

# Honorary Degree Nomination



University  
of Victoria

Our vision is to be a university of choice for outstanding students, faculty and staff from British Columbia, Canada and the world. We aspire to be the Canadian university that best integrates outstanding scholarship, inspired teaching and real-life involvement. As members of a diverse and dynamic learning community, we challenge one another to become thoughtful, engaged citizens and leaders, prepared to contribute to the betterment of a rapidly changing global society.

In celebration of this vision, the University of Victoria confers degrees *Honoris Causa* each year to a select group of individuals who have an exceptional record of distinction and achievement. Honorees include world-renowned scholars and artists; celebrated and visionary public figures; prominent professional and community leaders; and philanthropists. A complete list of past UVic honorary degree recipients is available at <http://www.uvic.ca/universitysecretary/senate/honorary/recipients/index.php>.

Honorary degrees for award are:

- 1) **Fine and Performing Arts** – Honorary degrees approved by Senate commonly awarded in this category include DFA, DLitt, DMus, LLD;
- 2) **Humanities and Belles Lettres** – Honorary degrees approved by Senate commonly awarded in this category include DLitt and LLD;
- 3) **Public Service / Public Profile** – Honorary degrees approved by Senate commonly awarded in this category include LLD;
- 4) **Social Science & Service / Social Justice & Change** – Honorary degrees approved by Senate commonly awarded under this category include DEd, DSN, and LLD;
- 5) **Pure and Applied Science** – Honorary degrees approved by Senate commonly awarded under this category include DEng, DSc, LLD.

You may nominate individuals from any country and of any nationality; however, we suggest you give particular attention to individuals who have had some connection with the University of Victoria and British Columbia. We seek to recognize and celebrate outstanding individuals of diverse backgrounds and achievements.

A candidate for an honorary degree must attend a convocation ceremony to receive the degree in person, except in unusual circumstances and only at the discretion of Senate. Honorary Degrees are **not** awarded posthumously, nor are they generally awarded to persons holding political office or a current appointment at the University of Victoria.



## REVIEW OF NOMINATIONS

Nominations are reviewed by the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Other Forms of Recognition in accordance with the *Terms of Reference* of the committee (see- <http://www.uvic.ca/universitysecretary/senate/honorary/index.php>.) A nomination will not be placed before the committee until all components of the nomination package have been submitted.

The selection of candidates for receipt of honorary degrees is considered by Senate to be a delicate matter requiring the utmost care and confidentiality. The committee receives many names of possible candidates from various sources each year and tries to maintain a balance in the selection of candidates. Obviously, it is not possible to offer honorary degrees to all candidates who are nominated. Any recommendations for honorary degrees received by the committee are held in strict confidence from the time they are received.

Once a name has been put forward for a degree, the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and the Senate are unable to comment on what has transpired so nominators are not informed of their deliberations. In order to avoid any potential embarrassment to candidates, nominators and the university, candidates are never informed that they are under consideration. Their selection by Senate is not revealed until a letter is written to ask if they are willing to accept an honorary degree.

**When a candidate has been approved by Senate, has accepted the offering and has been scheduled for a convocation ceremony, the nominators and supporters of the candidate will be contacted and informed.**



**ALL HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATIONS ARE STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**

**\*\* Potential nominees should never be aware they have been nominated or are under consideration. \*\***

**NOMINATION PACKAGE**

Please ensure that your nomination package contains these documents:

1. **Nomination Form** – include the names, mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and emails of the nominee, nominator and supporters. Include a short chronological biography or brief summary (maximum 300 words) of the nomination that outlines highlights of the nominee’s education and endeavours.
2. **A detailed letter of nomination** outlining the reasons for the nomination. Members of the university community and convocation may nominate a candidate; others who wish to do so must jointly submit the nomination with a member of convocation.

This letter of nomination is a very important component of the nomination. It should be a clear statement of why the nominee should receive an honorary degree and include, as appropriate, information about the nominee’s community activities; global, national or provincial activities; distinguished or notable professional achievements or service that reflects a high standard of excellence in their field; publications, research or creative work; and previous awards and recognition.

3. Two (2) supporting letters from individuals other than the nominator.
4. The candidate’s curriculum vitae (CV), and relevant biographical information.
5. You may include further supporting information including pertinent newspaper clippings and articles, or biographical information, but no more than 15 pages of additional supporting documentation will be reviewed.

**For more information or assistance please contact:**

Ada Saab  
Associate University Secretary  
(250) 721-8104 or [aus@uvic.ca](mailto:aus@uvic.ca)

Rachel Goldsworthy  
Awards Facilitator  
(250) 472-5408 or [awardfac@uvic.ca](mailto:awardfac@uvic.ca)

**DEADLINES FOR NOMINATIONS**

A call for nominations is issued two times a year, with deadlines in early-March and early-September.

*Nomination packages should be submitted by email, [usec2@uvic.ca](mailto:usec2@uvic.ca) to:*

Ms. Shelagh Rogers, Chancellor and Chair, Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Other Forms of Recognition, c/o Ms. Ada Saab, Secretary, Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Other Forms of Recognition, University of Victoria.



## CHECKLIST OF INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN A COMPLETE NOMINATION PACKAGE:

- The completed **nomination form**, which must include:
  - the candidate's full name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address;
  - a summary of the candidate's education, field of endeavour(s) and positions held;
  - the nominator's name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address;
  - the supporters' names, mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and email address
- The **candidate's curriculum vitae (CV)**, relevant biographical information, and additional supporting information, if available.
- A signed and dated **letter of nomination** addressed to: Ms. Shelagh Rogers, Chancellor and Chair, Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Other Forms of Recognition.

*This letter of nomination should comprise a detailed specification and documentation of those of the candidate's achievements that the nominator believes qualify the candidate for consideration for an honorary degree. It should clearly describe why the nominee should receive an honorary degree and include, as appropriate, information about the nominee's community activities; national or provincial activities; distinguished or notable professional achievements or service that reflects a high standard of excellence in his or her field; publications, research or creative work; and previous awards and recognition.*

- Two (2) **letters of support** from two supporters (required in accordance with the committee's terms of reference, section 5). Letters of support should:
  - describe the supporter's relationship with the candidate, i.e. "I have known Mr/Mrs/Ms X for xxx" or "X was my colleague <where> <during what time period> ..." "I became acquainted with X ... and since that time...";
  - highlight specific contributions, details of the candidate's career, extraordinary and pioneering accomplishments, unique characteristics, etc. that make the candidate worthy of the honour. *Note:* it is helpful if this description includes personal comments, indicating the supporter is well acquainted with the individual and their accomplishments, however, it should not simply reiterate the information contained in the CV;
  - highlight those outstanding characteristics that are not evident on the candidate's CV.

*Note: It is also particularly helpful if nominators and supporters detail a connection that the candidate may have with the University of Victoria. Section 21 of the committee's terms of reference state: "Normally, the committee shall consult with the Chair, Director, or Dean if the proposed candidate is recommended on the basis of distinction in an academic area represented at the university."*



# Honorary Degree Nomination Form



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Please indicate which Honorary Degree you are nominating the candidate for:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> LLD (Laws)      | <input type="checkbox"/> DEng (Engineering) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DLitt (Letters) | <input type="checkbox"/> DEd (Education)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DFA (Fine Arts) | <input type="checkbox"/> DSN (Nursing)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DSc (Science)   | <input type="checkbox"/> DMus (Music)       |

## THE NOMINEE

<b>Full name of the nominee:</b>
<b>Current address and telephone number:</b>
<b>Current email:</b>
<b>Date and place of birth (optional):</b>

*The University of Victoria collects the personal information on this form pursuant to the University Act, RSBC 1996, c.468 and section 27 (1) (c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The information is collected by the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and Other Forms of Recognition and the Senate for the sole purpose of determining an individual's suitability for an honour or award. The information will remain confidential to the committee and Senate until such time as (and if) an honorary degree is granted. If you have any questions about this collection, contact the Office of the University Secretary, PO Box 1700 STN CSC, Victoria, BC, V8W 2Y2, (250) 721-8101.*



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**A biography or brief summary (maximum 300 words) of the nomination, including highlights of the candidate's education, field of endeavour(s), and positions held. Please also attach the candidate's curriculum vitae (CV). Additional supporting materials, including pertinent newspaper clippings and articles, or biographical information, may be attached to the nomination form.**

## THE NOMINATOR

**Full name of the nominator:**

**Current address and telephone number:**

**Current email:**



# Honorary Degree Nomination Form



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## FIRST SUPPORTER:

Full name of the supporter:

Current address and telephone number:

Current email:

## SECOND SUPPORTER:

Full name of the supporter:

Current address and telephone number:

Current email:



# Honorary Degree Nomination Form



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## ADDITIONAL SUPPORTER:

<b>Full name of the supporter:</b>
<b>Current address and telephone number:</b>
<b>Current email:</b>

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<b>Full name of the supporter:</b>
<b>Current address and telephone number:</b>
<b>Current email:</b>

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORTER:

<b>Full name of the supporter:</b>
<b>Current address and telephone number:</b>
<b>Current email:</b>

