National Awards and Recognition for Members

Award applications are required for all awards unless otherwise noted. Each award may be received only once by the same Guider unless otherwise noted.

Note: Any Member may nominate a Member for an Award at any time.

1.1 Gold Thanks Pin

The Gold Thanks Pin is granted by the Administrative Community, Trefoil Guild, Specialty Community or Ontario Council and is presented to registered adult Members and Rangers in recognition of GOOD (GOOD = helpful, beneficial, reliable, useful, trustworthy) service to Guiding. The supporting letter describing service to Guiding should explain why the individual should receive the award.
This may be awarded to girl or adult Members. It may be given more than once.

1.2 Letter of Commendation for Members

The Letter of Commendation is granted by the Administrative Community, Trefoil Guild, Specialty Community or Ontario Council and is presented to any girl or adult Member to recognize service to Girl Guides of Canada. This award may be given by any level of the organization and may be given more than once to the same person.

1.3 Team Award

The Team Award is granted by the Administrative Community, Trefoil Guild, Specialty Community or Ontario Council and may be given to each Member who planned and carried to completion an extraordinary event or project. The purpose of the Team Award is to give special recognition for the teamwork, creativity, diligence and synergy that go beyond the basic expectations when a group works to produce an event or project. Supporting letters from Members not part of the team are required. Remember it is something “extraordinary” and the description you include should have similar words.
This may be awarded to youth or adult Members. It may be given more than once.

1.4 Unit Guider Award

The Unit Guider Award is granted by the Administrative Community and is presented to Unit Guiders who: provide girls with diverse and exciting programs and opportunities that will help them achieve greatness; ensures there are regular bridging opportunities; always welcomes new Members; attends trainings; participates in community events; and upholds the values of GGC. The award is in three categories:
• Bronze Unit Guider Award (experience 1-3 years)
• Silver Unit Guider Award (experience 4-10 years)
• Gold Unit Guider Award (experience 11+ years)
The years of experience are cumulative and a Unit Guider may receive any or all of the Awards during her tenure in Guiding. The bronze may be received by a Unit Guider in her first year. Each level of award may be received once per Guider.
1.5 **Administrative Community Leader Award**

The Administrative Community Leader Award is granted by Ontario Council and is presented to ACLs who: lead by example; actively welcome new Members and retain current Members; mentor adult Members; uphold the values of GGC; have gained the respect of Members, girls and parents. It can be presented during a Member’s tenure or upon retirement.

1.6 **Bronze/Silver/Gold Merit Award**

The Merit Award is granted by Ontario Council and is presented to adult Members for service to Guiding above the basic requirements of the position held. This award is given in three categories:

- **Bronze Merit**: for dedicated service to Guiding.
- **Silver Merit**: for excellent service to Guiding.
- **Gold Merit**: for outstanding service to Guiding.

An adult Member may receive any or all of the Merit Awards during her tenure in Guiding.

1.7 **Medal of Merit**

The Medal of Merit Award is granted by Ontario Council and is presented to adult Members for exceptional service to Guiding above the basic requirements for the position held.

1.8 **Beaver Award**

The Beaver Award is granted by the Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada 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. Applications must be submitted to Ontario Council for approval prior to being sent to the GGC Board of Directors.

1.9 **Gold Maple Leaf Award**

The Gold Maple Leaf Award is granted by the Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada 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 Award. Applications must be submitted to Ontario Council for approval prior to being sent to the GGC Board of Directors.
1.10 **Honorary Life Award**

The Honorary Life Award is granted by the Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada Board of Directors to adult Members still actively involved in the Organization or upon retirement. Applications must be submitted to Ontario Council for approval prior to being sent to the GGC Board of Directors. Honorary Life Award recipients must comply with GGC conditions of membership as per GGC Bylaws and Screening Policy with the exception of paying the annual membership fee.

1.11 **Fortitude Award**

The Fortitude Award is granted by the Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada Board of Directors to girl or adult Members who have shown great courage and endurance in adversity. The application comes from the province to the Board. The 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.

1.12 **Valour Award (Gold, Silver, Bronze)**

The Valour Award is granted by the Girl Guides of Canada – Guides du Canada Board of Directors to a girl or adult Member who has shown heroism in risking her life to save or attempting to save the life of another person. The award has 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 twelve months after the incident.

2 **Recognition for Non-Members**

2.1 **Silver Thanks Pin**

With the permission of the Administrative Community Leader, Specialty Community Chair or Trefoil Guild President, the Silver Thanks Pin may be given by any registered Guider to non-Members and volunteers to show thanks and appreciation. An award application is not required and it may be given more than once to the same person.

2.2 **Letter of Commendation for Non-Members**

With the permission of the Administrative Community Leader, Specialty Community Chair or Trefoil Guild President, a Letter of Commendation may be given by any registered Guider to a non-Member or organization in recognition of service to Guiding. It may be given more than once to the same person.