



Outdoor Play Canada

OPC Awards Selection Committee

Terms of Reference

1. ROLE/PURPOSE

The Outdoor Play Canada (OPC) Awards were established in 2019 (first recipients in 2019) and are presented biennially in the form of a recognition award and prominent recognition on the OPC website. OPC Awards include the following six categories:

OPC Honour Award: The OPC Honour Award is the highest form of recognition by OPC. The award is designed to recognize and celebrate an individual/organization who has demonstrated exceptional and sustained leadership for the promotion of outdoor play in Canada. Qualified nominees are individuals/organizations who have made outstanding contributions to outdoor play through leadership, capacity development, practice, policy, research, advocacy, role-modelling, and other efforts to substantially support the outdoor play movement in Canada.

OPC Dr. Mariana Brussoni Award: In recognition of Dr. Mariana Brussoni (leading Canadian researcher, pioneer, and advocate of the importance of risky play for healthy childhood growth and development), the OPC Dr. Mariana Brussoni Award is intended to recognize and celebrate an individual who has provided leadership for the promotion and activation of outdoor risky play in Canada. Qualified nominees are individuals who have demonstrated exceptional commitment and leadership for the promotion of children's healthy, active, and risky outdoor play, and whose contribution has advanced OPC's capacity to achieve its objectives.

OPC Policy Award: The OPC Policy Award recognizes and celebrates a significant contribution to the policy base for the field of outdoor play. It is awarded to a policymaker and/or organization for demonstrated commitment and leadership in policy development and/or implementation that promotes and/or facilitates outdoor play. Qualified nominees are individuals or groups/organizations whose efforts have resulted in improved quantity and/or quality of outdoor play through developing, refining, implementing and/or promoting policies/regulations facilitating outdoor play.

OPC Practice Award: The OPC Practice Award recognizes and celebrates individuals/groups/organizations for sustained commitment to quality practice or program delivery that promotes and/or facilitates outdoor play. Qualified nominees are individuals, groups or organizations that have demonstrated dedication, commitment, passion, innovation or creativity to current practice or program delivery to promote/facilitate quality outdoor play experiences.

OPC Research Award: The OPC Research Award recognizes and celebrates an individual for national leadership and outstanding contribution to research related to outdoor play. Qualified nominees are prominent researchers who have demonstrated research excellence recognized as



scholarly output and recognition in the field of outdoor play that has demonstrated national impact.

OPC Youth Award (<30yrs of age): The OPC Youth Award recognizes and encourages the best of talent being trained in the area of active, healthy and risky outdoor play promotion. Qualified nominees are students, trainees and young leaders under the age of 30 years who have demonstrated involvement, commitment and leadership for the promotion of outdoor play in Canada.

2. TERMS

The Awards Selection Committee will be formed within 12 months of the Breath of Fresh Air Outdoor Play Summit. The term for each member of the Awards Selection Committee is up to 12 months, expiring after the Summit.

3. MEMBERSHIP

The Selection Committee will comprise at minimum, two members of the BoFA Organizing Committee and one member of the OPC Board of Directors. In addition, award winners from previous years will be invited to take part in this Committee. In the case of a conflict of interest, Selection Committee members will be excused from the review process and a suitable alternate invited to sit on the Selection Committee.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Committee is responsible for selecting OPC award recipients, based on nominations submitted through the OPC Members Area online portal.

5. MEETINGS

Meetings will be held on an as-needed basis (e.g., review of nominations, confirmation of recipients) via Zoom (or equivalent). Typically only two meetings will be held in the 12 months leading up to the Breath of Fresh Air Summit. Meetings will be chaired by the OPC Executive Director. A meeting quorum will be a simple majority of the members of the Awards Selection Committee. Decisions will be made by consensus. If not possible, a simple majority vote will prevail. Meetings agendas/minutes will be provided by the OPC Executive Director or designate.

6. AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION OR VARIATION

This Terms of Reference may be amended, varied or modified through a motion made to the OPC Board of Directors.