

# Okanagan Branch Request for Nominations

## Purpose and Intent of Branch Awards

The purpose and intent of the awards are multi-faceted, namely, to:

- Recognize outstanding Agrology practice within the Okanagan Branch
- Build community relationships
- Increase the profile and visibility of the BCIA, thereby raising public awareness
- Increase professional activities for members
- Recognize and provide grant funding to youth engaging in studies leading to Agrology

## Okanagan Branch Awards Categories

The awards categories are inclusive of both OK Branch members and non-members as follows:

### Professional Agrologist Achievement Award

To recognise excellence and outstanding agrology practice by a Professional Agrologist within a regular area of practice. The individual has significantly contributed to the promotion and advancement of Agrology through research, innovation, contribution to the community, or agrological awareness within the province, through their community work or employment. This award is designed to recognise specific achievements (IE. Ground-breaking research, program building, etc.). This award should be nominated within 3 years of the specific achievement.

### Lifetime Achievement Award

To recognize an individual Professional Agrologist for lifetime contribution to Agrology, within and outside of employment. The individual has shown exemplary service in the field of agrology through their career and has continually contributed positively to the community. This award focusses on a lifetime of achievements (collective contributions), and therefore should be awarded to someone who is at or nearing retirement in the field of Agrology.

### Farm Family Award

To recognize a family-oriented farm in within the Branch boundaries. This could include multi-generational family operation due to historical settlement or recently established family-run enterprises, who demonstrate innovative practices, implementation of outstanding environmental values, who are committed to good agricultural practices, service to their community and/or any other criteria that make them “exceptional”.

### Agricultural Business Award

This an award is non-specific to the family farming operation and is inclusive in recognizing excellence in ‘Value-Added’ agri-business. This is dedicated to community businesses who have shown exemplary service in the agricultural or environmental business sector.

## Environmental Award

To recognize the individual, the business, or the government body for exemplary practice with valuable contribution to improving the health of the environment and/or being a leader in environmental sustainability.

## Making an Award Nomination

To make a nomination, the BCIA Okanagan Branch member in good standing may nominate for any of the above categories. Nominees should fall within all or most of the categories listed below:

- ☐ Operating within the field of Agrology
- ☐ Operating full time within branch boundaries (some work may extend boundary)
- ☐ Ethical business practices
- ☐ Proven environmental stewardship of soil, water, air, and habitat, as well as species-at-risk awareness and management
- ☐ Business operation is in good standing
- ☐ Use of modern principles and innovative practices
- ☐ Community-oriented

## Criteria for Agrologist Achievement Award, Lifetime Achievement, and Environmental Award

The nominee must be a registered member in good standing of the BCIA at the time of award nomination.

- The member must be a current Professional Agrologist or Articling Agrologist for a minimum of two years at time of nomination.

## Documentation for Recognition Award

1. Nominating Agrologist
2. Name of nominee
3. Award being Nominated for
4. Mailing address / Contact information of nominee
5. Education (If known)
6. Reason for nomination. (Maximum 250 words)
7. Employment (current plus past if known).
8. Professional achievements and awards (if known).
9. Service to the profession at branch and/or provincial level.
10. Supporting letters (maximum 3 from professionals, industry organizations, or individuals) Letters should document contribution to agriculture, natural resource or environmental science and general status among peers and in the agricultural, natural resource and environmental communities).

Nomination Documentation Requirements for Farm Family, Agricultural Business and Environmental Awards:

1. Nominating Agrologist
2. Award being Nominated for
3. Name of Farm or Business
4. Mailing address / Contact information
5. Website
6. Reason for nomination. (Maximum 250 words)
7. Letters of support (Maximum of 3)

Please submit all nominations to Jose Garcia and [jgarcia@kelowna.ca](mailto:jgarcia@kelowna.ca) no later than January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025.