

Nomination Criteria Judged Awards



YARMOUTH & AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**2026
Yarmouth
Business Awards**

Small Business of the Year (1-10 employees)

This nominee can be from any industry and meets the criteria for; supporting the community, has shown growth and innovation in its business area, and has had a positive impact on the local economy. Must be in business for at least 3 years.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information need prior to judging and in respect deadlines
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony
- Nominated business must have full and part time employees not exceeding the outlined parameters
- Nominated businesses must be a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation based and operating in the Tri-County Area.
- Government entities, crown corporations, and non-profits are not eligible.

Business of the Year (11+ employees)

This nominee can be from any industry and meets the criteria for; supporting the community, has shown growth and innovation in its business area, and has had a positive impact on the local economy. Must be in business for at least 3 years.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information need prior to judging and in respect deadlines
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony
- Nominated business must have full and part time employees not exceeding the outlined parameters
- Nominated businesses must be a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation based and operating in the Tri-County Area.
- Government entities, crown corporations, and non-profits are not eligible.

Rising Star of the Year Award

This is awarded to a locally owned business that is a minimum of one year and less than 3 years, or has had a new owner within the past three years, and has shown innovation, and/or growth and success within our business community.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information need prior to judging and in respect deadlines
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony
- Nominated businesses must be a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation based and operating in the Tri-County Area.
- Nominees must have been in business for a minimum of one year and less than three years as of August 2026.
- Nominees cannot be an expansion of an existing business or a new location of existing business
- Government entities, crown corporations, and non-profits are not eligible.

Export Achievement Award

This award recognizes a business that has demonstrated success in exporting goods or services and expanding its markets to areas outside the local economy.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information need prior to judging and in respect deadlines
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony
- Nominated businesses must be a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation based and operating in the Tri-County Area.
- Government entities, crown corporations, and non-profits are not eligible

Nomination Criteria Judged Awards



YARMOUTH & AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2026

Yarmouth
Business Awards

Customer Service Award

This award is presented to a business which demonstrates excellence in customer service, going above and beyond what is expected. This business should foster a customer service atmosphere among its staff and always be pushing to be better. Business must be in operation for a minimum of 3 years.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information need prior to judging and in respect deadlines
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony
- Nominated businesses must be a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation based and operating in the Tri-County Area.
- Government entities, crown corporations, and non-profits are not eligible.

Community Impact Award

This award honours a company or business that has demonstrated exceptional public spirit through active staff participation in our community. The nominee will have shown support for our community through sponsorships and charitable initiatives or by monetary and/or in-kind contributions. Business must be in operation for a minimum of 3 years.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information needed prior to judging and in respect deadlines
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony
- Nominated businesses must be a sole proprietorship, partnership, social enterprise or corporation based and operating in the Tri-County Area.
- Government entities, crown corporations, and non-profits are not eligible.

Business Leader of the Year

This award will recognize an individual displaying outstanding leadership in the business community. This individual has made outstanding contributions to the business environment, shows excellence in their field, inspires others and has positively impacted the community at large.

Other:

- Nominee must have at least 3 years in business ownership or management.
- Nominee must not be affiliated with government, Crown corporations, or non-profits.
- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information need prior to judging and in respect deadlines
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony
- Nominee should be a business owner or manager

Young Entrepreneur Award

This nominee can be from any industry and meets the criteria for; supporting the community, has shown growth and innovation in its business area, and has had a positive impact on the local economy. Must have been in business for at least 1 year. The business owner must be 35 years old or younger.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information need prior to judging and in respect deadlines
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony
- Nominated businesses must be a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation based and operating in the Tri-County Area.
- Government entities, crown corporations, and non-profits, are not eligible.

Nomination Criteria Judged Awards



YARMOUTH & AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2026

**Yarmouth
Business Awards**

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Advancement Award

This award is open to any business from any industry that demonstrates a commitment to advancing principles of equity, diversity, and/or inclusion throughout their organization. The focus of this award is on the work of a business to become more diverse, equitable, and/or inclusive of all people. Initiatives can be internal to the organization, external, or both but must touch on at least one of the following areas: Gender/Sexual Diversity, Indigenous Rights, Anti-Racism & Discrimination, Disability Rights, Gender Equity, and Inclusion.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information needed prior to judging, and in respect to deadlines.
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony.
- Nominated businesses must be a sole proprietorship, partnership, social enterprise or corporations based and operating in the Tri-County Area.
- Government entities, crown corporations, and non-profits are not eligible.

Tourism Business of the Year

This nominee must be a business that supports the tourism industry of Yarmouth & Acadian Shores. They should be; improving the allure of the community for tourists who visit the area, supporting the community, have shown growth and innovation in its business, and has had a positive impact on the local economy. The business must be in business for at least 3 years.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information needed prior to judging, and in respect to deadlines.
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony.
- Nominated businesses must be a sole proprietorship, partnership, social enterprise or corporations based and operating in the Tri-County Area.
- Government entities, crown corporations, and non-profits are not eligible.

Female Entrepreneur of the Year

This nominee can be from any industry and meets the criteria of; identifying as a female, supporting the community, has shown growth and innovation in their business area, and has had a positive impact on the local economy. Must have been in business for at least 3 years.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information need prior to judging and in respect deadlines
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony
- Nominatee should be operating a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation based and operating in the Tri-County Area.
- Government entities, crown corporations, and non-profits, are not eligible.

Non-Profit Organization of the Year

This nominee can be from any industry as long as they are operating as a non-profit entity. They should be able to demonstrate; how they support the community, have seen growth and innovation in its operations, and has had a positive impact on the region. Must be in operation for at least 3 years.

Other:

- Must accept their nomination, agree to complete any forms and provide any required information need prior to judging and in respect deadlines
- Agree to have their picture and/or business logo displayed in press and at the ceremony
- Must be registered at a non-profit organization or charity and be operating in the Tri-County region.
- Government entities or crown corporations are not eligible.