

Community Engagement Excellence Award

Recognizing Exceptional Contributions to Community Partnership and Engagement

The Sprott Community Engagement Excellence Award recognizes research stream faculty members who have made an exceptional and sustained contribution to building meaningful research relationships between Sprott School of Business and the broader community. This includes local, provincial, national, and international partners across government, industry, the non-profit sector, and civil society.

This award celebrates the faculty members who bring Sprott's research mission into the world and who bring the world back into Sprott. One award will be given each year when the standard of applications warrants recognition.

Award at a Glance

Award Value	\$1,000 added to the recipient's Internally Restricted Research (IRR) fund, and framed certificate
Number of Awards	One (1) per year, when warranted
Eligible Applicants	Full-time Sprott research stream faculty at any rank
Application Deadline	February 15, 2027
How to Apply	Self-nomination via the web form
Questions	Contact the Sprott Research Office

Purpose and Spirit of the Award

Research partnership at its best is built on sustained intellectual collaboration, not transactional engagement. It emerges from genuine co-creation where faculty and community partners jointly shape research questions, methods, and knowledge production, ensuring that research is rigorous, relevant, and legitimately grounded in the priorities and expertise of the communities it concerns. This award recognizes faculty who have invested in deep, reciprocal research relationships over time, whose collaborative work has advanced both scholarly understanding and community-driven evidence, and whose commitment to knowledge partnership has strengthened research quality, organizational capacity, and student preparation for research in complex real-world settings.

Strong applications will demonstrate not just that community research engagement occurred, but that it was sustained, institutionally grounded, and had a genuine impact on the partner organization, the students involved, or the broader community.

Eligibility

- Open to all full-time Sprott research stream faculty members at any rank.
- Candidates must self-nominate. Associate Deans, Directors, and colleagues who believe a faculty member is deserving of this recognition are strongly encouraged to approach them and support their decision to apply.
- Past recipients are eligible to re-apply five years after receiving their last award.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated on the demonstrated quality, sustainability, and impact of the candidate's community research engagement. The selection committee is looking for evidence that the relationships built are institutional in character, not simply personal, and that they have created lasting value for all parties involved.

Examples of eligible contributions include, but are not limited to:

Partnership: Impactful collaborations with government, non-governmental, or private-sector organizations

- *Such as joint research projects, community-engaged research initiatives, or ongoing collaborative studies where research questions, methods, and findings are shaped jointly and benefit both Sprott and partner organizational priorities.*

Advisory: Leadership on government or community advisory bodies

- *Structured, sustained involvement in research or evidence-informed advisory roles where faculty contribute specialized expertise, co-develop research insights, and help partners translate findings into decision-making. The relationship is formalized and grounded in genuine research collaboration.*

Student Engagement: Programs that enhance student engagement with the community

- *Programs integrating students into active research partnerships with community organizations through collaborative research projects, community-engaged field research, or research-informed internships. Students develop research competencies while contributing knowledge that serves partner priorities.*

Across all categories, the selection committee will give particular weight to contributions that are sustained over time, demonstrate genuine institutional embeddedness, and show measurable impact on the community partner or the students involved.

Application Package

A complete application must include all of the following:

1. Curriculum Vitae

Submit a current CV. Please highlight activities related to research community engagement so the selection committee can readily identify relevant contributions.

2. Applicant Statement

A narrative statement describing the nature, scope, and impact of your community engagement contributions. This is the core of your application and should go well beyond a list of activities. The committee wants to understand the research relationships you have built, why they matter, what has changed as a result, and why the contributions you are describing reflect the kind of sustained, institutionally grounded research engagement this award is designed to recognize.

Candidates are encouraged to address:

- The community partners involved in the research and the nature of the relationship with each.
- How the research engagement was initiated, how it has evolved, and how it is sustained.
- The impact the research had on the partner organization, the students involved, or the broader community.
- How the engagement connects to and advances Sprott's broader mission and values.

Limit: 3 pages, 12-point font, single-spaced.

How to Apply

Submit your complete application package using the application web submission form on the [Sprott Research Office website](#).

All materials must be uploaded and received by 11:59 PM on February 15, 2027. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Selection Process

The selection committee is chaired by the Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Research Programs. The committee reviews all eligible applications against the evaluation criteria and makes its recommendation to the Dean. The Dean makes the final award decision. All deliberations are confidential.

One award may be granted per cycle. In years where the committee determines that applications do not meet the standard the award is intended to recognize, the award may not be given.

Award Recognition

Recipients of the Sprott Community Engagement Excellence Award will receive:

- A \$1,000 award deposited directly to the recipient's IRR fund, supporting their ongoing community engagement and research activities.
- A framed certificate presented to the recipient.
- A featured faculty profile on the Sprott website and across Sprott's social media channels, highlighting the recipient's contributions and the community partnerships they have built.

Recipients are also invited to share a brief reflection on their community engagement journey and what the recognition means to them, for inclusion in Sprott's communications and to inspire colleagues at earlier stages of community-engaged work.