



Dear All,

The Grand Immigrants of Distinction Gala is coming up on March 18, 2011 at the Calgary Westin. I am sending you the nomination package for the prestigious Immigrants of Distinction Awards. Anyone can nominate any first generation immigrant or refugee as long as the latter is residing in Calgary.

Organizations are eligible for the Business or Organizational Diversity Award categories (they can be National or Multinational as long as there is an office in Calgary). I believe that you may know many people/groups/organizations that would be eligible. Please note the Youth Scholarships nomination for a scholarship of a thousand dollars. I am attaching an excerpt from the Nomination package for your ease of reference.

**Arts & Culture Award:**

This award is presented to an immigrant who merits recognition in an artistic endeavor, within the visual or performing arts fields.

**Community Service Award:**

This award is presented to an immigrant who has provided valuable service to the city of Calgary and the immigrant communities, either as a volunteer or as a professional.

**Business Award:**

This award is presented to an immigrant who has achieved success in the creation or operation of a business in Calgary or surrounding areas.

**Distinguished Professional Award:**

This award is presented to an immigrant who has achieved success in a professional career path.

**Hadassah Ksienski Distinguished Service Award:**

This award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated leadership, innovation, dedication and a spirit of compassion in the areas of immigrant services, program development, administration and/or advocacy. This person will have made important contributions to enhancing the lives of immigrants in Canada at the local, provincial and/or national levels through his/her actions in professional, volunteer and/or academic capacities.

**Organizational Diversity Award:**

This award is presented to a business, government or non-profit organization that has made outstanding achievements in implementing diversity initiatives in the workplace or has made significant contributions in serving ethnically diverse client groups.

Note: Past recipients of an Immigrant of Distinction Award cannot be nominated in the same award category.

This is a great opportunity in the various different categories and one that can really enhance the profile of the candidates even further. Please consider nominating someone today. As well, I request that you fan this out to your personal, business and corporate contacts given that there are many deserving candidates waiting to be nominated.

Thank you. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 403-538-8363.

Din Ladak  
CEO, Immigrant Services Calgary