recipients as recommended by the selection juries and as set out in Revised Confidential Attachment 1.
2018 April 23	PFC2018-0112	Recognitions by Council Policy Council approved the Recognitions by Council Policy, CP2018-2.

## Bylaws, Regulations, Council Policies

### **Council Policy: Recognitions by Council, CP2018-2**

The purpose of this Council policy is to establish criteria and procedures to ensure Recognitions by Council are carried out in a consistent and professional manner. The policy provides that The City Clerk’s Office shall “...be responsible for managing the Calgary Awards Program, including determining award categories and names, selecting and coordinating juries, arranging and coordinating the ceremony and all other aspects of the Program design not articulated in this policy” (section 5.7.5).