

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Regarding OYF Nomination Forms:**

### **Q: What is OYF?**

A: Our mission is to discover, celebrate and recognize progress and excellence in Canadian agriculture. The business connections and relationships established are invaluable.

### **Q: How do you get nominated at regional level?**

A: You need someone to provide a letter of support to submit with the nomination form. It may be from your suppliers, banks, industry or neighbors.

### **Q: How do we compete at national level?**

A: You must be selected as a regional winner to compete at National Event.

### **Q: How much time do we need to commit?**

A: The time it takes to complete the forms varies. This exercise is valuable in that you take a serious look at your operation- where it was, where it is presently, and where you see it in the future. The regional competitions are approximately 1-2 days in length and the national competition is a 5-day commitment usually held in late November/early December. All related travel costs are covered. The people you will meet and connections you will be make across Canada are invaluable.

### **Q: What if we don't win Regionally?**

A: All applicants are eligible and encouraged to reapply until they reach the age limit of 40. Those who compete, regardless of the outcome, automatically become alumni of the association and are encouraged to attend all future events to help welcome new alumni to the association.

### **Q: Who can be a nominee/co-nominee?**

A: Nominees can be sole proprietor, spouses, siblings, or business partners who are Canadian residents and have not reached the age of 40 as of January 1 in the year of competition. Nominee and co-nominee will take part in interviews and presentations. At this time, the application is for a maximum of two applicants even though an operation may have three or more key people.

### **Q: What is difference between Nominee and Co- Nominee?**

A: Nominee must meet all criteria however co-nominee may not.

### **Q: What is primary agriculture production?**

A: All products sourced from your own farm's production. Fifty percent of the farm's income, averaged over the past 3 years, must be derived from that primary production.

### **Q: I work part time off the farm or my spouse does, do we still qualify?**

A: Yes, as long as nominees derive a minimum of 2/3 of their gross revenue from agriculture.

### **Q: I work with my family on the farm but as an employee, do I qualify?**

A: No. We do require you to have an ownership stake in your operation and be making the majority of management decisions in order to qualify, but if you can show ownership transfer is part of a succession plan, you may be eligible.

**Q: Who judges?**

A: A panel of three judges, comprised of one OYF alumni and two respected industry representatives.

**Q: Who sees my financial information?**

A: We request your financial ratios be calculated and submitted with a verifying signature of your accountant or banker. All information is held as confidential and is used solely by the judges in the selection process. All information is destroyed after the National Event.

**Q: What is “Other Information” on the form?**

A: Information you wish to add to give us a better understanding of your operation.

**Q: What do we win?**

A: The program is a peer recognition of your success.

As regional winner, you will represent your region at the national event. All travel costs, of the nominee & co-nominee, to the national event are covered.

The national awards program alternates through the seven regions, providing participants with the opportunity to experience agriculture across Canada. All nominees become alumni of the association and are encouraged to return to grow the relationships they create with their OYF family.

Two regional winners will be selected as National winners as the year’s model representatives of the agricultural industry. Awards will be presented to the winners as follows: male(buckle), female(pin) and an all-expense paid trip to the next national event.