

## Memo

To: Faculty Deans  
Cc: Associate Deans Research; Faculty Research Offices  
From: Amir Asif, Vice-President Research & Innovation  
Date: May 27, 2024  
Subject: Nomination Process for Royal Society of Canada Fellows

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Please find below information regarding the anticipated process for the 2025 nomination of [Royal Society of Canada \(RSC\) Fellows](#). This year's competition will officially launch in September 2024 and the following information is based on the last round of nominations. Requirements may change slightly from what is listed below, including the final submission deadline; please verify information on the program website after the official launch.

The fellowship of the RSC comprises distinguished scholars from all branches of learning who have made remarkable contributions in the arts, the humanities, the social sciences, and the sciences, as well as in Canadian public life.

This information should be circulated to your faculty members.

### Royal Society of Canada

The Royal Society of Canada (RSC) was established in 1882 as the senior Canadian collegium of distinguished scholars, artists and scientists. The primary objective of the Society is to promote learning and research in the arts, the humanities and the natural and social sciences.

The three Academies of the Society have over 3,500 members designated as Fellows of the Royal Society of Canada. The maximum number of Fellows elected each year is 111.

### Eligibility

Fellows are those with exceptional and original publications, intellectual achievements, and creative activities. Their achievements are in the arts, the



humanities, the social sciences, and the sciences. They are either Canadian citizens or Canadian Permanent Residents for at least three years at their time of nomination.

The RSC embraces equity and diversity, methodological and epistemological openness, and the full range of disciplinary excellence. It welcomes nominations from all intellectual endeavours across linguistic, gender, racial, regional, and institutional boundaries. The RSC also judges these nominations without bias. The RSC selection process seeks to ensure that recognition and inclusion are accorded to First Nations, Inuit, and Métis candidates.

York encourages nominations from equity-deserving candidates to reflect the diversity of our faculty complement.

Earlier career scholars may wish to consider the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists.

### **Nomination Process**

Candidates must be nominated either directly by a current Fellow or by an Institutional Member of the RSC (i.e., a nomination package submitted by York University endorsed by the President). In either case, candidates are encouraged to take advantage of available University resources and to seek peer advice throughout the development of their nomination file.

Note that nominations are valid for one year only.

### **Direct Fellow Nomination**

Individuals may be nominated for a Fellowship by a current Fellow of the Society, who need not be from York University. *This does not require York University's nomination process or approvals, although institutional support from the SIRI team and the Major Awards Advisory Committee may be accessed (see points 4 and 5 below).*

Important considerations for Direct Fellow Nominations:

1. The Primary Nominator need not be from the same field as the nominee.
2. There is no limit to the number of nominations put forward by Fellows of the Society.
3. We encourage Direct Fellow Nominations, as success rates tend to be higher when current Fellows are actively engaged in the nomination process.
4. We encourage Faculties to share the names of these nominees with the Strategic and Institutional Research Initiatives (SIRI) team, which can provide ad hoc support as requested by the nominee or Faculty.
5. York nominees using the Direct Fellow route may also access peer review from the Major Awards Advisory Committee. To do so, they must notify their Faculty Research Office and Abby Vogus ([avogus@yorku.ca](mailto:avogus@yorku.ca)) of their interest by **August 15** and submit their draft materials for review by **September 11**. See step 2 in the Institutional Nomination process for materials to be submitted.

### **Institutional Nomination from York University**

As an Institutional Member of the RSC, the President on behalf of York University may nominate individuals for a Fellowship. For such institutional nominations only, the process to identify and support these nominees is managed by the Strategic and

Institutional Research Initiatives (SIRI) team and includes a review of internal nominations by the Major Awards Advisory Committee (MAAC).

The internal nomination, review and feedback process is designed to ensure that nominations forwarded to the RSC are highly competitive.

The institutional nomination process is as follows:

1. Faculties notify SIRI of their intent to put forward candidates for an institutionally-nominated RSC Fellowship. Faculties are asked to email SIRI Specialist Abby Vogus ([avogus@yorku.ca](mailto:avogus@yorku.ca)) with the name(s) of the candidate(s) no later than **August 15**.
2. Internal nomination packages are due **September 11**. Faculties are asked to email Abby Vogus ([avogus@yorku.ca](mailto:avogus@yorku.ca)) the following, which will then be reviewed by the MAAC:
  - a) A draft of the Detailed Appraisal (1,200 words max). Please see the Nomination Guide for a template <https://rsc-src.ca/en/fellows/nominations-0>.
  - b) Nominee's current CV (50 pages max, including publications, key scholarly presentations, awards and distinctions and grants)
  - c) A written confirmation from at least 3 potential reference letter writers along with a short bio of the letter writers. An email confirmation is sufficient.
3. The MAAC will review internal nomination packages and provide feedback to nominees to ensure that nominations forwarded to the RSC are highly competitive.
4. Nominees will work with the SIRI Specialist and Faculty-based research support personnel (as appropriate) to prepare the full application package for submission, which includes<sup>1</sup>:
  - Completed webform
  - Letter from the Primary Nominator (i.e., the President)
  - Short citation attesting to the significance of the nominee's work (70 words max in English; 85 in French)
  - Detailed appraisal of the nominee's scholarship or artistic achievements (1,200 words max in English, 1450 in French)
  - Letters of reference (number varies based on discipline) (750 words max in English, 900 in French)
  - Short biographical note for each referee (250 words max in English, 300 in French)
  - Nominee's curriculum vitae (50 pages max)

The new guide for preparing an RSC Fellowship nomination will be available shortly on the RSC website at <https://rsc-src.ca/en/fellows/nominations-0>

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<sup>1</sup> These requirements may change with the release of the new nomination guidelines in Sept. 2024.

## Relevant Deadlines

<b>DATE</b>	<b>MILESTONE</b>
<b>August 15</b>	Faculties notify ORS of their intent to submit a nomination
<b>September 11</b>	Internal nomination files due to SIRI
<b>Late September</b>	MAAC Review
<b>Early October</b>	MAAC feedback to nominees
<b>November 27</b>	Full application (including reference letters) due to SIRI
<b>December 1</b>	Anticipated RSC submission deadline
<b>July 2025</b>	Elected candidates notified by RSC

For further information, please contact:

Abby Vogus  
SIRI Specialist  
Email: [avogus@yorku.ca](mailto:avogus@yorku.ca)