

## Awards - For Girls

### 1. MEMBERSHIP PINS

All girl Members receive a Membership Pin indicating her number of years of GGC membership. Only one Membership Pin is worn at a time. Girls receive their Membership Pin from their Guider/ Commissioner. Pins are provided at the beginning of each Guiding year.

### 2. LETTER OF COMMENDATION

A Letter of Commendation may be given to a girl in recognition of service to GGC. Applications are authorized by the awarding council. It may be given more than once to the same person.

### 3. GOLD THANKS PIN

The Gold Thanks Pin may be given to girl Members for exceptional service to Guiding. This award may be given at any level with the permission of the council concerned. It may be given more than once.



### 4. FORTITUDE AWARD

The Fortitude Award is granted by the Board of Directors to girl Members who have shown great courage and endurance in adversity. The application comes from the province to the Board. This award may be given posthumously in special circumstances. Fortitude must have been demonstrated within the past 12 months; however, the onset of adversity may have occurred further in the past. Posthumous applications must be made no more than one year after death.



### 5. VALOUR AWARD

The Valour Award is granted by the Board of Directors to a girl Member who has shown heroism in risking her life to save, or attempting to save, the life of another person. The award is in three levels:

- Bronze for high risk to personal safety
- Silver for considerable risk to life
- Gold for greatest heroism and risk to life (highest award)



Applications must be made as soon as possible and no more than one year after the incident.

## Awards – For Adults

### **1. MEMBERSHIP PINS**

All adult Members receive a Membership Pin indicating the number of years of GGC membership. Only one Membership Pin is worn at a time. Women receive their Membership Pin from their district commissioner. Pins are provided at the beginning of each Guiding year. After 15 years pins are awarded at five-year intervals.

### **2. 50 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP**

Letters of recognition from the Chief Commissioner are sent to women with 50 years of membership and every five years thereafter.

### **3. NEW UNIT GUIDER APPRECIATION PIN**



The New Unit Guider Appreciation Pin is presented to each new Unit Guider in the first year of service to GGC in a Guiding Unit (Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers.) The pin is presented by the Unit Guider's council of Guiding, and is only presented to a Member once. No award application is required.

### **4. LETTER OF COMMENDATION**



A Letter of commendation may be given to any adult in recognition of service to the Organization. It may be issued by anybody at any level. It may be given more than once to the same person. Apply according to procedures in your Province. Note: Letter of Commendation may also be presented to non-Members of Guiding.



## 5. GOLD THANKS PIN

The Gold Thanks Pin may be given to adult Registered Members for good service to Guiding. This award may be given at any level with the permission of the council concerned. It may be given more than once.

## 6. UNIT GUIDER AWARD

This award is presented to Unit Guiders who provide girls with diverse and exciting programs and opportunities; ensures that there are regular bridging opportunities; always welcomes new Members; attends trainings; participates in district meetings and upholds the values of GGC. The award is granted by the council concerned in three categories:

- Bronze Unit Guider Award (1 – 3 years experience)
- Silver Unit Guider Award (4 – 10 years experience)
- Gold Unit Guider Award (11+ years experience)

## 7. COMMISSIONER AWARD

This award is presented to commissioners who: lead by example, actively welcome new Members and retain current Members; mentor adult Members; uphold the values of GGC and have gained the respect of Members, girls and parents. This award is granted by the council and can be presented during a Member's tenure or on her retirement.

## 8. TEAM AWARD



The Team Award may be given to each Member who has been part of a team that planned and carried to completion an extraordinary event or project. The award is primarily intended as an adult award, but there are times when girls are also part of a task group or committee and can also be granted the

award. A Member may receive the Team Award more than once.

### 9. BRONZE MERIT AWARD



The Bronze Merit award may be given to adult Registered Members for dedicated service to Guiding in any field, beyond the basic requirements for the position held. This award is granted by the council concerned.

### 10. SILVER MERIT AWARD



The Silver Merit award may be given to adult Registered Members for excellent service to Guiding in any field, beyond the basic requirements for the position held. This award is granted by the council concerned.

### 11. GOLD MERIT AWARD



The Gold Merit award may be given to adult Registered Members for outstanding service to Guiding in any field, beyond the basic requirements for the position held. This award is granted by the council concerned.

## PROVINCIAL AWARDS

### 1. MEDAL OF MERIT



The Medal of Merit award may be given to adult Registered Members for exceptional service to Guiding at any level, beyond the basic requirements for the position held. \* This award is granted by the provincial council.

### 2. ALBERTA ROSE



1. The Alberta Rose is a very special provincial award, which may be presented to someone who is making an outstanding contribution to Guiding within the Province of Alberta.
2. It is to be considered higher than the Medal of

Merit.

3. The Guider's service may be to adults or girls.
4. Service need not include a provincial position or be known province wide.
5. Service must be ongoing - not just for a one time task; she must still be serving and intend to continue serving Guiding.
6. Service to whatever position she is holding must be above and beyond the requirements of the position.
7. Approval of this award cannot be based solely on past service that has been previously recognized by presentation of another award. Additional service since the last award presented must be documented in the supporting letters.
8. Applications for this award must be accompanied by **three letters** of support, documenting service.
9. Each application must be considered carefully on its own merits by the provincial awards committee.
10. Final approval to be given by the provincial executive committee (or council).
11. A certificate will accompany the Alberta Rose Award.
12. Applications must be sent to the Provincial Office **at least three months** before the intended date of presentation

## NATIONAL AWARDS



### **1. BEAVER**

The Beaver is granted by the Board of Directors to adult Members for exceptional service to Guiding at the provincial or national level. Except in special cases, the Beaver is awarded only to those who hold the Medal of Merit.



### **2. GOLD MAPLE LEAF AWARD**

The Gold Maple Leaf Award is granted by the Board of Directors to adult Members for exceptional service at the national level, which contributes to the enrichment of Guiding in Canada. It is only awarded to those who hold the Beaver.



### **3. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

The Honorary Life Membership is granted by the Board of Directors to adult Members still actively involved in the Organization or upon retirement. Applications must be submitted through the commissioner concerned and accompanied by the required fee, currently \$500. Contact your area awards adviser or commissioner for further details and be advised there are additional costs for the pin and courier charges. Members must follow all obligations of membership as per GGC Bylaws, with the exception of paying the annual membership fee. A certificate will accompany this award.



### **4. FORTITUDE AWARD**

The Fortitude Award is granted by the Board of Directors to adult Members who have shown great courage and endurance in adversity. This award may be given posthumously in special circumstances. Fortitude must have been demonstrated within the past 12 months; however, the onset of adversity may have occurred further in the past. Posthumous applications must be made no more than one year after death. The area will be

billed for the cost of the pin (\$75.00) and courier charges. A certificate will accompany this award.

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**[Awards: What is the process?](#)**

## HOW DO WE APPLY FOR AWARDS?

Any registered Member may apply for an award for a Guider they feel is deserving of recognition. The *R.3 Awards Application Form* is used for each award applied for and is available at:

<http://forms.girlguides.ca/appregrec/R3.doc>. Complete this form; attach the number of letters of support as outlined on the R.3 (and a cheque made out to "Girl Guides of Canada" (if applicable), and forward the original copy of the complete application through the proper channels for provincial and national applications. More copies may be required for area awards. The signature of the commissioner concerned is required, unless she has delegated the authority to the area awards adviser. If so, this must be reflected in the job description of the area awards adviser or terms of reference for the committee.

## ATTACHMENTS TO THE APPLICATION

- The R.3 form lists the attachments required for each application.
- For most awards two supporting letters are required (three for the Alberta Rose Award). Please review and give all applicants a copy of the two-page resource "What Do I Write in a Letter of Support for an Award?" (see pages 12 and 13)
- The guidelines in Guiding Essentials state that the service must be beyond the basic requirements for the position held.
- A progression of service given is indicated: good, dedicated, excellent, outstanding, and exceptional.
- Apply for the award that you believe the Guider deserves and your supporting letters should clearly document this service.
- Presently there is a \$500.00 fee, which must also accompany applications for Honorary Life Membership. This cheque made out to GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA (not made out to your area or Alberta council), must accompany the application when it is sent to the Provincial Office. Also please note, there is an additional charge for the pin and courier delivery and that the Guider must have a current PRC or Exemption in order to qualify.
- Provincial and national applications must be sent to Provincial Office and only one copy of the complete application is required. Areas may



require more copies for their files.

### **What then happens to the Application?**

- 1) The iMIS profile will be attached by the approving council.
- 2) If further approval is required, the appropriate council will forward the application for this additional approval
- 3) If approved, you will be notified of the approval
- 4) If the Award being sought is not deemed suitable, every effort must be made to ensure an acceptable substitution

### **WHAT ARE THE PROPER CHANNELS?**

Ideally each area will have an awards committee that will review all award applications. In some areas, this is not the case, and the area commissioner and council process the applications.

1. Some of the awards offered to our Members may be approved at the area level by the area awards committee. These awards include:
  - Unit Guider Award
  - Commissioner Award
  - Letter of Commendation
  - Gold Thanks Pin
  - Bronze Merit Award
  - Silver Merit Award
  - Gold Merit Award
  - Team Award
  - Area Awards
  - Silver Thanks Award

Applications for these awards need not be sent to the provincial awards committee or the Provincial Office for further approval. After these awards are presented, the iMIS Profile of the Guider must be updated either at the area level or by notifying the Provincial Office. Please send a list of all award recipients to the Provincial Office at least once a year.

2. Provincial award applications must be sent to provincial office before being reviewed and approved by the provincial awards committee. These include:
  - Medal of Merit
  - Alberta Rose (Note: The Alberta Rose is given final approval by the provincial executive committee or by the provincial council.)

Applications for these awards must be forwarded to the provincial office before they are forwarded to the provincial awards committee with an iMIS profile attached.

3. National council awards applications must be sent to provincial office before being reviewed by the provincial awards committee. These include:
  - Beaver Award
  - Gold Maple Leaf Award
  - Honorary Life Membership
  - Fortitude Award - for girls and adults
  - Valour Award - for girls and adults
4. Alberta council or committee applications for any award requiring an R.3 must be sent to provincial office.

### **NOTIFICATION OF APPROVAL OF AWARDS**

For all awards receiving approval at the area level, the area awards adviser or area commissioner should notify the person recommending the award of its approval.

For awards needing provincial approval, the provincial awards adviser will contact the area awards adviser or the area commissioner immediately after a decision has been made. If the awards committee feels that insufficient documentation has been received to warrant giving the award applied for, the provincial adviser will contact the area awards adviser to ask for more documentation.

Nationally approved awards are returned to the provincial office. The staff at the office will notify the area concerned.

The pins, certificate, congratulatory and original support letters are sent to the area by the provincial office with an invoice for the cost of the award.

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