

Municipality of West Elgin Council

March 25, 2022

Dear Partners,

I am writing with introduction and invitation to participate in an historic initiative taking place in our community. The Government of Canada has created a commemorative pin to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 2022, quantities of which are being distributed through Members of Parliament. Karen Vecchio, MP has decided to use this occasion to recognize outstanding members of the Elgin-Middlesex-London community via nomination by fellow community members, with the pins to be awarded to successful nominees at a ceremony in June.

The pins are to be distributed on an equitable per capita basis among Elgin-Middlesex-London municipalities.

Several nomination categories have been established:

- **Arts and Culture** – Recognizing those individuals or groups who make exceptional contributions to the visual, literary, arts, or who advocate for cultural diversity and vitality.
- **Community Commitment** – Recognizing “unsung heroes,” or individuals who make outstanding contributions to the community, lead by example, and inspire excellence through community commitment in dynamic participation, leadership, and active citizenship.
- **Environment** – Recognizing individuals who make significant contributions in environmental stewardship, protection, and education.
- **Heritage**—Recognizing individuals who make exceptional contributions to the preservation of natural, built, and cultural heritage through conservation, projects, education, or advocacy.
- **Health, Wellness, Activity and Sport** – Recognizing those individuals or groups who make exceptional contributions to enhancing mental, physical, or emotional wellbeing, and active lifestyles in the community.
- **Reconciliation in Action** – Honouring Indigenous leaders and/or allies committed to finding a new path forward. These individuals engage their communities in dialogue and action to strengthen relationships. These individuals also support healing and building more just and equitable communities for all people. These individuals may also be champions or advocates committed to the reconciliation movement.
- **Entrepreneurship** – Recognizing individuals who have taken an innovative approach to solving a problem, filling a need, or breaking into a new market.

These individuals have drive, ingenuity, and a solid vision for their businesses that separate them from their competitors. They may have a founder, owner, leader, or other innovator who has been operating for a minimum of three (3) years.

- **Young Person of Distinction** – Recognizing exceptional young people aged 18-25 who demonstrate leadership, maturity, and compassion. These individuals have made a significant difference in our community to a cause or pursuit of a personal dream while showing perseverance, innovation, and a keen understanding of community issues.
- **COVID-19 Pandemic Response Award** – Salutes individuals who supported the resilience, resourcefulness, and tenacity that have been the hallmark of our community's response to the pandemic.

The nomination deadline is Thursday, May 12, 2022.

Your support is requested in increasing awareness of this remarkable opportunity and making the nomination form readily accessible in your communities. Please consider promoting the initiative using the attached graphic and above details, and having printed copies of the attached nomination form available in your municipal office.

Any questions regarding the initiative can be directed to the office of Karen Vecchio, MP at 519-637-2255.

Thank you very much for your consideration and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,



Mary French, Warden
County of Elgin