

## **Gretchen Eckel Gosse Community Service Award**

Presented to YWCA Edmonton personnel for exceptional community service, the *Mrs. Gretchen Eckel Gosse Community Service Award* recognizes:

- excellence of work in either the voluntary sector or profit sector, and
- the positive impact of the individual's work or contribution in the local and/or global community, profession, or field of endeavor.

Gretchen Gosse was a feisty woman who had a long history of volunteering in the many communities in which she lived, including St. Thomas, St. Catharines, Edmonton, Windsor, Toronto, Montreal, and Regina. She also had a long history with the Young Women's Christian Association of Edmonton that dates back to the mid 1930's when the then Miss Gretchen Eckel worked as the Girls' Work Secretary. After leaving Edmonton in 1937, Miss Eckel worked at a number of other YWCAs in central and eastern Canada. It was at the YMCA/YWCA of Windsor that she met her husband-to-be. With her marriage to the YMCA man, Hamilton Gosse, her volunteer career blossomed. It is a family joke that Mr. Gosse often had to remind his employer of forty years he was the one that was actually hired - not Mrs. Gosse.

Mrs. Gosse did not stop there in her volunteerism as she had more to give. She was proud to be a graduate of the University of Western Ontario, Class of 1935, majoring in English and History, and she especially cherished her memories of having served as President of the University of Regina Women's Club. This club provided scholarships for post-secondary students and fundraised to support these scholarships.

With her dedication to her faith and to the Anglican Church Mrs. Gosse served on church boards and ladies fellowship groups. She was proud to have been the first President of the All Saints Anglican Church Women's Group in Regina, a community where she lived for thirty years.

Mrs. Gosse was born on December 5, 1912 and passed away on March 22, 2007. She was a shining example of community-mindedness and selfless service; a woman who, in her words "just helped out" wherever life took her. Along the way she made her positive mark on those who were touched by her enthusiasm and efforts to make a better world – one act and one place at a time.

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### **Final Check List**

Have you included originals of:

- 1. The nomination form signed by both Nominee and nominator (one nominator only).
- 2. A summary of the Nominee's achievements or contributions.
- 3. Two signed letters of support, each accompanied by signed "Letter of Support Form."
- 4. The Nominee's resume (this item is optional).

## Nomination Form

### Nominee (Please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (business) \_\_\_\_\_ (residence) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I consent to my nomination for *the Mrs. Gretchen Eckel Gosse Community Service Community Award*. I give consent for my name, photograph and biography to be published by the YWCA on their website and in their periodicals, and the media, in connection with the award. I commit to attending the Staff Recognition Event on Wednesday, November 21, 2007.

Nominee's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominator (Please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (business) \_\_\_\_\_ (residence) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby declare the information contained in this nomination form to be true to the best of my knowledge.

Nominator's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

#### Nominator Qualifications

- Nominators may be other YWCA personnel or individuals from the community.
- One nominator only per Nominee.
- Staff personnel cannot nominate themselves.

## A. Nominee Qualifications

1. Eligibility - open to both women and men:
  - who, at time of nomination, are full time, part time or seasonal (for 2 years or more) staff or contractors of YWCA Edmonton, and
  - who have completed their probationary period.
2. Nominee must commit to attending the YWCA Staff Recognition event on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.
3. Nominee who is not selected for the award this year may be nominated again in the future.
4. An award recipient cannot be nominated again for five (5) years. The new nomination must be based on achievement and/or contributions in a different area or event.
5. Nominee consents, by his or her signature on the nomination form, to allow his or her name to stand for nomination, and to the publication of his or her name, photograph and biography, by the YWCA on their website, newsletter and periodicals, as well as the public media (in conjunction with the nomination and/or award).

## B. Nominations

1. On a separate page, based on the guidelines in the “Letter of Support form:”
  - Describe the Nominee’s contribution(s) to the local and/or global community, profession, or field of endeavor on one typewritten page.
  - Describe significance of the contributions or achievements measured in terms of the community (e.g. effect, innovation, need met) or the individual (e.g. barriers overcome, initiative, leadership, perseverance, dedication).
2. Submit two (2) Letters of Support indicating public or peer recognition of the Nominee’s contribution(s) or achievement(s) along with completed copy of the “Letter of Support Form” for each letter.
3. Please provide material for a short biography of the Nominee. Resumes may be included – no certificates / awards.
4. Please submit the original Nomination Form and originals of Letters of Support, keeping a copy for your records.
5. In accordance with privacy regulations, YWCA Edmonton will destroy all nomination packages within six (6) months of the Staff Recognition Event.
6. Only 1 award may be presented per year; however there can be a tie.
7. **Nomination Deadline** - Nominations must be received no later than 12 noon on Friday, September 14, 2007 by Kathy MacDonald, Program Manager, YWCA Edmonton 100, 10350 – 124 Street, Edmonton, AB T5N 3V9.
8. For additional Nomination Forms or further information, contact Kathy MacDonald at 423-9922 ext 230 or [katrina.macdonald@ywcaofedmonton.org](mailto:katrina.macdonald@ywcaofedmonton.org), or 423 9922 ext 0 or [information@ywcaofedmonton.org](mailto:information@ywcaofedmonton.org) .

## C. Selection Process

1. The Selection Committee is comprised of three (3) volunteers who may be Board Members, Life Members, YWCA Alumni, and/or former staff (as of 1 year) who shall remain anonymous.
2. The Selection Committee bases its decision exclusively on the information provided. The following criteria are used in the selection of the award recipient:
  - a. The originality, innovation, excellence or effect of the Nominee’s contribution(s).
  - b. The personal integrity, leadership ability, dedication and/or perseverance of the Nominee.
  - c. The public support and/or peer recognition of the Nominee’s achievement(s) or contribution(s)
  - d. The impact of the Nominee’s contribution(s) in the global and/or Edmonton community, profession or field of endeavor.
3. All nominations will be measured against the established criteria. Nominations that do not meet the selections criteria will not be considered.
4. All nominations will be treated confidentially. Nominators may be contacted to clarify information provided in the Nomination Form.
5. The *Mrs. Gretchen Eckel Gosse Community Service Award* will be presented to the Recipient at the Staff Recognition Event.

## “Letter of Support” Form

### Supporter (Please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (business) \_\_\_\_\_ (residence) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby declare the information contained in the attached letter of support to be true to the best of my knowledge.

Supporter's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

On a separate page please indicate your support for the Nominee. Consider the following as guidelines for content:

1. Describe the Nominee's accomplishments outside of his or her work with the YWCA Edmonton.
2. What impact has been felt in the local and/or global community, or in larger society, by the achievement(s) and contribution(s) of the Nominee? For instance has she/he helped us change the way we think about issues or solve problems? Has she/he altered the way we look at justice, discrimination or barrier to opportunity?
3. Has the Nominee influenced his/her profession? For instance, has the work led to a new discovery or innovative technology, created easier access to a career opportunity for others, or affected the work environment in a positive way?
4. Has the Nominee overcome obstacles or barriers in order to achieve success?
5. How has Nominee demonstrated commitment to the local and/or global community?
6. What make the Nominee a good role model or mentor?

The Selection Committee bases its decisions only on the information submitted.