



2026 NOMINATION PACKAGE

PREMIER'S AWARDS FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH EXCELLENCE IN SPORT

About the Awards

The Premier's Awards for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport recognize athletes who have achieved excellence in performance sport and are regarded for their leadership qualities both on and off the field of play. Nominations will be accepted for youth athletes 24 years of age or younger (born in 2002 or later) who are competing in performance sport. A maximum of 36 Regional Awards will be given out, with up to six awards within each of I·SPARC's regions: Northeast, Northwest, Interior, Fraser, Vancouver Coastal, and Vancouver Island. Recipients will be selected and honored in early 2027.

Athletes selected for the Regional Awards will automatically serve as nominees for the Provincial Awards. A total of 10 Provincial Awards will be given out. Provincial recipients will receive an invitation in the Spring of 2027 to attend a virtual Provincial Awards ceremony, their profile will go on display at the BC Sports Hall of Fame, and they will receive a cash bursary.

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 2002 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 provided they continue to meet the age eligibility requirement of 24 years of age or younger.
- Past **Provincial** recipients are not eligible to receive the award in subsequent years

Selection Criteria

Regional Selection Committees will assess nominees using the following five criteria:

Sport Achievements — Pursuing and achieving sport performances leading towards podium placements at regional, provincial, national, and international competitions

Leadership Qualities — Demonstrating the qualities of leadership, coachability, strong work ethic, and the characteristics of fair play both on and off the field of play

Education — Demonstrating a commitment to academic studies and continued education

Cultural Awareness — Demonstrating pride in their Indigenous ancestry and being actively engaged in cultural activities

Future Goals — Demonstrating how their experience in sport is shaping their future

Only those competitive results and accomplishments achieved between **October 1, 2025 and October 1, 2026** will be assessed. Nomination forms must be completed in full.

Incomplete nominations will NOT be considered. Applicants must not contact members of the selection committee regarding the status of their nomination.



I·SPARC
Move | Play | Compete

Indigenous Sport,
Physical Activity &
Recreation Council



Successful Regional Nominees

Successful nominees will be notified in December 2026. Recipients will be celebrated in the first quarter of 2027.

Provincial Awards

Regional recipients will automatically serve as nominees for the Provincial Awards. Nominees will be reviewed by the Provincial Selection Committee, and 10 Provincial recipients will be selected and notified in early 2027. Provincial recipients will be invited to attend a virtual Provincial Awards ceremony in 2027, have their profile displayed at the BC Sports Hall of Fame, and receive a \$500 bursary.

For more information about the awards, visit www.isparc.ca/premiersawards/.

Online Nomination Form:

DEADLINE:
Sunday, November 1st, 2026, AT 11:59PM (PST)
Note: Late applications will not be accepted

Nominee (Athlete) Information

First Name	Last Name		
Gender	Date of Birth		
Permanent Address			
City		Postal Code	
Phone (nominee)	Email (nominee)		

Select the Region the nominee participates/resides in (Check ONE box):

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

Ancestry

☐ First Nations ☐ Métis ☐ Inuit
☐ Non-Status (please complete the attached Ancestry Declaration Form)

On or Off Reserve

☐ On Reserve ☐ Off Reserve

Nation / Community:

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

**Note: if athlete does not have a Status/Treaty/Métis/Inuit/Tribal ID card as proof of ancestry, a "Declaration of Indigenous Ancestry Form" must be completed and submitted with support document(s).*

Parent/Guardian Information

First Name	Last Name		
Address (if different than above)			
City		Postal Code	
Phone Number	Email Address		

Sport Achievements

List your sport(s): _____

List your **top five** competitive results between **October 1, 2025 and October 1, 2026**

Event/Competition	Date	Performance/Result	Additional Details
<i>e.g. BC Winter Games</i>	<i>Feb 2026</i>	<i>Silver Medal</i>	<i>Beat rival, second time at BC Games</i>
1.			
2.			
3.			

4.			
5.			

Have you received any sport awards between **October 1, 2025** and **October 1, 2026**?

Award/Honour	Event It Was Received	Event Date	Description
<i>e.g. First All Star</i>	<i>Club basketball tournament</i>	<i>January 15, 2026</i>	<i>Recognized for performance. Four recipients selected</i>

Sport History

Provide details of your journey through sport, as it relates to this nomination, *not included* in your achievements listed above. (300 words maximum)

Leadership Qualities

Describe your leadership qualities and how they are reflected in your sport/life. (This includes, but is not limited to: coachability, strong work ethic, volunteerism, and characteristics of fair play both on and off the field of play.) (300 words maximum)

Education

Name of current Academic Institution enrolled in (Secondary/Post-Secondary Institution) and current grade level or program year as of September 2026.

List academic awards/achievements received from **October 1, 2025 and October 1, 2026** (200 words maximum)

Cultural Awareness

How have you embraced your ancestry? List activities (*e.g. actively participate in traditional practices, engaged with Elders, Big House activities.*) (300 words maximum)

Future Goals

How are your sport experiences shaping your personal goals and future? If you become a recipient, how would you utilize this honor to serve as a role model? (300 words maximum)

References and Letters of Support

You must provide **1-3 reference letters** which address the following:

- 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

Include contact information for each reference. References may be contacted to validate achievements.

Name of Reference	Title	Relationship to Nominee	Phone	Email
1.				
2.				
3.				

Nominees must agree with the following:

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

By signing below, I agree to let my name stand for the 2026 Premier's Award for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport and agree to all terms and conditions of the award program.

Signature of Applicant

Parent/Guardian signature (if under 18)

Date

Date

Submission Instructions

Please submit your nomination form along with your reference letter(s) and supporting document(s) by:—**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1st, 2026 AT 11:59 PM (PST).**

By Email: premiersawards@isparc.ca