



Calling for Nominations for Ontario Woodlot Association Awards

It is that time of year once again to give some thought to those individuals or groups who are deserving of OWA awards. We are blessed to have many exceptional volunteers both within the OWA as well as outside of the OWA who are outstanding in promoting good forest stewardship while supporting the OWA in achieving its vision, mission, and values, both as a volunteer and/or in a professional capacity. We also want to recognize those individuals promoting a better understanding and appreciation of forest values that are not only important to us but to future leaders of organizations like the OWA.

Please take the time to read through the award descriptions. You can find more detailed descriptions of the awards and examples of criteria for each award on the OWA website. If you know of deserving candidates please take the time to complete a nomination form. A candidate can't be recognized unless someone takes the time to nominate them. Award recipients will be announced at the 31st Annual Woodlot Tour and Conference co-hosted by the Huronia Chapter on April 24, 2024.

The deadline for nominations is **March 15, 2024**. The Nomination Form(s) should be emailed to:

kerrycoleman51@gmail.com and sdgowawood@gmail.com

Past Service Award

This award (a framed certificate or plaque) would be awarded to everyone who has served on the OWA Board of Directors or as an official member of an Advisory Committee and has left the position. It is in recognition of their service to the OWA.

Harry Barr Volunteer Award

This award is named in honour of Harry Barr. Harry played a key role in the formation of the OWA in 1992. He was our first president and served from 1992 to 2001. In Harry's words "the OWA was organized to provide a common voice for all woodlot owners and those interested in their concerns and is proud to call itself a "grassroots" organization with a strong and active local presence provided by its Chapters across Ontario".

This award recognizes exceptional hours of volunteerism that an OWA member or Chapter has contributed to promote good forest stewardship while supporting the OWA in achieving its vision, mission and values.

Kem Armson Professional Award

This award is named in honour of Ken Armson. Ken was inducted as an officer of the Order of Canada for his achievements in forest management and silviculture. Ken is a professional forester who has spent

more than 50 years in teaching, research, policy and administration in forestry. He was a professor of forestry at the Faculty of Forestry at the University of Toronto for 26 years. After teaching at the Faculty of Forestry at U of T in 1979 he became the Chief Forester and Executive Coordinator of the Forestry Resources Group in the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and then was appointed in 1986 as Ontario's first and only Provincial Forester. An author of several books on forest related topics and forest history, Ken has made transformative contributions to logging, forest regeneration and forest sustainability.

This award is presented to individuals, groups or businesses within or outside the OWA exemplifying outstanding professional contributions to the vision, mission and values of the OWA.

Lorax Award (One who speaks for the Forest)

This award recognizes an individual or a group for outstanding achievement for promoting a better understanding and appreciation of forest values in Ontario's woodlands. This can be achieved through such avenues as communications, education and influencing efforts. Promoting a better understanding and appreciation of forests values would apply to topics such as sustainable forest management, forest conservation, forest stewardship and intrinsic values of forests. This award is very general and is open to individuals and groups both within and outside the OWA.