

# AWARDS PROGRAM

## Lieutenant Governor of Québec's First Peoples Medal

### Presentation

#### Purpose

The Lieutenant Governor of Québec's First Peoples Medal recognizes the outstanding contribution of First Nations and Inuit Nation. This recognition highlights the career paths of remarkable individuals who, through their achievements, implications and commitments, contribute to the influence of their community, their Nation or First Peoples throughout Québec, Canada or internationally. The recipients are recognized as inspiring and transformative individuals who address the social, cultural, community and economic challenges of First Peoples.

The First Peoples Medal is an acknowledgement and honour given to a recipient for his or her outstanding contribution to his or her people and is therefore of no political significance.

This medal is part of the existing Award Program of the Lieutenant Governor of Québec.

#### Medal description



obverse



reverse

First Nations Category



obverse



reverse

Inuit Nation Category

The medal is on a ribbon to be worn around the neck and is available in two categories, depending on the membership of the recipients, either First Nations or Inuit Nation.

On the obverse, in the centre, of the medal awarded to a First Nations person, there is a work by the Abenaki and Wendat artist Christine Sioui-Wawanoloath and on the medal awarded to a member of the Inuit Nation, a work by the Inuit artist Daniel Inukpuk. The name of the lieutenant governor in office is on the perimeter. The territory of Québec appears on the reverse side with indications on the locations of First Nations communities or northern Inuit villages.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

To be considered an eligible, the candidate must, before the nomination deadline,

- be a member of a First Nation or the Inuit Nation recognized in Québec;
- reside permanently in Québec;
- have contributed to the influence of their community, Nation or First Nations throughout Québec, Canada or internationally;
- have contributed to the wellness of their community through their sustained involvement in the face of social, cultural, community and economic challenges;
- be withdrawn from active politics;
- be free of any criminal record; and
- be nominated by a person or organization and supported by at least one people who can act as a reference.

We mean by a First Nation established in Québec: the Abenaki, Algonquin, Attikamek, Cree, Huron-Wendat, Innu, Maliseet, Micmac, Mohawk and Naskapi.

Only one Lieutenant Governor of Québec's First Peoples Medal may be awarded to the same person.

Organizations are not eligible to receive the First Peoples Medal.

The Lieutenant Governor does not confer awards posthumously. However, a person's candidacy continues to be eligible if the person's death occurs after the application was submitted.

## **Administrative criteria**

It is planned to award an annual First Peoples Medal from the Lieutenant Governor of Québec to a member of each of the First Nations and the Inuit Nation of Québec. However, the number of medals awarded may be lower or higher in the interest of fairness, taking into account representativeness and the number of nominations received.

## **Procedure**

Individuals, community organizations and Indigenous authorities in Quebec will be able to submit nominations according to a procedure to be announced later.

## **Advisory Committee**

Nominations will be submitted to an Advisory Committee composed of representatives of First Nations or the Inuit Nation depending on the membership of the person recommended.

The Advisory Committee for the First Nations category is composed of a Chair and Secretary and 10 representative members from each of the 10 First Nations recognized in Québec.

The Advisory Committee for the Inuit Nation category is composed of a Chair and Secretary and at least 2 members representing the Inuit Nation recognized in Québec.

This Advisory Committee is a body whose role is:

- to advise the Lieutenant Governor on the administration of the First Peoples Medal;
- to act as a jury to evaluate the nominations submitted to it, select the recipients and submit its recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor in accordance with the rules determined for this purpose; and
- to ensure the integrity, image and reputation of the First Peoples' Medal.

The Advisory Committee is in no way linked to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor given its role as identified above.

The Advisory Committee reserves the right to refuse any nomination that does not meet the eligibility criteria or for any other valid reason it deems appropriate.

### **Award Ceremony**

The announcement of the award of the medal to each recipient will be made by means of an official letter from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor providing information on the award ceremony. Each recipient must attend, in person, the ceremony to which they will be invited in order to receive their medal.

The medal will be presented by the Lieutenant Governor, or his representative, to the recipients at an official ceremony. The Office of the Lieutenant Governor will make every effort to ensure that the medal is awarded within two calendar years of the date of the award.

There are no monetary awards associated with the Lieutenant Governor's Awards Program.