

HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATIONS

An honorary degree is MacEwan University's highest accolade and is awarded to individuals whose character and exceptional accomplishments—whether in intellect, the arts, athletics, or community service—embody a standard of excellence that merits special recognition.

Honorary degrees are intended to honour individuals of exemplary character whose contributions are extraordinary and inspirational. Eligibility spans virtually all areas of endeavor, and recipients do not need to hold prominent positions; rather, they are recognized for distinguished public service within their sphere of influence.

Honorary degrees are awarded honoris causa, meaning "for the sake of honor," and are granted as Doctor of the University (D. Univ.). At MacEwan University, these degrees are conferred with the authorization of the Board of Governors, following candidate recommendations by the Honorary Doctorate Selection Committee.

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

Please note the following when completing the honorary degree nomination form.

1. NOMINEE

MacEwan University celebrates remarkable individuals who have made a transformative impact and represent diverse backgrounds and fields of endeavour, including, but not limited to:

- **Academic Luminaries**, particularly those with expertise in areas of academic strength at MacEwan University;
- **Athletes, Performers, Philanthropists and Public Intellectuals**; and,
- **Community Builders** of prominence in Edmonton and from across central and northern Alberta.

Nominations cannot be submitted for current members of the Board of Governors of Grant MacEwan University, academic and non-academic staff, and political figures who currently hold office. Previous recipients, forms and citations can be [found online](#).

When completing the Nomination Form, please provide current contact information for the nominee and indicate if the degree should be awarded based on academic achievement. Nominees should not be informed of their nomination. All nominations, discussions, and recommendations are strictly confidential, and the outcome of each nomination will not be shared with nominators.

2. NOMINATOR

Any member of the public or the MacEwan University community may submit a nomination. However, nominations should be supported by informed and distinguished **referees** to demonstrate the character of the nominee.

Nominators must complete the **Nomination Form** and include a **Statement of Support** and a **Biographical Summary**. Additionally, nominators will require the support of two other individuals who will submit **Letters of Reference**.

3. STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

In no more than 1000 words, introduce the nominee and outline the reasons for nomination. The statement would demonstrate how their significant impacts support the conferral of an honorary doctorate and should answer some or all of the following questions:

- Who is the nominee and what makes them an ideal candidate for this honor?
- What are the nominee's most notable accomplishments in their field or community?
- How has the nominee positively impacted their community, profession, or society at large?
- What lasting impact has the nominee's work or actions created?
- How might this nominee serve as an inspiration or role model to MacEwan University students and alumni?

4. BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY

In 500 words, highlight the following information about the nominee:

- Education
- Field of endeavour / Career (academic, professional, business, and volunteer roles)
- Community involvement
- Special awards
- Distinguished Service
- Short description of publications, if any

5. LETTERS OF REFERENCE

Include letters of reference, each no longer than 1000 words, from at least two informed and distinguished referees who are not the nominator. The letters should offer additional insights into the achievements, impact, and character of the nominee. Letters of reference should answer some or all of the following questions:

- How long have you known the nominee, and in what capacity are you familiar with their achievements?
- What impact has the nominee made within their field and in the community?
- What distinguishes the nominee from their peers?
- Beyond their professional role, what additional contributions or commitments has the nominee made, including personal service or volunteer work?

NOMINATION SUBMISSION

Nominations must include a **Nomination Form**, a **Biographical Summary**, a **Statement of Support**, and two **Letters of Support**. Please only submit your nomination once it is complete, including all letters of support and required documentation.

Nominations which do not comply with the guidelines noted above will be returned to the nominator for revision. A confirmation of receipt of a nomination will be sent to the nominator from the Office of University Governance.

Please address reference letters and submit completed nominations in confidence by mail or email to:

Chair, Honorary Doctorate Selection Committee

Office of University Governance

7-210D, 10700 – 104 Avenue

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4S2

Email: HonoraryDoctorate@MacEwan.ca

NOMINATION REVIEW

The Honorary Doctorate Selection Committee meets quarterly to review nominations and provide recommendations to the Board of Governors through the Governance and Human Resources Standing Committee. Although nominations are accepted year-round, it is recommended to submit by the 1st of September, November, February, or May for timely consideration.

Information on the selection process and submission deadlines for each review cycle can be [found online](#).

NOTIFICATION OF HONORARY DEGREE

Nominees chosen for honorary degrees will be contacted by the Office of the President ahead of the Convocation ceremony where the degree will be presented. Those approved by the Board of Governors but not awarded the degree at the upcoming Convocation will be added to a Standing List for future consideration. Names on this list remain active for up to three years and will be considered for all convocations within that time. If the degree is not awarded within three years, the nomination will be deactivated, though these individuals remain eligible for future nominations. The President and Vice-Chancellor holds final discretion over the timing of awards.

HONORARY DEGREE CONFERRAL

Honorary degrees are not awarded posthumously and are not conferred in absentia. It is generally a requirement that honorary degree recipients attend a convocation ceremony for the conferral of their degrees. Honorary degree recipients will be announced in early spring for June Convocation ceremonies and early fall for November Convocation ceremonies.

HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATION FORM

Nominations for honorary degrees are confidential. Please do not contact nominees for information or to inform them of their nomination. Nominees will not be advised of their nomination unless they have been selected.

1. NOMINEE – CONTACT INFORMATION

Full Name:	_____
Current Position / Title:	_____
Telephone (BUSINESS):	_____
Telephone (MOBILE/RESIDENCE):	_____
Email:	_____
Mailing Address:	_____

Is this nominee distinguished by academic achievement?

YES

NO

2. NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY

Full Name of Nominator:	_____
Current Position / Title:	_____
Relationship to Nominee:	_____
Telephone (BUSINESS):	_____
Telephone (MOBILE/RESIDENCE):	_____
Email:	_____
Mailing Address:	_____

Date of Submission:	_____

Do you consent to the release of your name, and confirm that the referees also consent to the release of their names to the Honorary Doctorate Selection Committee if the nomination is successful?

YES

NO

3. STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

The nominator is encouraged to provide a perspective on the nominee in no more than 1000 words. A strong, comprehensive statement of support is invaluable to the committee. Please include the following:

- An overview of the nominee, highlighting the qualities that make them an outstanding candidate for this honor.
- Notable accomplishments of the nominee, along with their positive impact on their community, profession, or society.
- The enduring influence of the nominee's work and their potential to inspire or serve as a role model for MacEwan University students and alumni.

4. BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY / RESUME / CONDENSED CURRICULUM VITAE

Please include the following:

- Education
- Field of endeavour / Career (academic, professional, business, and volunteer roles)
- Community involvement
- Special Awards
- Distinguished Service
- Short description of publications, if any

5. REFEREES

At least two, but no more than three, referees must be designated and provide letters or reference. Please complete the information below for each referee.

Full Name of Reference #1: _____

Current Position / Title: _____

Relationship to Nominee: _____

Telephone (BUSINESS): _____

Telephone (MOBILE/RESIDENCE): _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Date of Submission: _____

Full Name of Reference #2:	_____
Current Position / Title:	_____
Relationship to Nominee:	_____
Telephone (BUSINESS):	_____
Telephone (MOBILE/RESIDENCE):	_____
Email:	_____
Mailing Address:	_____

Date of Submission:	_____

Full Name of Reference #3:	_____
Current Position / Title:	_____
Relationship to Nominee:	_____
Telephone (BUSINESS):	_____
Telephone (MOBILE/RESIDENCE):	_____
Email:	_____
Mailing Address:	_____

Date of Submission:	_____

6. LETTERS OF REFERENCE

Each designated referee must submit a letter of reference for this nomination. Each letter should be no more than 1000 words and include the following:

- Length of time known and capacity of familiarity with the nominee's achievements.
- Influence within the nominee's field and community, and the qualities that set them apart from others.
- Additional comments, including personal service and volunteer work.

*The information on this form and supporting documents is collected under the general authority of the Post-Secondary Learning Act. It is related directly to and needed by the Honorary Doctorate Selection Committee for the sole purpose of selecting recipients of MacEwan University's honorary doctorate. All candidate information will remain confidential to this Committee and the Board of Governors through the review and selection process. Information on all final candidates will be provided to and will remain confidential to members of the Board of Governors as part of the selection process. Final candidates will be subject to security clearance. If there are any questions about the collection and use of this information, please contact MacEwan University's Privacy Office privacy@macewan.ca.