



Tips for Submitting a Compelling Nomination

The British Columbia Reconciliation Award was created to recognize individuals, groups and organizations who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity, respect and commitment to furthering [Truth and Reconciliation](#) in the Province of British Columbia; and/or inspired others to do so. Each nomination must include a nomination form completed in full and signed by the nominator and a minimum of **two signed testimonial letters** from two separate individuals, other than the nominator.

To make a testimonial letter stand out, it should:

- Include details and concrete examples about how the nominee has demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity, respect and commitment to furthering reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in the province of BC and/or inspired others to continue reconciliation efforts;
- Indicate the relationship between the writer and the nominee and the length of the relationship;
- Describe the outcomes of the work the nominee has done to advance the [Principles of Reconciliation](#) and how the nominee's work has specifically impacted youth and/or Indigenous Elders; and
- Be current and written specifically for the British Columbia Reconciliation Award program.

A compelling testimonial letter may also include other details such as:

- How things were in the community prior to the nominee's efforts;
- The sustainability of their contribution/s;
- How their efforts have positively impacted the community or province;
- Any extraordinary circumstances or challenges the nominee has faced (i.e. provide biographical or historical context, if helpful); and
- Why the jury should select this submission above the others.

Submission of additional materials such as a biography, curriculum vitae, newspaper articles, video or recorded testimonials, links to YouTube videos, photos, etc., *is optional* but strongly recommended to give context and texture to the nomination. **A maximum of five items i.e. additional materials (10 pages total and five minutes of video) will be accepted.**

Note:

- Be concise. When describing a nominee, keep explanations clear and to the point.
- Strong nominations often use descriptive words to describe the nominees such as: advocate, leader, innovator, trailblazer, mentor, supporter, commitment, dedication, recognition, determination, exemplary, admired, motivated, passionate, inspirational, extraordinary, resourceful, persevering, tireless, resilient.
- Proofread all documents before submitting them.