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Memo

To: Associate Deans of Research

Cc: Deans, Faculty Research Offices

From: Amir Asif, Vice-President Research & Innovation

Date: March 1, 2022

Subject: **Nomination Support for 2023 Killam Prizes**

Please find below information regarding the 2023 Call for Nominations for the [Killam Prizes](#) which recognize scholars of exceptional ability who are engaged in research of broad significance and widespread interest.

This information should be circulated to your respective Faculty Research Offices and faculty members to ensure their familiarity with the nomination process. Please note, administration of the Killam Prize Program is shifting from the Canada Council for the Arts to the National Research Council (NRC). NRC has indicated no changes are planned for this year's competition for the Killam Prize; however, Research Offices and interested nominators/nominees should check for updated nomination forms and guidelines on the [National Research Council's](#) website after April 30, when the program is expected to officially launch. In the meantime, please review the previous competition's guidance and templates on the [Canada Council's](#) website to prepare materials.

KILLAM PRIZES

The Killam Prizes honour active, distinguished Canadian scholars who have been engaged in research in universities, hospitals, research or scientific institutes, or other similar institutions and are making a significant impact in their respective fields. Valued at \$100,000 each, they are awarded annually on a competitive basis to distinguished Canadian scholars doing research in any of the following disciplines:

- humanities
- social sciences
- natural sciences
- health sciences
- engineering

Normally, one prize is awarded each year in each of the five disciplines.

ELIGIBILITY

Killam Prizes are intended for active (not retired) Canadian scholars who have made a **substantial and distinguished contribution** to scholarly research over a **significant period of time**. It is not intended as an "end of service" reward, as recognition for one great accomplishment, or in expectation of future distinguished contributions.

Scholars may not apply for the Killam Prizes; they must be nominated by an **expert** in their field.

Only Canadian citizens are eligible for this honour, and prizes are awarded only to living candidates.

Applications from women and members of under-represented groups are particularly encouraged.

ASSESSMENT OF NOMINATIONS

Peer evaluation is fundamental to the decision-making process. The multidisciplinary selection committee will select prize recipients by evaluating the merit of nominations within a national context. Prizes will be offered to those candidates considered outstanding by the committee.

The following points will figure prominently in the selection of candidates considered for the Killam Prize:

- the exceptional quality of the candidate's research achievements;
- evidence of the candidate's outstanding commitment, creativity and efforts to share research knowledge beyond the academic community;
- the enduring contribution of the candidate's ideas and research results to Canadian society, including the nation's intellectual and/or cultural life;
- the scope of the candidate's research contributions, taking into account the norms of the field of study; and
- where appropriate, the international stature of the candidate.

NOMINATION PROCESS

The Strategic and Institutional Research Initiatives (SIRI) unit is available to support nominations upon request. Nominees and nominators will work with the SIRI Specialist and Faculty-based research support personnel (as appropriate) to prepare the full nomination package for submission. As such, **nominees are asked to notify Abby Vogus, SIRI Specialist at avogus@yorku.ca as soon as possible** of their intent to pursue a Killam Prize.

All York nominees may take advantage of peer review from the Major Awards Advisory Committee (MAAC), meeting the timeline set out below. SIRI can also arrange for a peer review of the draft nomination package utilizing support from University Canada's Global Excellence Initiative, if desired.

All nominees pursuing a nomination should inform their Faculty Research Office, even if not accessing available support from the Faculty or SIRI.

Full nominations* include:

- Part A: Forms confirming:
 - Name and location of nominator and nominee
 - Category of nomination
 - Declarations of nominator and nominee
- Part B: Form identifying experts providing letters of support
 - A **maximum of three original, signed** letters from experts, within or outside Canada, supporting the nomination

- Part C: Support materials:
 - A signed letter of nomination from an expert in the nominee’s field (maximum of **4 pages**) describing the nature of the nominee’s exceptional contributions to their field and the nature of the nominee’s research and important contributions to scholarly research, including why the candidate should be considered an outstanding nominee for the prize
 - A biography for the nominee, summarizing the candidate’s education, distinguished research achievements, current research interests, and honours or awards received (maximum of **one page**)
 - The nominee’s curated curriculum vitae (maximum **30 pages**) with the following headings:
 - Biographical Information
 - Honours and Awards
 - Professional affiliations and activities
 - Supervisory and mentoring history
 - Funding history
 - Selected refereed publications (with explanation of citation conventions)
 - Career Table including:
 - Total to date number of published books and monographs
 - Total to date number of journal articles
 - Total to date number of citations
 - Nominee’s h-index

**Please note this information was prepared from the previous year’s guidelines. Please check the National Research Council website for final details of this year’s competition.*

RELEVANT DEADLINES

DATE	MILESTONE
Before April 1	Faculties to request support for nominations
April 11	Draft of materials due for MAAC Review
June 23	Full nomination and signed ORS Checklist due to ORS
June 30	Anticipated NRC deadline

CONTACT

For further information, please contact:

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SIRI Specialist

Office of Research Services

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