



2025 Industry Excellence Awards

The Atlantic Canada Aerospace & Defence Association (ACADA) is pleased to call for nominations for its 2025 Industry Excellence Awards.

Each year, ACADA celebrates the brilliance and strength of our membership through the Industry Excellence Awards. The 2025 Industry Excellence Awards will be presented during the [ACADA Dinner](#) on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at the Halifax Convention Centre.

This is your opportunity to showcase and celebrate your company's accomplishments!

Award recipients will receive the following benefits:

- Recognition at the ACADA Dinner
- Engraved award trophy
- Special award logo for use on your website and/or promotional materials
- Recognition via all ACADA channels (website, LinkedIn, press release)

Nomination Process

Self or third-party nominations are welcome. Companies who demonstrate industry excellence in accordance with the award criteria in the category for which they are being nominated will be considered.

A company may be nominated for more than one category, but a separate application is required for each category.

Nominations must be submitted by end of day on **Friday, August 22nd, 2025.**

[APPLY HERE](#)

Selection Process

All nominations will be reviewed and evaluated by the awards selection committee which is typically comprised of ACADA board members representing each of the Atlantic Provinces.

General Criteria

Nominees must meet the following mandatory criteria to be considered for award eligibility.

1. ACADA industry core member in good standing
2. Established corporate presence in one or more of the provinces in Atlantic Canada
3. Currently supplying products/services in the A&D industry or conducting product/service development or commercialization for future supply in the A&D industry

If you are unsure of your membership status or type, please email info@ac-ada.ca to inquire.

Award Criteria

Category A: Innovation Leader	Recognizes an ACADA member company that invested significantly in research and development initiatives to develop and commercialize an innovative product or service that has contributed to building the capability of the A&D industry in Atlantic Canada. In addition to the general criteria, nominees must demonstrate fulfillment of one or more of the following award-specific criteria. • Product, service, technology, or process designed or developed in Atlantic Canada. Optional: • Significant investment in research and development resulting in the introduction of a new or enhanced product, service, technology, or process. • Demonstrated creativity and strategic thinking in the design or development of a new product, service, technology, or process.
Category B: Business Development Distinction	Recognizes an ACADA member company that has secured a significant defence or commercial contract through their strategic planning and dedicated business development efforts, effectively capitalizing on opportunities to achieve outstanding success. In addition to the general criteria, nominees must demonstrate fulfillment of one or more of the following award-specific criteria. Mandatory: • Successful contract award in the A&D industry valued at \$500,000 or more within the April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025 fiscal year. Optional: • Demonstrated commitment to and/or investment in strategic market development and execution of the business development cycle. • Significant annual growth in sales and/or export market diversification

Category C: Most Promising Start-Up or Business Diversification	Recognizes an ACADA member company, either an early-stage start-up or an established business that has diversified into the A&D industry in the past two years, that can demonstrate a successful market entry evidenced by established revenue streams or secured contracts. In addition to the general criteria, nominees must demonstrate fulfillment of one or more of the following award-specific criteria. Mandatory: • Early-stage start-up or established business that has recently diversified into the A&D industry in the past two years • Demonstrated successful market entry through established revenue stream or secured contracts. Optional: • Recognition of opportunistic market timing and supply/demand factors contributing to your success. • Demonstrated leadership and team commitment to the execution of a long-term vision and results-driven growth strategy. • Solid and established funding model to enable sustainability and long-term commitment to market execution and growth.
Category D: Diversity and Inclusion Excellence	ACADA recognizes the role of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) as essential to the growth and continued success of any organization. This award recognizes an ACADA member company that has shown dedication and commitment to advance DEIB in their workplace by creating the structures to support under-represented groups (e.g., women, members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, new Canadians, members of visible minorities, etc.) and, therefore, promoting diversity in the A&D industry. In addition to the general criteria, nominees must demonstrate fulfillment of one or more of the following award-specific criteria. • Demonstrated and measurable improvements in diversity and inclusion within senior management and the general workforce. • Fostered a culture and environment where DEIB is created or enhanced through efforts such as awareness workshops, leadership development, and/or the adoption of DEIB-enabling policies. • Recruitment and retention practices which advance the principles of DEIB. • Policies and/or programs within the organization and/or community that have significant and sustainable impact.

Questions

Questions may be directed to info@ac-ada.ca

Nomination Deadline is Friday, August 22nd, 2025.

[APPLY HERE](#)