

**ROYAL ROADS UNIVERSITY
BOARD POLICY**

Title: Honorary Degrees: Selection Process

Policy #: B1100

Effective Date: September 8, 2006

Board Policy Statement

The Board will approve the awarding of all Royal Roads University honorary degrees.

Philosophy

The Board believes that in recognition of outstanding individuals, it is appropriate to award honorary degrees.

President's Responsibilities

The President will develop administrative procedures for handling nominations and to facilitate the Board's decisions.

Based on Board-approved criteria, the President, working with a Board committee, will bring forward recommended candidates for Board review and approval.

Information, Action and Monitoring Requirements for the Board

The Board may approve an honorary degree recipient for each convocation ceremony.

FACT SHEET

DATES:

8.09.06	Board Approval
8.09.06	Implementation Date
8.09.11	Review Due

RELATED DOCUMENTS

RRU Honorary Degree Recipients Criteria Policy (as amended September 8, 2006)

ROYAL ROADS UNIVERSITY POLICY

Honorary Degree Recipients Criteria for Selection

In awarding the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa* the University seeks to honour individuals whose accomplishments demonstrate a standard of excellence that will inspire our graduates, set an example for the larger community of which we are a part, and add lustre to the University's name. The Board Committee on Honorary Degrees considers candidates with achievements in a broad range of categories, including business, public service, the professions, leisure and the arts, the sciences, voluntary service in the community, or service to the University of long-standing or exceptional merit. In consideration of external candidates the Committee gives priority to individuals whose personal qualities and record of achievement relate to Royal Roads' mission, vision, values or program emphases: sustainable development, entrepreneurship, empowering leadership, conflict analysis and management, or communications.

Eligibility and exclusions:

- Canadians and non-Canadians are eligible to be nominated.
- Normally, active members of faculty, staff and the Board of Governors are not eligible.
- Politicians currently in elected office are not eligible for consideration.
- Normally, honorary degrees are not awarded *in absentia* or posthumously; however, the Board may elect to waive this restriction.

Criteria for selection:

- External candidates for an honorary degree should be persons who have made a significant contribution to the larger community Royal Roads serves.
- Priority will be given to individuals whose personal qualities and/or record of achievement relate to Royal Roads' mission, vision, values or program emphases: sustainable development, entrepreneurship, empowering leadership, conflict analysis and management, or communications.
- Preference may be given to candidates with a connection to the Province of British Columbia, but a candidate's geographical location will not be a limiting factor.
- Additional factors to be taken into consideration may include:
 - Accomplishments of note, or a career notable for a cumulative record of distinguished achievement.
 - Service to the community at large or to a profession or discipline.
 - Service to Royal Roads University of longstanding or exceptional merit which has advanced the University.
 - Humanitarian or philanthropic work

- Special anniversaries – The University may choose to celebrate a special anniversary by recognizing appropriate individuals important to its history or the history of Royal Roads Military College or Hatley Park.
- Balance and diversity – The Committee will strive to recommend candidates reflecting the diversity in Canadian society.

Documentation:

The Committee at its discretion will consider meritorious nominations from any source: programs or faculty, learners, staff, alumni, Governors or Directors, or members of the general public.

Submissions to the Board of Governors recommending candidates can be made at any time and shall be kept in a pool until such time as a decision is required in preparation for the next convocation(s). All nominations and discussion related to any potential candidate shall be treated as strictly confidential. Candidates are not to be informed of their nomination until and unless the Board has made a decision to award the honorary degree.

Nominations of potential candidates should be made in writing to the Secretary to the Board of Governors and should include:

- the current name and address of the candidate
- a sketch of the candidate's history or *curriculum vitae*
- a detailed specification and documentation of the achievements that the nominator believes qualify the candidate for consideration for an honorary degree
- a perspective on the relationship between the University and the candidate

September 8, 2006