



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS/APPLICATIONS 2025/2026 SASSY AWARDS LANGLEY

The four Rotary Clubs of Langley are proud to announce the eleventh annual SASSY Awards Langley. In the previous ten years, SASSY is proud to have awarded just over \$131,000.00 to Langley youth. SASSY stands for “Service Above Self” Student Youth. Incorporating Rotary’s guiding motto, the awards aim to recognize and celebrate the leadership achievements of Langley youth who exemplify the ideals of Rotary by making a positive impact in our Langley communities.

Awards focus on students who have shown demonstrated and committed leadership.

Nominations are now being accepted in seven categories for youth aged 15 to 21 living in, going to school in and/or who have made a significant impact in leadership roles within the Township or City of Langley. The awards will be presented as part of the Awards Show on Wednesday, May 20th, 2026 at the Chief Sessop Theatre, located in the Langley Fine Arts School. An applicant must also be available, if chosen for the top three in one of the seven categories, for interviews on Saturday morning, April 11th, 2026.

N.B.: You must be available and attend both the April 11th judging and the May 20th Awards Show to be eligible to receive a cash and recognition award. Please put these dates on your calendar!

Each Category Award Winner (one in each of the seven categories) will receive:

- \$1,200 Cash Award and a SASSY Recognition Award

Each of the two runners up in the seven categories will receive a \$600.00 cash award.

More information is available at:
langleysassynominations@gmail.com

Email nominations must be received no later than **Friday, March 13th, 2026 (11:59PM).**

Mailed nominations must be postmarked no later than **Friday, March 6th, 2026.**

There is no flexibility to these deadlines.

Application forms can be emailed to langleysassynominations@gmail.com

Or mailed to:
2026 SASSY Awards Langley
PO Box 1602, Aldergrove, B.C.,
V4W 2V1





2026 Langley SASSY Award Categories and Selection Criteria

<p>Community Service (local & international)</p> <p>This category recognizes youth who have made an <u>outstanding leadership contribution</u> in one of the two communities of Langley or internationally.</p> <p>Criteria considered includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting or significantly supporting, in a <u>leadership role</u>, a charity or organization • Contributing to make the charity, organization or initiative sustainable and ongoing • Volunteering and making a considerable difference in the community • Being a role model for youth and encouraging their involvement in community service 	<p>Environmental Leadership</p> <p>This category recognizes youth who have made an <u>outstanding leadership contribution</u> in one of the two communities of Langley.</p> <p>Criteria considered includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking a <u>leadership role</u> in the effective implementation of an environmental initiative • Committed involvement on environmental issues in the community • Empowering and increasing the capacity and leadership skills of peers to be involved in environmental activities
<p>Youth Leadership</p> <p>This category recognizes youth who have made an <u>outstanding leadership contribution</u> by motivating and empowering young people in one of the two communities of Langley.</p> <p>Criteria considered includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking a <u>leadership role</u> in their endeavor • Creating or significantly supporting opportunities for youth to participate in a program, event, initiative, council or group • Mentoring and being a role model to youth in school or community activities 	<p>Leadership Beyond Adversity</p> <p>This category recognizes youth who have overcome difficult circumstances, reached personal goals and who have gone on to take a <u>leadership role</u> in one of the two communities of Langley.</p> <p>Criteria considered includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having made a positive impact in the community in a <u>leadership role</u> • Emerged as a leader in school or community activities while learning to overcome difficult challenges



Arts and Culture Leadership

This category recognizes youth who have made an outstanding leadership contribution in the local arts and cultural community (including performing, visual and literary arts organizations and events) in one of the two communities of Langley.

Criteria considered includes:

- Taking a leadership role in their endeavor
- Creating or significantly supporting opportunities for youth to participate in arts and cultural activities, events and organizations
- Empowering youth to enhance their skills and abilities in the literary, performing or visual arts
- Being a role model for youth involved in the arts and cultural activities

Sports Leadership

This category recognizes youth who have made an outstanding leadership contribution as an athlete or coach in one of the two communities of Langley.

Criteria considered includes:

- Taking a leadership role in their endeavor
- Leading, supporting and mentoring youth to participate in a sport
- Empowering youth to enhance their skills and abilities in a sport
- Being a role model for youth in a sport

Cultural and Diversity Leadership

This category recognizes youth who have made an outstanding leadership contribution in the two communities of Langley, with particular emphasis on enhancing awareness and acceptance of those who might otherwise be marginalized because of their race, culture or other forms of diversity.

Criteria considered includes:

- taking a leadership role with the implementation of culture, diversity and inclusion awareness training or learning activities/events
- the endeavor/event has the potential to significantly impact the greater community, or the community from which it originated
- being a role model for youth and encouraging their involvement in promoting culture, diversity and inclusion



Eligibility Criteria & Other Information

Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible for the SASSY Awards Langley, nominees must be:

1. Between the ages of 15 to 21 as of March 13th, 2026
2. A resident of Langley, a person who attends a Langley school and/or a person who has made a significant contribution within either the City or Township of Langley. Demonstrated leadership is essential and critical.
3. **Applicants cannot be the winner of any category in any of the previous years.**
4. **Runners up (those finishing second or third in a previous year) as well as all others may apply.**

Please contact langleysassynominations@gmail.com with any questions.

Other Information

- In addition to the nomination form, a personal interview will be requested at the discretion of the Selection Committee.
- **Three individuals in each category will be interviewed (these three will be shortlisted directly from their application forms), so remember, first impressions of the application count.**
- The top three in each category will be asked to provide proof of age (birth certificate, passport or driver's license) and a photo if they are selected for an interview at James Hill, Saturday, April 11th.
- The Selection Committee is comprised of members of the four Rotary Clubs of Langley as well as individuals involved in youth programs, the school district, other community organizations as well as prominent community members. The Selection Committee will screen all applications received and recommend its three selections in each category to the Langley SASSY Award committee. Interviews of these three recommended individuals will take place in the morning Saturday April 11th, and from these interviews, a winner and 2 runners up will be selected.
- **It will be helpful to read page 9 for a brief overview.** Please email any questions to us.
- The SASSY Awards Langley Committee of the four Langley Rotary Clubs reserves the right to seek additional applications at any time and the right to decline applications/nominations.
- All decisions of the SASSY Awards Langley Committee are final.
- The SASSY Awards Langley Selection committee reserves the right to move the applicant/nominee to the most applicable award category or competition.
- Applicants will be video - taped during final interview process. (page seven).
- All finalists must attend the Judging and the Awards Show to receive their awards.





NOMINATION/APPLICATION FORM

- An applicant *may apply/be nominated in ONLY ONE CATEGORY.*
- Please print very clearly, otherwise it may be hard or impossible to contact you.

Section 1: Applicant Information

Category <i>(Please select one)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Service (local & international) <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural and Diversity Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Beyond Adversity <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Culture Leadership		
Nominee's Name			
Address			
City & Postal Code			
Phone #			
Email address (Print clearly)			
School, if applicable			
Age of applicant		Date of Birth	



Section 2: Applicant's Achievements

The applicant (the person being nominated) is to provide an overview of the **demonstrated leadership activities** they have made in Langley, relevant to the award category, and how they have **fulfilled the relevant selection criteria**. Please type on a separate piece of paper with the applicant's name on top. **One page maximum please.**

The reference providers are asked to describe the **personal characteristics and demonstrated leadership qualities** of the applicant/nominee that have led to their successful activities. Please type on a separate piece of paper with the applicant's name on top. **One half page to one page please (maximum that will be read).**

Section 3: Letters of Recommendation

Please attach two letters of recommendation. Please ensure that the following information is accurate, as we may contact these individuals.

#1 Recommended by	
Phone #	
Email address	
Relationship to Applicant/Nominee	

#2 Recommended by	
Phone #	
Email address	
Relationship to Applicant/Nominee	





PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION:

I give permission for my child to submit this application and participate in the processes of SASSY Awards Langley. To the best of my knowledge, all information submitted is correct.

Parent/Guardian's name

Parent/Guardian's signature

Phone number:

Email address:

All Langley School District students, regardless of age, are required by SD #35 to have signed parental/guardian permission form.

• By submitting this application, I agree that members of Rotary and Rotaract Clubs in Langley may contact me, or the applicant, in regard to the SASSY program and other Rotary opportunities and business.

• I/We, the parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) of aforementioned child, hereby give permission for The Rotary Clubs of Langley to take and use publicity photographs and/or video of my/our child, including use of his or her name, in conjunction with his or her participation in the SASSY AWARDS for the purposes of publicity, marketing, and advertising of the SASSY AWARDS in both print and web-based formats, which may include press releases or other media exposure. I/we further give permission for such photographs and/or video, including use of my/our child's name, to be combined with other images, text and graphics, and for such images to be altered or modified in any way and at the discretion of The Rotary Clubs of Langley for the purpose of better being able to publicize, market, and advertise the SASSY AWARDS. This grant of permission extends to the storing of such images in a database maintained by the Rotary Clubs of Langley for the aforementioned purposes only. I/we understand that I/we may revoke this grant of permission at any time, in writing to any of the Rotary Clubs of Langley and that no remuneration will be received in exchange for this grant of permission.







Checklist for application submission:

Please ensure all email addresses and cell or phone numbers are CLEARLY printed. Otherwise, we will not be able to contact you.

- ☐ 2 reference letters – half page to one page each – nothing more! No extremely small font!
- ☐ Letter from applicant – one page only please outlining leadership activities. Again, no small font.
- ☐ Please only submit Application form pages 5 to 8 from this package
- ☐ If your application has been selected to go into the judging round (top three in each of the seven categories at James Hill on April 11st), you will be required to bring a picture of yourself (to be used at the awards show) and photo ID (Driver's License, Birth Certificate or Passport) to verify your age.

Please do not leave it until the last minute to submit your application. Technical issues can arise.

Rotary Offers Many Programs for Youth

- Rotaract clubs bring together people ages 18 and older to exchange ideas with leaders in the community, develop leadership and professional skills, and have fun through service. In communities worldwide, Rotary and Rotaract members work side by side to take action through service.
- YAIL (Youth Adventures in Leadership) is a once-a-year Rotary leadership program for youth between the ages of 15 to 17.
- RYLA, also a leadership program, targets youth 18 to 30. Both programs provide excellent leadership training.

Please see next page.

Please contact langleysassynominations@gmail.com with any questions.





YAIL & RYLA

Rotary District 5050 provides unique leadership experiences for youth and young adults within the District's boundaries. Youth Adventures in Leadership (YAIL) and Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) are multi-day leadership camps focusing on personal leadership development. These programs rely on financial and instrumental support from Rotary clubs within the District.

We kindly ask your club to complete this commitment letter so our committees can determine the level of support your club can provide and/or needs related to these two programs.

ABOUT YAIL & RYLA

YAIL is unique to Rotary District 5050 and was modelled after RYLA. RYLA is a Rotary International program that Rotary Districts put on for a specific age group (anywhere from 14 – 30) to develop leadership, business, or other skills.

District 5050's programs are designed for participants with leadership skills or potential. YAIL targets youth aged 15 to 17, while RYLA focuses on young adults 18 to 30. Activities, including speakers, debriefs, and team building, contribute to participants' personal growth. Over the course of the events, participants experience specifically designed programming to think critically, adapt to external pressures, and be vulnerable in a safe and supportive environment. The general feedback both programs receive from participants is that they've had a life-changing experience.

Both programs invest back into the District tenfold. Participants leave these programs with a positive experience with Rotary. Some go on to participate in other Rotary programs, join or start clubs, and be community stewards.

Youth Adventures In Leadership

Dates:

Feb. 6 to 8, 2026

Location:

Timberline Ranch, Maple Ridge

Age Range

15 – 17 years old

Sponsorship Cost:

Cost covered by sponsoring Rotary Club

Additional Information & Registration:

<https://rotarydistrict5050.org/page/yail>

Deadline:

Jan. 1, 2026

See website

Co-Chairs:

Jaymee Lynn

Email:

youthadventuresinleadership@gmail.com

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

RYLA

Dates:

May 28 to 31, 2026

Location:

Stillwood Camp - Chilliwack

Age Range:

18 – 30 years old

Cannot accept anyone under 18.

Sponsorship Cost:

\$525 CAD | \$425 USD

Individual Rotary Clubs can sponsor individuals

Additional Information & Registration:

<https://rotarydistrict5050.org/page/ryla>

Registration Deadline:

See website

Email:

ryla5050@gmail.com

