



OPMA Annual Awards

Each year, the Ontario produce industry honours individuals and organizations for their outstanding accomplishments and contributions to our great industry. These prestigious awards are presented at the OPMA Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony.

Nominations

To nominate a colleague or organization, complete a nomination form and provide a short summary outlining the nominee's contributions and achievements according to the award criteria. Nominees must be current OPMA members or retired from a current OPMA member company.

Selection and Announcement

1. Nominations are accepted from current OPMA members up to the submission deadline.
2. The Board of Directors vote by anonymous electronic ballot to determine the winners. Selection is based on the nomination description provided and how well the nominee meets the award criteria. Board members are not eligible to vote if their company or they themselves are nominated.
3. Nominees are sent a message from the Board letting them know their peers have nominated them and thanking them for their service to the industry. Nominees are announced before the awards ceremony via OPMA channels to raise the profile of the awards.
4. Winners are announced at the OPMA Annual Gala in November. Winners are notified in advance to allow them time to prepare for the presentation and to allow the company to take advantage of promotion for the award.

1. Cory Clack-Streef Produce Person of the Year Award

An individual that has demonstrated on a regular basis for the last year, untiring efforts to improve the quality, distribution or consumption of fruits and vegetables marketed within or outside the province of Ontario through innovation, cooperation and hard work. This person should be currently active in the Ontario produce industry.

This person may have dedicated their time to share expertise that benefitted the whole industry, demonstrated leadership to advocate on behalf of the industry or implemented an initiative to improve the lives of the people of Ontario through distribution of fresh produce.

Nominations should include:

- A description of the significant contribution this person has made to the produce industry and the impact this has had on the industry this year and will have in the future.
- Examples of how this person has had a positive impact on the produce industry
- Examples of significant contributions to raising the awareness of the industry, if relevant

2. OPMA Fresh Award

A young individual, or newcomer to the industry, that has demonstrated innovation, passion, spirit and dedication towards the produce industry in the past year and consistently exhibits a fervent determination to improve the quality, distribution or consumption of fruit and vegetables marketed within or outside the province of Ontario.

An inspirational and dedicated young professional, this person stands out because they are excelling in their role by:

- Seeking out innovative solutions,
- Advancing sustainable solutions for the industry,
- Demonstrating leadership among their peers,
- Raising awareness of the produce industry to promote a positive reputation for the industry or educate consumers, or
- Dedicating their time to improve the industry.

Nominations should include:

- A description of how this person has shown initiative and commitment to the industry.
- A description of the impact the nominee has had on the industry or the community.

3. OPMA Outstanding Achievement Award

An organization or individual retail store, wholesaler, grower, packer/shipper or corporation (e.g. chain of stores, farm operation, logistics etc.) that has demonstrated an outstanding contribution to the produce industry through their efforts to improve the quality and distribution of fruits and vegetables marketed within or outside the province of Ontario. The winner of this award could also be responsible for a new technology or innovation introduced within the last year to the produce industry. The

company, campaign or initiative or should be currently active or available in the Ontario produce industry.

May include:

- Companies who are leading initiatives in the fields of sustainability, food loss and waste reduction, technology
- A sustainable solution that has brought about significant improvements in the industry
- New company leading the way in an emerging area of produce
- A campaign or initiative that promotes diversity in the industry

Nominations should include:

- A description of how this company has made a significant contribution to the industry.
- Examples of how they have improved the quality or distribution of produce in Ontario.
- A description of the innovation or initiative they have developed to improve the industry and the impact it will have on the industry.

4. OPMA Lifetime Achievement Award

An individual that has over many years demonstrated untiring efforts to improve the quality and distribution of fruits and vegetables marketed within or outside the province of Ontario through innovation, cooperation and hard work. This person does not necessarily have to be currently active in the Ontario produce industry.

Nominations should include:

- Examples of the significant contributions the person has made to improve the industry.
- Illustrate their commitment of time and energy.
- A description of their lasting legacy or positive effect on the produce industry.
- May include their action for the advancement of the produce industry through innovation, support of the next generation, leadership, advocacy, community education or other field.

5. Produce Hero

A Produce Hero is a person who works with dedication and embodies the passion of the produce industry in their everyday work. They are not necessarily a person in a management or executive position. A Produce Hero is a person who has gone above and beyond this year to help customers, their colleagues or their company during the year. This may be through excellent customer service, consistently seeking out ways to improve processes, being the person who always keeps the team positive, always helps new staff or mentors younger staff.

This recognition is given to up 30 people from different member companies each year. They will be recognised as a group at the annual OPMA awards ceremony and through OPMA social media.



Nomination for 2022 OPMA Awards

Deadline for nominations October 21, 2022

Name of person/ company nominated _____

Award nominated for (please check one):

Cory Clack-Streef Produce Person of theYear _____

Fresh Award _____

Lifetime Achievement Award _____

Produce Hero _____

Outstanding Achievement Award _____

Tell us about the nominee and describe how their accomplishments meet the award criteria

(200 words or less)

Provide some specific examples of how the nominee meets the award criteria

(200 words or less)

Name of Nominator: _____ Company _____

Signature of Nominator: _____

Nominator's phone number/ email: _____

Mark nomination form "CONFIDENTIAL" and return by **October 21, 2022** to:

Dee Klemann, email: dee@theopma.ca