

Waves of Change: Charting the Path to Inspiration

Women of Inspiration Nomination Form 2025-2026

INNOVATORS & PIONEERS

Women of Inspiration has been Girls Inc. of Northern Alberta's signature mission-driven award program since 2012.

In 2019, Girls Inc. of Northern Alberta entered a multi-year partnership with Bouchier to launch a new series with the overarching theme, *"You can't be what you can't see."*

As we reached our 5-year milestone, we initiated another phase entitled *'Waves of Change: Charting the Path to Inspiration'*.

Each year will highlight different industries, professions, and local talents that the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) has to offer by honouring local women in the Wood Buffalo region who break gender stereotypes, drive change, and advocate for women's and girls' rights and opportunities.

The 2025-2026 theme is 'Innovators & Pioneers'. This year, the series will celebrate local women who have made significant contributions in STEM fields, entrepreneurship, and creative industries.

Five awards will be presented in March 2026. These include:

- **Brilliance in STEM** - *Celebrating a woman who embraces curiosity, intellect, and transformative innovation.*
- **Innovator in Enterprise** - *Celebrating a fearless woman turning vision into venture.*
- **Creative Luminary** - *Celebrating a woman who illuminates new paths through the power of imagination and expression.*
- **Renaissance Pioneer** - *Celebrating a woman at the intersection of science, business, and imagination.*
- **Rising Star** - *Celebrating a woman who is a rising force in the fields of STEM, Entrepreneurship or Creative Arts.*

Girls Inc. of Northern Alberta and Bouchier encourage nominations throughout the RMWB to highlight women who are driving Bouchier's community investment strategic priority around women's and girls' empowerment while inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold—Girls Inc.'s mission.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

The nominee has positively impacted the community in one or more of the following:

- Breaking new grounds or old barriers for women and girls in RMWB to address intersecting factors and challenges around gender (in)equality and gender (in)justice
- Showing vision, creativity, and initiatives for a world in which all girls value their whole selves, discover their inherent strengths, and achieve their goals.
- Demonstrating wholistic leadership in the areas of Girls Inc. programmatic priorities: STRONG (Healthy Living), SMART (Knowledge Enrichment) and BOLD (Life Skills)
- Guiding, supporting, and encouraging the wellbeing of women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ individuals, whose efforts may have been hidden or gone unnoticed without this Series
- Bringing transformative impact within and beyond the RMWB for greater diversity, equity, and inclusion

NOMINATION DETAILS

Eligible nominees MUST:

- Be living in the RMWB at the time of nomination
- Be at least 18 years of age at the time of nomination
- Consent to the nomination and publication of their name, photo and information
- Be committed to attending the Women of Inspiration Celebration presented by Bouchier in support of Girls Inc. of Northern Alberta on March 7, 2026
- Provide at least one (1) letter of reference/essay describing the nomination details and demonstrating how the nominee fits the nomination criteria.
- Nomination videos can also be accepted.

CATEGORY DETAILS

Brilliance in STEM: Honouring a woman whose exceptional brilliance in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics inspires others and sparks new ideas, approaches, and possibilities for the future.

Innovator in Enterprise: For a woman founder or business leader who's launched or scaled an impactful venture, disrupting norms and creating space for others.

Creative Luminary: Honouring a woman whose creative brilliance transcends boundaries—whether through art, design, storytelling, or innovation in the cultural space.

Renaissance Pioneer: Honouring a visionary woman whose work spans disciplines, bridging technology, enterprise, and creative expression.

Rising Star: Spotlighting an up-and-coming woman in any of the three sectors who shows exceptional talent, leadership, and potential to pioneer change.

NOMINATION FORM

Please fill out the following details about the person being nominated:

Full Name	Preferred Pronouns	
Full Address		
Phone Number (W)	Phone Number (H)	
Email Address		
Birthdate	Company & Role (if applicable)	
Does the nominee identify as Indigenous?	Yes	No
Does the nominee identify as a Visible Minority?	Yes	No
Does the nominee identify as 2SLGBTQQIA+?	Yes	No

NOMINATION CRITERIA QUESTIONS

Please write a short essay in a separate, typed document (no word limits, as much as you need to tell us stories) to answer one or more of the following questions about the nominee. Videos and voice recordings are acceptable as well. Please feel free to add any supporting documents.

- How and why is the nominee charting the path to inspiration?
- What does being a pioneer or innovator in their field mean to the nominee?
- What makes the nominee an innovator or pioneer?
- How does your nominee demonstrate meeting and exceeding the selection criteria?
- How is the nominee breaking new grounds or old barriers for women and girls in RMWB to address intersecting factors and challenges around gender (in)equality and gender (in)justice?
- How is the nominee showing vision, creativity, and initiative for a world in which all girls value their whole selves, discover their inherent strengths, and achieve their goals?
- In what ways is the nominee demonstrating innovation in the areas of Girls Inc. programmatic priorities: STRONG (Healthy Living), SMART (Knowledge Enrichment) and BOLD (Life Skills)?
- In what ways is the nominee guiding, supporting, and encouraging the wellbeing of women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ individuals?
- In what ways is the nominee bringing transformative impact within and beyond the RMWB for greater diversity, equity, and inclusion?
- How has the nominee experienced and overcome systemic barriers, including gender, race, socio-economic status, and other obstacles?
- How has the nominee positively impacted Indigenous and/or underrepresented communities in the RMWB?
- How has your nominee been an agent for change for greater gender equality and girls' empowerment?

NOMINATOR QUESTIONS

Please fill out the following questions about yourself for our records:

Full Name	
Preferred Pronouns	
Full Address	
Phone Number (W)	Phone Number (H)
Email Address	
Birthdate	Company & Role (if applicable)

How did you hear about the Women of Inspiration Series? (Check one)

☐ Radio
 ☐ Friend/Co-worker
 ☐ Online
 Other _____

THE PROCESS

The Women of Inspiration Committee will review all nominations. There will be five nomination rounds. One winner will be selected in each roundtable. Once selected, the winner will be notified by email and/or phone. Interview and photograph opportunities will be facilitated to be featured on local media channels, social media, and the Girls Inc. of Northern Alberta website.

On March 7, 2026, all five women of inspiration will be celebrated together with the public guests at the Women of Inspiration Celebration 2026 in their honour and to commemorate International Women's Day.

Please submit your nomination by the following dates:

	Application Deadline	Announcement
1st Nomination	May 30, 2025	June 30, 2025
2nd Nomination	June 30, 2025	July 30, 2025
3rd Nomination	August 30, 2025	September 30, 2025
4th Nomination	October 30, 2025	November 30, 2025
5th Nomination	December 30, 2025	January 30, 2026

Upon completion of this form, please pass it along with any other documents to the Girls Inc. of Northern Alberta office:

By Mail: 17B-10019 MacDonald Ave, Fort McMurray, AB, T9H 1S9
Or

Email: admin@girlsincofnorthernalberta.org

Thank you for your nomination!