

Organic Leadership Awards are to given industry leaders who have displayed exceptional leadership through their involvement in advancing Canada's organic sector. The four award categories are:

#### ORGANIC INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR

The Organic Innovator of the Year Award recognizes “game-changers,” who have made significant contributions toward growing the organic industry through innovation and action in areas such as consumer education and marketing, new market development, public relations, standards development, new product development, retail campaigns, advocacy, and research. Eligible candidates include businesses, associations, farms, and organizations providing services to the organic sector.

#### ORGANIC SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR

The Organic Supplier of the Year Award recognizes organizations who excel in growing, manufacturing, or distributing organic products in Canada. Accomplishments such as having a broad range of organic supply, development of new organic offerings, marketing and promotion of organic, and consumer education initiatives will all be considered for this award. Leadership in a category and commitments to the principles of organic agriculture - particularly taking these above and beyond certification - will also be considered. Eligible candidates include farms, farmers, manufacturers, importers, exporters, and distributors.

#### ORGANIC CHAMPION OF THE YEAR

The Organic Champion of the Year Award recognizes industry leaders who have distinguished themselves professionally for their pursuit of, zeal or notable advancements toward growing methods, programs, initiatives, new categories, or product development that promote the growth, sustainability or influence of organic agriculture and trade. Eligible candidates include individuals of any affiliation.

#### ORGANIC RETAILER OF THE YEAR

The Organic Retailer of the Year Award recognizes retailers of all shapes and sizes for their committed efforts to promote organic to consumers. Product promotions, flyers, merchandising, POS materials, and consumer education will all be considered, as well as a commitment to carrying organic products as demonstrated by the breadth of product range, private label organic products, and any commitments to increase organic offerings or shelf space. Participation in the national Organic Week campaign will also be recognized in your application. Eligible candidates include all forms of retailers: natural food and independents, regional and national grocery chains, mass merchandisers, online retailers, restaurant and food service outlets, farmers' markets, community supported agriculture programs, etc.

#### ORGANIC FARMING AWARD

The Organic farming award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated their continued commitment to organic practices through the development of additional sustainability measures, sharing of knowledge with others, and mentorship. The award seeks to highlight their innovated methods or advancements for organic agriculture. This award is open to either one individual farmer or a group of farmers that form one legal entity.

#### LEADERSHIP IN ORGANIC SCIENCE

The Organic Science award is presented to an individual who has had a significant impact on organic agriculture through research and education. While it is recognized that research is conducted in teams with the support of technicians and students, this award is intended to acknowledge the leadership or

significant impact of an individual's work/research program. The recipient will be selected based on demonstration of exceptional leadership & contribution to at least two of the following areas:

1. Research that has resulted in (or has the potential to result in) significant improvement of practices in organic operations.
2. Communication of knowledge gained from organic science in a way that has impact on stakeholders who can use it.
3. Expansion of the integrity of organic science by establishing networks or collaborations with other scientists, as well as research that has influenced or informed government policy that supports the adoption of organic practices.