

NOMINATION FORM 2027

ACGC's Annual Top 30 Under Awards Program

The Top 30 Under 30 Award is ACGC's annual campaign featuring 30 outstanding young people based in Alberta or working with Alberta-based organizations from around the world, nominated by their community and selected by a committee of peers for their commendable work in making the world a more just, fair, and sustainable place for all. For more information about the Top 30 Under 30 Award and campaign, visit top30under30.acgc.ca.

This year's theme is *Wisdom from the Ages: Indigenous Pathways to Development*. The 2027 Top 30 Under 30 program will focus on local and global Indigenous conceptualizations of development and how long-standing Indigenous knowledge systems, governance models, land relationships, and community-centered ways of living both locally and globally have shaped sustainable development initiatives.

This theme builds on the "It Starts at 'Home'" call to action from ACGC's Unsettling Global Citizenship Education report from 2025. While the theme is grounded in Indigenous conceptualizations of development, we welcome nominations from youth of all backgrounds. We encourage Top 30 recipients and attendees to look inwards and back at their own ancestral ways of knowledge, healing, and approaches to problem-solving. The theme will invite all to reflect on their geographic home, their physical home, their cultural home, their ancestral home, and their own unique connection to the land. Please review the questions and criteria below, then fill out your prepared response on the online form at acgc.ca/Nominate2027Top30.

Nominations are open early to ACGC members. Public nominations are open from September 18 to October 19, 2026.

Nominator Information

We require the following information from nominators.

- First and last name
- Phone number
- Email address
- Relationship to nominee

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible, nominees must meet all the following criteria:

- Is 10 to 30 years of age as of March 31, 2027;

- Plays an active role in making a positive difference and models civic engagement globally and/or locally;
- (1) Currently resides in Alberta and can demonstrate meaningful connections to Alberta (2) is affiliated with an ACGC member abroad, (3) is studying or working outside Alberta but considers Alberta their permanent home, OR (4) normally resides outside Alberta but is currently enrolled in a post-secondary program inside Alberta;
- Is willing to provide information and photos to be featured on the Top 30 Under 30 website and in a social media campaign, where their information and pictures will be displayed to the general public; and
- Is easily contacted (in Canada or otherwise reachable).

Eligibility

The online form will ask you two questions to verify the nominee's eligibility.

- Is the nominee between 10-30 years of age as of March 31, 2027?
- Is the nominee (a) currently residing in Alberta, has a meaningful connection to Alberta, and can provide examples to demonstrate those meaningful connections (b) affiliated or working with an ACGC member abroad, (c) studying or working outside Alberta but considers Alberta home?

Nominee Information

We require the following information of nominees.

- First and last name
- Email address
- Phone number
- Place of residence
- Age (as of March 31, 2027)
- Gender
- Other identity factors
- Is the nominee aware of this nomination?

International Nominees

The form will ask those nominating international youth to disclose whether the youth has a valid Canadian travel visa. ACGC will provide financial assistance to support one successful International award recipient to facilitate attendance at the 2027 Top 30 Celebration Event on February 6th, 2027 in Calgary. ACGC is unable to provide support in obtaining a travel visa.

Character of Nominee

Through the following questions, the online form will ask you to explain what makes this nominee special.

*We recognize that some Indigenous knowledge is sacred, sensitive, or community-protected. Applicants are not expected to disclose ceremonial knowledge, confidential teachings, restricted stories, or information that should not be shared publicly. **Please only include information that you have permission to share.***

- Why are you compelled to nominate the nominee? Please provide a story that speaks to the nominee's character. (Maximum 1,500 characters)
- Please provide examples of **international** projects, initiatives, leadership, research, business, advocacy, or community work that the nominee has contributed to and describe the nominee's role for each of them. What challenge does the nominee's work address, and why does it matter? (Maximum 1,500 characters)
- Please provide examples of **local (Alberta)** projects, initiatives, leadership, research, business, advocacy, or community work that the nominee has contributed to and describe the nominee's role for each of them. What challenge does the nominee's work address, and why does it matter? (Maximum 1,500 characters)
- Tell us more about the work that your nominee is involved in. How does the nominee's work advance sustainable development in a way that is rooted in Indigenous knowledge, community priorities, land-based responsibility, self-determination, and/or intergenerational wellbeing? How does the nominee's work reflect Indigenous approaches to development, such as stewardship of land and water, reciprocity, collective wellbeing, self-determination, cultural revitalization, intergenerational responsibility, or community-led decision-making? (Maximum 1,500 characters)
- How does the nominee ensure that the people impacted by the issue(s) being addressed are included, heard, and centered in their work? How were community members, such as Elders, Knowledge Keepers, youth, families, or local leaders involved in shaping, guiding, approving, or evaluating the work? (Maximum 1,500 characters)
- With 3 years left until 2030 (the scheduled end of the Sustainable Development Goals), how has the nominee contributed to gender equality and the Sustainable Development Goals? See more at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org>. (Maximum 2,500 characters).

Required uploads for self-nomination:

1. **One letter of support** from a community, organizational, academic, professional, or project reference.
2. **One piece of evidence of impact**, such as a report, testimonial, project result, media article, policy outcome, or work sample.

Optional uploads, up to three:

- Community testimonials or participant feedback
- Photos or videos of the work in action
- Project portfolio or work samples
- Research, policy, business, or creative outputs
- Proof of partnerships or community collaboration
- Awards, grants, media coverage, or external recognition
- Strategic plan, sustainability plan, or future impact plan
- Cultural safety, ethics, or consent statement

Referee Contact Information

The form will ask for the contact information of one referee. The referee must be able to meaningfully speak to the nominee's character and/or work.

- First and last name
- Phone number
- Email address

To make a nomination, fill out the nomination form at acgc.ca/Nominate2027Top30.

Questions can be directed to top30under30@acgc.ca. Thank you for your interest, and we look forward to seeing your nomination!