



# 2025 THE NATIONAL INDIGENOUS COACHING AWARDS

NATIONAL COACHING AWARDS  
FOR INDIGENOUS EXCELLENCE IN SPORT

Presented by





## AWARD OVERVIEW

Each year the Aboriginal Sport Circle presents the “National Coaching Award for Indigenous Excellence in Sport” to one woman and one man identifying Indigenous coach who demonstrates exemplary integrity in their approach to coaching. For the 2025 program year, all nominations will be collected by the ASC and a National Selection Committee will determine the award recipients for the men’s and women’s category. The two national recipients will be presented their awards at the 2025 National Indigenous Sports Gala on **October 25, 2025**, in **Ottawa, Ontario**.

## PRINCIPLES

The Aboriginal Sport Circle is committed to supporting sport that fosters the development of the whole individual. The National Indigenous Coaching Awards are an embodiment of this philosophy. In addition to their coaching achievements, recipients of this Award will have demonstrated a personal commitment to the principles of sportsmanship and fair play while acting as positive role models. Recipients also exemplify a commitment to a holistic lifestyle – one which embraces personal physical, mental, cultural and spiritual capacities.

## ELIGIBILITY

The Awards honour the accomplishments of a coach within a given program year (**May 31, 2024, to May 31, 2025**).

Nominees must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

- Nominees must be Indigenous (*First Nations, Inuit, Métis*).
- **Nominees must be active within the year of nomination (May 31, 2024- May 31, 2025)**
- Nominees must demonstrate sportsmanship, fair play and ethics in sport.
- Nominees must complete a nomination package and submit to the Aboriginal Sport Circle on or before **July 11, 2025**.

## NOMINATIONS

The nomination period is **June 2, 2025 to July 11, 2025**. Nomination forms as well as supporting narratives must be submitted before **July 11, 2025**. Please note that nominations can be made by the nominee or by a third-party nominator.

Nomination information to include the following:

- Nominee’s name, age, gender, address, telephone number, sport(s) nominated for, and number of years coaching.
- Level of competition(s) achieved as a coach (i.e. community, regional, provincial, national, or international).
- 4-5 high resolution photos of the nominee coaching their athletes as well as 1 headshot.





Nominations must also include detailed supporting narratives describing how the nominee displays the following qualities:

- Shows a personal commitment to their coaching development
  - Identify training or professional development that nominee has maintained and cite improvements from this training or professional development.
  - Demonstrates a positive image as it relates to their role as an Indigenous coach
- Provide examples or testimonials of how the nominee's conduct reflects the principles of fair play and sportsmanship as it specifically relates to the sport, officials, and the opposition.
- Provide written testimonials from program leaders, parents, athletes and/or Indigenous community as to the nominee's positive image.
  - Demonstrates a commitment to a holistic lifestyle by maintaining a balanced physical, mental, cultural, and spiritual outlook
- Provide up to 2 testimonials from program leaders, parents, athletes and community.
  - Personal achievements
- List any coach awards or levels of achievement that the nominee has received. Proof of achievements is requested (*i.e., highest level of competition coached at top ranking and results, most valuable (MVC) and other accomplishments*).

## AWARD SELECTION CRITERIA

The criteria for the selection will be based on:

- The coach's highest level of competition coaching at;
- The coaching ranking/results;
- Other accomplishments (Coach of the Year);
- Commitment to professional development;
- Positive role model in sport and Indigenous community;
- Demonstration of fair play and sportsmanship;
- Holistic balance (physical, mental, emotional, cultural, spiritual)





## AWARDS

One (1) man and one (1) woman coach will be selected by a National Selection Committee to receive the national award. The recipients will be presented with their awards at the 2025 National Indigenous Sports Gala hosted by the Aboriginal Sport Circle on **Saturday, October 25, 2025**.

The two national award recipients will receive the following:

- Round trip travel and accommodations for you and a guest to attend the Awards Gala;
- A custom-made National Indigenous Coaching Award; and,
- A \$1500 bursary to support coaching professional development.

## NOMINATION DEADLINE

Nomination forms must be submitted to the Aboriginal Sport Circle on or before the nomination deadline of **July 31, 2025**. Nominations will be accepted by email or via the online nomination form at [surveymonkey.com/r/99QRXHY](https://surveymonkey.com/r/99QRXHY)





## NOMINATION FORM

### NOMINEE

For the Province/Territory of \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Province/Territory \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Sport(s) Nominated for \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years involved in sport(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Level of achievement in sport \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide additional documentation of a detailed description of the nominee's qualifications and achievements and testimonials as outlined in the nomination package.

### NOMINATOR

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Province/Territory \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Nominator \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please send forms and attachments by July 11th, 2025, to

**Krista Hodder**

**Aboriginal Sport Circle, Programs and Events Senior Coordinator**

**khodder@aboriginalsportcircle.ca**

