



News release

Canada's best-run non-profit social service agencies named finalists for Donner Awards and \$60,000 prize money

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For Immediate Release

VANCOUVER, BC—Twenty organizations from across Canada have been recognized as being among the best-run non-profit social service agencies in the country and are in the running for \$60,000 in prize money as finalists for the 12th annual *Donner Canadian Foundation Awards for Excellence in the Delivery of Social Services*.

“The Donner Awards acknowledge the non-profit social service agencies that excel at managing their activities and maximizing the services they provide on the limited budgets endured by all non-profit groups,” said Niels Veldhuis, Fraser Institute director of fiscal and non-profit studies.

“In addition, the Donner Awards raise public awareness about the indispensable contributions of non-profit agencies across the country.”

The Donner Awards are Canada's largest recognition program for non-profit social service agencies, established in 1998 to recognize and encourage best practices in non-profit management and to increase public confidence and support for Canada's non-profit sector. The awards, administered by the Fraser Institute on behalf of the Donner Canadian Foundation, will be presented October 16th at a celebration in Toronto. Additional information is available at www.donnerawards.org.

This year, 582 non-profit social service agencies from across Canada applied for the awards. Participating organizations are ranked on their performance in 10 key areas, including management and governance, the use of staff and volunteers, innovation, program costs, and outcome monitoring.

The top organization in each of seven categories of social service delivery will be awarded \$5,000 while the \$20,000 *William H. Donner Award for Excellence* will be presented to the highest performer overall.

In addition, the \$5,000 *Peter F. Drucker Award for Non-Profit Management* will be presented to a non-profit organization with a consistent record of excellence and innovation in the management and delivery of services.

2009 Donner Awards Finalists (by category)

Counselling / Crisis Intervention

- Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre (Calgary, AB)
- London Crisis Pregnancy Centre (London, ON)
- Sarnia Lambton Rebound: A Program for Youth (Sarnia, ON)

Education

- Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Centre of British Columbia (Vancouver, BC)
- Sarnia Lambton Rebound: A Program for Youth (Sarnia, ON)
- Saskatchewan Music Educators Association (Cudworth, SK)

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Finalists announced for Donner Awards—page two

Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse

- Fresh Start Recovery Centre (Calgary, AB)
- Simon House Residence Society (Calgary, AB)
- Sudbury Action Centre for Youth (Sudbury, ON)

Provision of Basic Necessities

- Alice Housing (Dartmouth, NS)
- Habitat for Humanity – National Capital Region (Ottawa, ON)
- Inner City Home of Sudbury (Sudbury, ON)

Services for Children

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peterborough (Peterborough, ON)
- Educational Program Innovations Charity Society (North Sydney, NS)
- Harmony (Sarnia, ON)

Services for People with Disabilities

- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Society of Manitoba (Winnipeg, MB)
- Community Living Campbellford / Brighton (Campbellford, ON)
- Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada - Calgary and Area Chapter (Calgary, AB)

Services for Seniors

- Alzheimer Society of Oxford (Woodstock, ON)
- Community and Primary Health Care - Lanark, Leeds and Grenville (Brockville, ON)
- Hospice Greater Saint John (Saint John, NB)

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The Donner Canadian Foundation is dedicated to supporting projects that emphasize self-reliance, individual initiative, and independence. For more information, visit www.donnerfoundation.org.

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