

Ottawa Conference - Awards

Nomination Requirements

To nominate an individual for an award, complete the [Nomination Form](#). You will be asked to provide:

- Contact details for both Nominator and Nominee
- A statement of efforts and impact, explaining why you believe this nominee qualifies for the award. (~250 words)
- Include any supporting evidence, such as links to campaigns, programs, publications, policy briefs.
- Provide at least one (1) letter of support. [The letter cannot be written by a family member or relative, must state how they know the Nominee and for how long, must have knowledge of Nominee's activities and experiences)

Selection and Award Presentation

All nominations are reviewed by our Research Committee using a standardized scoring rubric based on the evolution criteria for the award. The nominee with the highest overall score or unanimous endorsement will be selected. The committee may choose not to grant the award if no nomination meets the standard. If no nominations are received, no award will be presented.

Recipients receive a certificate and prize. The recipient will be invited to the award presentation on Saturday, January 24, 2026 and is encouraged to attend to accept their award in person.

Andrew Pipe Advocacy Award

Purpose

The Advocacy Award in Smoking Cessation & Nicotine Dependence recognizes an individual or organization that has demonstrated outstanding leadership, commitment, and impact in advancing tobacco control, reducing nicotine dependence, and improving public health. This award celebrates those who champion effective policies, support individuals on their quit journey, and drive meaningful change in tobacco-related health outcomes.

Eligibility

Nominees may be clinicians, researchers, public health professionals, community leaders, patient advocates, or lived-experience champions.

Evaluation Criteria

- Demonstration of advocacy efforts. These may include examples of advancing policy, increasing public awareness, improving access to nicotine dependence treatment or counseling, and/or efforts to support specific populations.

- Leadership and Mobilization. Ability to inspire and drive action by building partnerships, leading initiatives, influencing decision-makers, and demonstrating sustained commitment to reducing smoking and nicotine dependence.
- Mobilizing Communities and Promoting Awareness. Supporting campaigns and building the knowledge and skills of the community to advocate for programs and policies to reduce smoking and nicotine dependence.
- Changing Organizational Practices. Collaborating with others to advocate for the implementation of policies and procedures within organizations and groups.

Robert Reid Research & Innovation Award

Purpose of the Award

The Research & Innovation Award recognizes an individual or team whose groundbreaking work has introduced new ideas, tools, interventions, approaches or research that advance the science and practice of smoking cessation and nicotine dependence treatment. This award celebrates creativity, forward-thinking solutions, and research that accelerates progress toward reducing smoking and nicotine dependence.

Eligibility

Nominees may be early-career, mid-career, or senior investigators, researchers in academia, healthcare, public health, or community-based settings. Individuals whose work focuses on smoking cessation, nicotine dependence, harm reduction, or tobacco control within a minimum of the last 3-5 years.

Evaluation Criteria

- Scientific Contribution and Impact. Demonstrated advancement of knowledge and measurable influence on treatment, policy, practice, or tobacco-use outcomes.
- Innovation in Research. Use of creative, novel approaches, methodologies, or study designs addressing emerging issues and underserved populations.
- Rigor and Quality. Strong methodological integrity, robust analysis, reproducibility, and high-quality dissemination.
- Demonstrated or Potential Impact. Evidence of meaningful improvement in cessation outcomes, reduced harm, enhanced access, advanced equity, or influence on practice or policy.
- Leadership, Collaboration, and Knowledge Translation. Leadership in sharing research, mentoring others, collaborating broadly, and translating evidence into action.

Abeera Shahid Trainee award

Purpose

The Trainee Award in Smoking Cessation & Nicotine Dependence recognizes an outstanding student, resident, or fellow, who has demonstrated excellence, innovation, and leadership in research, clinical practice, education, or community engagement related to tobacco control and nicotine dependence. This award celebrates emerging leaders who are advancing knowledge, improving care, and contributing to reducing tobacco-related harm.

Eligibility

Nominees may be undergraduate or graduate students, residents, fellows, or trainees within one year of completing training. Individuals may be engaged in research, clinical care, public health practice, advocacy, education, or community initiatives related to smoking cessation and nicotine dependence.

Evaluation Criteria

- Evidence of meaningful contribution to smoking cessation, nicotine dependence treatment, or tobacco control through research, clinical practice, education, or community service.
- Innovation and Creativity. Demonstration of novel thinking, new approaches, or creative problem-solving in advancing tobacco reduction efforts.
- Leadership and Engagement. Active involvement in academic, clinical, community, or professional initiatives, demonstrating leadership and commitment to improving tobacco-related outcomes.
- Impact and Knowledge Translation. Evidence that work has contributed to improved practice, policy, awareness, or outcomes, including dissemination through presentations, publications, or community sharing.
- Commitment to Equity. Contribution to improving access, outcomes, and support for underserved or high-risk populations.

Outstanding Practitioner in Smoking Cessation Award

Purpose

The Outstanding Practitioner in Smoking Cessation Award recognizes a clinician who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, commitment, and impact in supporting individuals with nicotine dependence and advancing smoking cessation in clinical practice. This award highlights the vital role of frontline healthcare providers in improving patient outcomes, strengthening cessation services, and contributing to tobacco-related harm reduction.

Eligibility

Nominees must be healthcare professionals working in a clinical setting with a minimum of five years of experience in smoking cessation practice. Candidates must be nominated by a colleague or community member familiar with their work and must be registered to attend the Ottawa Conference at the time of award selection. All healthcare designations are eligible.

Evaluation Criteria

- Evidence of sustained commitment to providing high-quality smoking cessation care and support to patients or clients.
- Leadership and Initiative. Demonstrated leadership through developing, leading, or enhancing cessation programs, services, or outreach activities.
- Advocacy. Active promotion of smoking cessation policies, programs, or system improvements at the clinical, organizational, or regional level.
- Education and Influence. Contribution to educating, empowering, and supporting other providers to address smoking cessation in their practice.
- Clinical Excellence. Use of evidence-based best practices in assessment, treatment, and patient-centered care for nicotine dependence.