



About the Awards

The Premier's Awards for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport celebrate the outstanding achievements of Indigenous youth athletes across British Columbia. These awards recognize not only athletic excellence in performance sport but also commend strong leadership on and off the field of play.

Nominations are open to Indigenous youth athletes aged 24 and under (born in 2001 or later) who are currently competing in performance-level sports. A maximum of 36 **Regional Awards** will be presented up to six recipients from each of the six I-SPARC regions: Northeast, Northwest, Interior, Fraser, Vancouver Coastal, and Vancouver Island.

Regional Award recipients will be honored during virtual regional ceremonies in early 2026 and will automatically become nominees for the **Provincial Awards**. From these nominees, 10 outstanding athletes will be selected to receive **Provincial Awards** in Spring 2026. These provincial honorees will be recognized at a virtual Provincial Awards ceremony, have their profiles showcased at the BC Sports Hall of Fame, and receive a cash bursary to support their continued growth in sport and leadership.

Nomination & Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the awards, an athlete must meet the following criteria:

- Has been a permanent resident of BC for the last 12 months
- Is of Indigenous ancestry (First Nations, Métis, and/or Inuit)
- Is 24 years of age or younger (born in 2001 or later)
- Is actively participating in a recognized provincial sport and/or regional/traditional sport and shows evidence of high athletic ability and performance results
- Is enrolled in school, actively pursuing or planning to pursue a post-secondary Education
- Past **Regional** recipients remain eligible until they are 24 years of age
- Past **Provincial** recipients are not eligible to receive the award in subsequent years

Regional Selection Criteria

Nominees for the Premier's Awards for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport will be evaluated by Regional Selection Committees based on the following five criteria:

1. **Sport Achievements**

Demonstrates a high level of performance in sport, with accomplishments that show progression toward podium placements at regional, provincial, national, or international competitions.

2. **Leadership Qualities**

Exhibits leadership on and off the field of play through coachability, a strong work ethic, and a commitment to fair play, teamwork, and positive influence on others.

3. **Education**

Shows dedication to academic success and ongoing personal development through continued education or learning pursuits.



4. **Cultural Awareness**

Expresses pride in their Indigenous identity and actively participates in cultural traditions, teachings, or community activities.

5. **Future Goals**

Clearly demonstrates how involvement in sport is shaping their aspirations and future plans, whether in athletics, education, or community leadership

Eligibility Period & Nomination Requirements

Only competitive results and accomplishments achieved between **October 1, 2024** and **October 1, 2025** will be considered.

- **All nomination forms must be completed in full.** Incomplete submissions will **not** be accepted.
- **Applicants must not contact** members of the selection committee regarding the status of their nomination.

Notification of Regional Recipients

Successful Regional Award recipients will be notified in **November 2025**.

Provincial Awards

All Regional Award recipients will automatically be considered for the **Provincial Awards**. These nominees will be reviewed by the Provincial Selection Committee, and **10 Provincial recipients** will be selected.

Provincial recipients will:


- Be notified in **Winter 2025**
- Receive an invitation to attend a **virtual Provincial Awards ceremony** in **Spring 2026**
- Have their profile displayed at the **BC Sports Hall of Fame**
- Receive a **cash bursary** in recognition of their achievements

For More Information

Visit www.isparc.ca/premiersawards/ to learn more about the awards, criteria, and nomination process.

Deadline to Apply

 **Friday, October 31 2025**

 **By 11:59 PM (PST)**

Important: Late applications will **not** be accepted under any circumstances.



Nomination Form

Nominee (Athlete) Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Gender: _____ Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone (Nominee): _____ Email (Nominee): _____

Region (Check ONE):

☐ Northeast ☐ Northwest ☐ Interior ☐ Fraser ☐ Vancouver Coastal ☐ Vancouver Island

Ancestry (Check ONE):

☐ First Nations ☐ Métis ☐ Inuit ☐ Non-Status (*Please complete attached Ancestry Declaration Form*)

On or Off Reserve (Check ONE):

☐ On Reserve ☐ Off Reserve

Nation / Community: _____

Status/Treaty/Métis/Inuit/Tribal Identification Card Number: _____

If you do not have official ID as proof of ancestry, you must complete and submit a "Declaration of Indigenous Ancestry Form" with supporting documents.

Parent/Guardian Information (*if nominee is under 18*)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address (if different): _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

List your sport(s): _____

#	Event/Competition	Date	Performance/Result	Additional Details
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

Award/Honour	Event Received	Event Date	Description
--------------	----------------	------------	-------------

Provide a summary of your journey in sport, especially as it relates to this nomination. (50 words min, 250 words max)



Leadership Qualities

Leadership & Advice

Describe how you demonstrate leadership in sport and in life and share the advice you would give to someone younger about getting into your sport. (50 words min, 250 words max)

Cultural Awareness

How have you embraced your Indigenous ancestry? Include specific activities. (50 words min–250 words max)

Future Goals

How is sport shaping your future? How will you serve as a role model if selected? (50 words min–250 words max)

Education

Post-Secondary (College/University) (Oct 1, 2024 – Oct 1, 2025)

Please list the college or university you attended, your program or major, any academic awards, scholarships, or recognitions you received, and any academic or extracurricular achievements you are especially proud of during this time. (50 words min–250 words max):



High School

Please list the high school you attended, any academic awards you received, your attendance record (e.g., perfect attendance, strong record), and one accomplishment from high school that you are especially proud of. (50 words min–250 words max)

If you could give advice to someone younger than you about getting into your sport, what would you share with them?

References & Letters of Support

You must provide a minimum of 1, maximum of 3 reference letters (1-3) which addresses the following:

- Reference has been involved with athlete/nominee at least in the last 18 months.
- Individual sporting achievements
- Qualities as a sport and/or community leader
- Values, work ethic and/or commitment to culture and ancestry
- Actively living a healthy lifestyle

Reference Contact Information:

#	Name	Title	Relationship	Phone	Email
1					
2					
3					



Applicant Agreement

By checking these boxes, You agree to the following terms laid out by I-SPARC:

- ☐ To be present and participate in the Virtual Awards Ceremony.
- ☐ To have your name and image used in association with the awards.
- ☐ To appear for an announcement and photo opportunities promoting the awards program.


Signature of Nominee: _____ Date: _____


Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18): _____ Date: _____

Submission Instructions

Deadline:

 **Friday, October 31st, 2025**

 **By 11:59PM (PST)**

 *Late applications will not be accepted.*

Submit by Email:

 **premiersawards@isparc.ca**

Questions or Inquiries?

Email: premiersawards@isparc.ca



Declaration of Indigenous Ancestry Form

This form must be completed by any applicant who does not have a Status, Treaty, Métis, Inuit, or Tribal identification card and must be submitted with the Nomination Form.

Athlete Declaration

I, _____ (Print Athlete's Full Name)

hereby declare that I am of Indigenous Ancestry and therefore eligible to be considered for the Premier's Award for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport.

Supporting Documentation

You must include at least one of the following documents with this form to verify Indigenous ancestry:

Please check what is included:

- ☐ A copy of a parent's Status, Treaty, Métis, Inuit, or Tribal card, along with the athlete's long-form birth certificate (that lists the parent's name)
- ☐ A letter from Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) verifying ancestry
- ☐ A letter from the child's Band Council or Registrar confirming Indigenous ancestry
- ☐ A letter from Métis Nation verifying ancestry
- ☐ Other approved documentation supporting proof of Indigenous ancestry

Signatures

Athlete's Name (Print): _____

Athlete's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

- ☒ A completed copy of this form must be submitted with the Nomination Form.