



2026 OPMA Annual Awards

Nomination Instructions

Each year, the Ontario produce industry honours individuals and organizations for their outstanding accomplishments and contributions to our great industry. These prestigious awards are presented at the OPMA Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony.

Nominations

To nominate a colleague or organization, complete a nomination form and provide a short summary outlining the nominee's contributions and achievements according to the award criteria.

Nominees must be current OPMA members or retired from a current OPMA member company.

Selection and Announcement

1. Nominations are accepted from **current OPMA members** up to the submission deadline.
2. The **Board of Directors** vote by anonymous electronic ballot to determine the winners. Selection is based on the nomination description provided and how well the nominee meets the award criteria. Board members are not eligible to vote if their company or they themselves are nominated.
3. Nominees are sent a message from the Board letting them know their peers have nominated them and thanking them for their service to the industry. Nominees are announced before the awards ceremony via OPMA channels to raise the profile of the awards.
4. Winners are announced at the OPMA Annual Gala in November. Winners are notified in advance to allow them time to prepare for the presentation and to allow the company to take advantage of promotion for the award.

Deadline for nominations October 2, 2026

Name of Person/Company nominated _____

Junior Award

Senior Award

Nominees LinkedIn URL

1. OPMA WPN Award(s) *(If you are nominating both a Junior and a Senior nominee, please fill out two nomination forms (one for each)). There are two (2) Winners* – one at a Senior Level and one at a Junior Level.*

Award includes the following for both winners:

- Registration for the 2027 IFPA Women's Fresh Perspective Conference in Isle of Palms, South Carolina
- Flight and accommodations (Round trip economy flight and accommodations at host hotel for 2 nights)

This award is awarded to a woman who has contributed to the produce industry's growth and development. This award is open to women in all departments/positions within a produce organization that is a current employee of an OPMA member company. Examples of contributions include, but are not limited to include:

- Innovation (product or process)
- Mentorship
- Individual or organizational growth and development
- Quality or food safety initiatives
- Integral to organizational operations

Name of Nominator: _____ Company _____

Jpg or png of your signature

Nominator's phone number/ email: _____

Mark nomination form "CONFIDENTIAL" and return by October 2, 2026

Dee Klemann, email: dee@theopma.ca

**Two prizes will be awarded. Each prize will include registration to the 2027 IFPA Women's Fresh Perspectives conference, round trip economy airfare from the airport closest to the winner to the airport closest to the event, and two nights hotel accommodations at the event hotel. All other expenses, including any extra hotel nights, will be the responsibility of the winner. Prize is non-transferable and not redeemable for cash.*