



The annual Ontario Business Achievement Awards (OBAAs) were launched in 1983 as a way for the Ontario Chamber of Commerce to publicly recognize success stories in the Ontario business community.

The OCC is proud to present these awards to exemplary businesses that embody Ontario's entrepreneurial spirit at a prestigious gala dinner attended by senior business and political leaders. Please ensure that all background information is provided by the **Nominator**. The OCC will not contact nominees for eligibility information.

OBAA CATEGORIES

- **BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS – MAXIMUM OF 4 WINNERS (2 IN EACH OF RBC ROYAL BANK AWARD FOR SMALL BUSINESS, AND THE DESJARDINS AWARD LARGE BUSINESS)**

Recognizes Ontario companies which have demonstrated business excellence, and are judged by a broad set of criteria. Two awards acknowledge businesses with fewer than 250 employees; two with over 250 employees. The achievements recognized in honouring these companies can include sales and export growth, increased employment, product innovation, community initiatives, technological advancements, skills development and training, initiatives related to foreign training workers, and general entrepreneurial skill. We expect nominees to be good corporate citizens, and the judges will also consider accomplishments in areas such as solvency, profitability, environmental responsibility and sound employee relations.

- **INNOVATION - TECHNOLOGY AWARD**

The Innovation Technology Award recognizes Ontario businesses that have demonstrated excellence in innovation, adaptability, and the successful application of new technology to the development & growth of their products and/or services.

- **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AWARD**

This award honours a commitment - beyond legal compliance - in the area of corporate governance. Broad criteria include striving to improve areas such as adequate representation of independent directors, existence of an independent audit committee, quality of disclosures relating to financial and other shareholder information, enhancements in investor confidence and communications, investor-friendly procedures and practices, and an ethical code of conduct.

OBAA NOMINATION DETAILS

Please attach and submit OBAA nomination materials electronically to the on-line application your nomination materials (maximum 10 pages). **We encourage you to provide OBAA materials electronically.** Additional items or exhibits, such as brochures or annual reports, may also be given to support the basic nominations materials. All items are submitted on a non-returnable basis.

The on-line nomination form can be found at www.obaa.ca/nominate

In the case that OBAA nominations cannot be submitted electronically, please attach **only one unbound copy** of all nomination materials (maximum 10 pages). Submissions should be made on 8 ½" X 11"-sized paper, and submitted to the address below.

Ontario Chamber of Commerce

ATTN: OBAA's

180 Dundas Street West, Suite 505

Toronto, ON M5G 1Z8

Information must include the nomination form with the nominee and nominator section clearly filled out.

The nomination should also include a summary of the achievements in the particular category for which the company is nominated. This may include: a brief history of the company; the company's most recent annual report; figures relative to the company's profitability, sales, and exports (where appropriate), expressed either in absolutes or percentages (the Ontario Chamber of Commerce undertakes to protect the confidential nature of this information); a statement outlining any financial assistance received from government sources; and information relative to employer/employee relations. Clear, concise submissions prepared jointly by the nominator and the nominee are the most effective. Applicable supporting materials, such as company literature or marketing brochures may also be submitted.

ELIGIBILITY

Nominations may only be made by member Chambers of Commerce/Boards of Trade or by corporate members of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. Nominees need not be members of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, but they must be headquartered in Ontario. Not-for-profit organizations qualify for nomination.

Nomination for the Award will be taken to mean that the nominator and the nominee, in the event of selection as an Award recipient, agree to participate in the Awards Gala and work with the Ontario Chamber in public relations initiatives for the event.

In the event that past winners are being nominated again the OCC must oblige that the nominee within the current year have performed in a manner significantly above and beyond the award requirements in order to be eligible for the awards.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For information about the nominations process or about reservations for the 2010 OBAA Awards Gala, please contact Rosanna Ho at 416-482-5222 ext 222 or by email at rosannaho@occ.on.ca . You can also visit the events page on our website at www.obaa.ca