



How do entrepreneurs shape the future with confidence?

Submit a nomination for the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2025 program by April 18, 2025

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The better the question. The better the answer.
The better the world works.



Shape the future
with confidence

Supporting entrepreneurship for 3 decades

Through the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year program, we celebrate the entrepreneurs whose unbounded ambitions deliver innovation, growth and prosperity that transform our world. Since 1994, we've celebrated the accomplishments of hundreds of Canadian entrepreneurs and CEOs.

With over 3,300 luminaries honoured through the prestigious Entrepreneur Of The Year Award, we don't just celebrate success – we share the stories of the visionaries shaping the future to inspire others and empower the next generation of innovators.

ARE YOU READY TO JOIN THE RANKS OF THESE AMBITIOUS TRAILBLAZERS? YOUR MOMENT IS HERE. DARE TO BE NEXT.

Benefits of participation

Entrepreneur Of The Year participants represent the world's most inspirational and innovative business leaders.

The ecosystem offers you:

- 1** Lifetime access to a community of like-minded business leaders, including program alumni, judges and sponsors, business leaders and EY personnel.
- 2** The opportunity to expand your network and build relationships through invitations to exclusive entrepreneurially focused and broader EY-run events.
- 3** The chance to keep a finger on the pulse of the latest hot topics with peer-to-peer learning experiences, workshops, roundtable discussions and more.
- 4** Connections with EY advisors through EY Wavespace™ to help your business broaden its focus to embrace value creation.
- 5** An exclusive invitation to the EY Strategic Growth Forum®, one of North America's largest gatherings of entrepreneurs, investors, executives and business leaders.

HOW DO ENTREPRENEURS SHAPE THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE?

Benefits of participation

Join Canada's vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem

How far can boundless ambition take you?

3,300+

ALUMNI IN THE EY ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR CANADIAN COMMUNITY.

Through the Entrepreneur Of The Year program, you become part of this vibrant ecosystem that comprises leading entrepreneurs and business leaders in Canada. Growing larger every year, the program helps members harness their wealth of experience to create opportunities to share disruptive ideas and knowledge with each other - locally and nationally.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR ALL

EY is a global supporter of entrepreneurship for all, helping businesses grow, scale and overcome ever-evolving challenges through the **EY Entrepreneur Of The Year**, **Entrepreneurial Winning Women™** and **Entrepreneurs Access Network** programs.

Hear what our alumni have to say:

“The program was an outstanding experience in my professional career. Through it I have developed relationships I otherwise would not have.

– ALUM, PACIFIC REGION

“All interaction and events were meaningful from a business perspective. The ability to interact with other businesspeople was inspiring and everyone we met with at EY was very engaging and interested.

– ALUM, EASTERN REGION

“The exposure, networking and fun times are hard to describe other than to say it was first class! Best program to participate in.

– ALUM, PRAIRIES REGION

“This has been an absolutely life-changing process for me. I have learned so much through meeting many outstanding entrepreneurs and individuals. This experience has made me even more driven to continue growing and pushing ahead with greater momentum.

– ALUM, ONTARIO REGION

HALL OF FAME

The Entrepreneur Of The Year® Hall of Fame is an elite group of people who have been awarded for their exceptional entrepreneurial achievements.

Past winners in our Canadian entrepreneurial community include:

Carl Hansen, AbCellera	Joanna Griffiths, Knix
Murad Al-Katib, AGT Food and Ingredients Inc. *	Linda Hasenfratz, Linamar Corporation
Dani Reiss, Canada Goose	Peter Gilgan, The Mattamy Corporation
Guy Laliberté, Cirque du Soleil *	James Temerty, Northland Power Income Fund
Michael Donovan, DHX Media Ltd.	Ken Harris, Plusgrade
Geoff Smith, EllisDon Corporation	Ronald Joyce, The TDL Group
Aisha Yang and Musharaf Syed, Herband Naturals Inc.	Clive Beddoe, Don Bell, Mark Hill, and Tim Morgan, WestJet Airlines Ltd.

*EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year Award winner

HOW DO ENTREPRENEURS SHAPE THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE?

Ecosystem

2025 timeline

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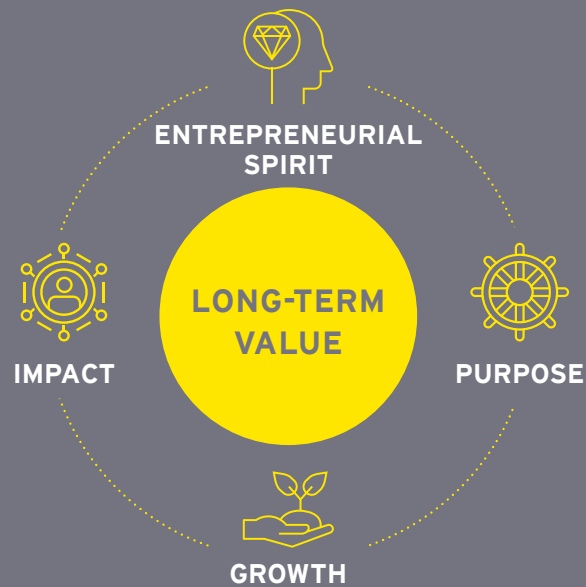
Timeline

01

07

Judging criteria

An independent panel of judges will assess nominees based on the criteria outlined below. Judges include past EY Entrepreneur Of The Year participants as well as business and community leaders.



The path to EY World Entrepreneur of the Year



ELIGIBILITY

The nominee must be the owner or CEO of a private or public company and responsible for the day-to-day operations of the business. Co-founders are eligible if they share leadership responsibilities at the company.

Non-founding entrepreneurs are also eligible if the individual manages the business and assumes the associated risks.

The nominee must have been in their current leadership role for at least two years by the application deadline.

The nominee's company must be at least three years old by the application deadline.

The nominee's headquarters must be in the region where the nomination is submitted.

Submit an application today

To nominate someone or apply yourself, visit eoy.ey.com.

Deadline for entries is **April 18, 2025**

HOW DO ENTREPRENEURS SHAPE THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE?

Judging criteria

Application guidelines

A snapshot of the nomination requirements is featured below.

NOMINEE INFORMATION

For co-nominees, add the details for each additional person.

- Company name
- Title
- Headquarters' location
- Nominee's email
- Company URL
- Years nominee has been with company
- Years in current position
- Assistant's information
- Previously nominated (status achieved)

COMPANY INFORMATION

- Company description
- Year company founded
- Industry
- D-U-N-S® (Dun & Bradstreet) number, if applicable
- Publicly held company
 - Year company went public
 - Stock ticker symbol

FINANCIAL DATA

The financial information is an important quantifiable indicator of success for the independent panel of judges. Without it, you can't be evaluated. Please note, the information you provide will be kept confidential.

- Company mergers (within the past three years)
- Provide percentage of growth due to the merger
- Sources of investment
- Three years of financial data to include:
 - Fiscal year end
 - Total employees
 - Annual sales
 - Income before taxes
 - EBITDA
 - Total assets
 - Total equity

If necessary, please provide sufficient information to explain any unusual trends in the information provided in an attached narrative.

NARRATIVE

Take this opportunity to “tell the story” behind the nominee's journey. You'll be asked to describe the entrepreneur's success in four distinct areas, detailed below. Each section is limited to a maximum 2,000 characters or approximately 250 words. When completing the online application form, click on “more information” for a detailed description of each section.



Entrepreneurial spirit

- Identifies opportunities to innovate and create a better world.
- Takes risks to realize their vision.
- Demonstrates courage and perseverance and overcomes obstacles.



Purpose

- Commits themselves and their organization to an inspiring purpose and vision.
- Drives strategies for a sustainable future.
- Creates and protects value in the long term across a broad group of stakeholders, including consumers, employees, suppliers, government, communities, investors and shareholders.



Growth

- Increases market share and expands into new markets.
- Drives positive financial performance.
- Invests in attracting, developing and retaining a diverse mix of talent.
- Builds a culture of innovation that pioneers new approaches or technologies.



Impact

- Integrates sustainable environmental, social and governance (ESG) environmental practices in their strategy, with robust commitments and execution plans.
- Focuses on diversity and inclusion across multiple dimensions.
- Positively impacts the customers they serve.

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Canada's EY Entrepreneur Of The Year team

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For more information, visit ey.com/ca/eoy
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Contact us

EY | Building a better working world

EY is building a better working world by creating new value for clients, people, society and the planet, while building trust in capital markets.

Enabled by data, AI and advanced technology, EY teams help clients shape the future with confidence and develop answers for the most pressing issues of today and tomorrow.

EY teams work across a full spectrum of services in assurance, consulting, tax, strategy and transactions. Fueled by sector insights, a globally connected, multi-disciplinary network and diverse ecosystem partners, EY teams can provide services in more than 150 countries and territories.

All in to shape the future with confidence.

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