

MICHAEL SMITH AWARD FOR SCHIZOPHRENIA CRITERIA

SCHIZOPHRENIA SOCIETY OF CANADA

What is the purpose of the Michael Smith Award for Schizophrenia?

This award has been established to recognize those researchers and clinicians working in Canada who have supported people with schizophrenia and psychosis and their families in their efforts to achieve the mission of the Schizophrenia Society of Canada: *To improve the quality of life for those affected by schizophrenia and psychosis through education, support programs, public policy, and research.*

Who is Eligible?

- Candidates must be working in the field of schizophrenia research and/or be a practicing clinician (i.e. nurse, psychiatrist, community mental health worker, psychologist, researcher, etc.) in the field of schizophrenia.
- Candidates must support the mission, goals and objectives of the SSC.
- Candidates must have given of their time, talent and energy to assist the organization in achieving SSC's mission.

Who can nominate a Candidate?

- A member of a schizophrenia provincial organization or the provincial or national board; including other researchers, health care workers, etc. may nominate for this award.
- Nominators may not nominate more than one candidate in this category annually.
- Nominators may not nominate members of their own family.
- Members of the awards committee may not nominate anyone or be nominated as a candidate.
- All nomination forms must include signed confirmation or support from one endorser. Staff may formally endorse but may not nominate a candidate.

How do I Nominate a Candidate?

Nominators must provide the following:

- A fully completed Nomination Form (which can be obtained online through the SSC website: www.schizophrenia.ca or through the SSC Office).
- A full and detailed description of the candidate's excellence of professional work and dedication for advancing the cause of schizophrenia and the mission of the Schizophrenia Society of Canada.

The Schizophrenia Society of Canada Awards Committee will consider the following characteristics of the nominated candidates:

- Personal involvement: have consistently demonstrated, through their professional and personal action, that they support the mission of SSC.
- Perseverance: their support (over a lengthy period of time) of the families of people with schizophrenia and those living with schizophrenia, both professionally and personally.
- Innovation: in areas of public awareness, education, fundraising, and/or advocacy; ability shown to be creative and inspirational in these areas and has promoted meaningful participation of people with schizophrenia.
- Number of People who benefited by their work: degree of leadership displayed and range of activities in which person participated; number of people assisted.
- Impact: on chapter, provincial and/or national level(s) of the organization.