

## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Bow Valley Women of Distinction Awards 2021 NOMINATION PACKAGE

Each year, YWCA Banff presents Women of Distinction Awards to outstanding women from the Bow Valley who have made a lasting difference in the lives of women and girls in the Bow Valley and beyond.

YWCA Banff is proud to host these awards, recognizing local women who through their own initiative, ability and effort have demonstrated exemplary achievement in their fields. The awards recognize women who are outstanding role models and have made substantial contributions to the fabric of our community in unique ways.

### Key Dates

- *Nomination Deadline:* Friday, May 7, 2021
- *Awards presented at virtual Change Makers event:* Thursday, May 27 2021

### Submissions

Send by email: [carla@ywcabanff.ca](mailto:carla@ywcabanff.ca)

- MUST BE RECEIVED BY 11:59 PM ON MAY 7, 2021
- Late submissions will not be considered
- Incomplete submissions will not be considered
- Once submitted, nomination packages cannot be edited or altered

Within this nomination packet, you'll find important information about the nomination criteria, selection criteria, and selection process, along with a Women of Distinction nomination form. Please read the information in this packet carefully to ensure your nominee is properly qualified, and don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. You'll find contact information at the end of the nomination form.

Thank you for investing your time to nominate a Bow Valley woman who you feel exemplifies the qualities of a Woman of Distinction.

Sincerely,

Carla Snow  
Manager of Marketing & Communications  
YWCA Banff

## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Bow Valley Women of Distinction Awards 2021 NOMINATION FORM & GUIDELINES

Nominate an outstanding woman in our community who has made a lasting difference in the lives of women and girls in the Bow Valley and beyond.

The nominee has through her own initiative, ability and effort demonstrated exemplary achievement in her professional or personal life. She is a role model, a leader, and an inspiration to others. She directs her energies to the well-being of people in her life and her community.

She responds to individual and societal needs with dedication, compassion and courage. She is helping to build a strong community by being an advocate and a change-maker.

She has made substantial contributions to the social fabric of communities here and beyond in unique ways. The contributions she makes provide significant and lasting benefit to the lives of women and girls.

Whether a trailblazer in her field or young woman on the rise, she is a pathfinder, bringing forth the key issues facing women and girls today. Through her commitment to social change, she will leave a lasting legacy for future generations.

### Nominator Qualifications

- The nominator can be any individual who is interested in nominating an eligible nominee
- The nominator must fully complete the Nomination Form and submit it, along with the support material by 11:59 pm on Friday, May 7 2021
- Current members of the Bow Valley Women of Distinction Awards selection committee are not eligible to submit nominations
- Multiple nominations from the same nominator are allowed

### Nominee Eligibility

#### Nominees must:

- Be a role model, pioneer or outstanding achiever residing in the Bow Valley - including the communities of Banff, Canmore, Lake Louise, Exshaw, Kananaskis and Morley
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Support the mission and values of YWCA Banff
- Consent to nomination
- Be available to, or have a representative, attend the virtual awards presentation on Thursday, May 27, 2021

#### In addition:

- We welcome and encourage inclusive and diverse nominations with respect to nominees' age, nationality, career path, and residence within the Bow Valley area
- Previous nominees may be re-nominated
- Previous award recipients; current YWCA Banff employees and Board members; and current Bow Valley Women of Distinction selection committee members are ineligible to be nominated
- Post-homous nominations cannot be accepted



## Selection Process

The selection committee is comprised of YWCA Board members and employees, Women of Distinction alumnae and community members. The committee will review all submissions against nomination criteria and guidelines. The committee may contact nominators to confirm information or ask follow up questions.

Three award recipients will be selected and announced in May 2021.

**Important!** If selected as a YWCA Woman of Distinction, the recipient **MUST** agree and be available to attend the virtual (online) awards ceremony on May 27, 2021, and to be part of all media promotions, including local media, promotional videos and be acknowledged on the YWCA Banff website. Recipients will also be asked to deliver a short acceptance speech.

## Nomination Categories

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Community Champion</b></p> <p>This award honors a woman who has initiated meaningful change within the local community, dedicating her own time and resources to champion her cause. She is a visionary trailblazer, a source of strength for her community, and has improved and enriched the lives of others. She has made a significant and sustained difference in the Bow Valley, and is an influential leader through paid work and/or volunteerism in the private, public, or not-for-profit sector.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Innovation</b></p> <p>This award honors a woman who boldly embraces new, original ideas and pursues creative ways of making a difference in the business or non-profit sector, or through volunteerism. She is a leader who challenges and motivates others to think outside of the box and explore cutting-edge solutions to improving their surroundings, facilitating change and creating opportunities whenever possible. She may be a founder, owner, leader or other innovator, creating and implementing innovative programs, practices, partnerships, policies or activities that influence social good and positive change for our community.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Young Women’s Leadership</b></p> <p>This award recognizes an emerging leader age 30 and under, who is an inspirational role model in their career, achievements or community building roles. She has made a significant difference in the Bow Valley through her commitment to a cause or pursuit of a personal dream while showing perseverance, innovation and a keen understanding of community issues. She inspires others to follow her example, and sets the pace for others to walk alongside her. She is a leader who will continue to inspire us for years to come.</p>

## 1 | Nominator Information (please type or print clearly)

### Your information (please complete):

First & Last Name

Address

Phone

Email

May we add you to our mailing list?

## 2 | Nominee Information

### Who are you nominating? (please complete):

First & Last Name

Town

Phone

Email

Please select a nomination category:

## 3 | Nomination Questionnaire

*Answer the following questions about the nominee to demonstrate how she meets or exceeds the awards criteria.*

*Submissions are limited to the space provided. We recommend you read through the questions in advance and plan your responses to make best use of the space provided. Bullet points are recommended.*

1. Describe three characteristics of the nominee that make her an ideal candidate for the Woman of Distinction Award.



2. How is the nominee, through her personal or professional accomplishments, an inspiration to you?

3. How does the nominee demonstrate a commitment to serving the community?

4. Share one or two examples of key projects/initiatives the nominee has been involved with that demonstrate a commitment to serving the community.



5. How has the nominee's community engagement and leadership had a lasting impact on the lives of women and girls?

**Optional:** nominators may include a one-page letter of introduction and a maximum of two additional letters of support.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns regarding the nomination form, or if you require support making your submission.

**Please Note:** the selection committee relies upon the nominators to provide a clear, detailed submission to help them get to know the outstanding qualities of the nominee. The selection committee may contact you with follow up questions if the need arises.

#### 4 | Nomination Submission & Deadline

Please submit your nomination to Carla Snow, Manager of Marketing & Communications:

[carla@ywcabanff.ca](mailto:carla@ywcabanff.ca) at YWCA Banff by **Friday, May 7, 2021 at 11:59pm MST**

For any questions or support, please contact Carla at [carla@ywcabanff.ca](mailto:carla@ywcabanff.ca) / 403-760-3212