

# 2026 MQCC Business Awards



## ***Sponsorship Opportunities***



*Updated January 13, 2026*

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## 2026 MQCC Business Awards

### About the Awards

Since 2016, the Manitoba Queer Chamber of Commerce has proudly recognized individuals, organizations, and businesses whose leadership, innovation, and dedication are creating a positive impact on Manitoba's 2SLGBTQIA+ and broader business communities. The MQCC Annual Business Awards celebrate the visionaries who champion diversity, foster inclusion, and strengthen our economy while uplifting queer voices. Together, they highlight the power of entrepreneurship, allyship, and community building in shaping a more vibrant, equitable Manitoba.

After a several-year hiatus, MQCC is thrilled to bring back this celebration of our incredible community. **This year's Awards reception will be held March 19, 2026 at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.** There we will honour MQCC Business Awards recipients and celebrate the completion of the first cohort of our EMERGE: Queer Entrepreneur Development Program.

*Partner with MQCC to make this event a success!*



### About the MQCC

The MQCC exists to support, empower, and connect 2SLGBTQIA+ entrepreneurs, professionals, and businesses across Manitoba. We are Manitoba's only chamber dedicated to queer business success – a community-led organization where members can grow their businesses, build relationships, and thrive authentically.

## Why Sponsor?

- Gain meaningful visibility among Manitoba's most engaged queer and ally business owners, professionals, organizations
- Demonstrate your commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Champion belonging and economic empowerment
- Strengthen the 2SLGBTQIA+ business community



## Our Reach

**When you partner with us, you put your brand in the spotlight.**

**150+** **entrepreneurs, professionals, elected officials, and business stakeholders** expected to attend the Awards event.

**2K+** **followers** across Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

**73K+** **instances of engagement** (views, interactions, link clicks, site visits) across social media platforms on average per month

**350+** **newsletter subscribers**, with growing engagement across Manitoba's queer business community.

**160+** **individuals, businesses, and non-profits** amongst MQCC membership.

**250+** **professionals and allies** reached through our EMERGE program each season.

**450+** **participants** attended MQCC events from May to December 2025, with potential to grow in 2026.

# Awards Categories

## Emerging Entrepreneur

This award celebrates an entrepreneur who has launched a new business within the past five years and is already making waves in Manitoba's queer community and economy. It recognizes innovation, resilience, and the courage to take risks, highlighting individuals who are building sustainable enterprises while uplifting queer voices. The recipient demonstrates not only business growth but also a commitment to representation, visibility, and positive social impact.

## Employer of the Year

Honouring a business owner or senior employee of a Manitoba business who exemplifies leadership in workplace culture, this award recognizes those who prioritize employee engagement, foster work-life balance, and champion diversity and inclusion. The recipient demonstrates that creating equitable, supportive workplaces is not only good for business but essential for building stronger communities. This award shines a light on employers who model best practices and inspire others to follow suit.

## Community Builder

This award acknowledges an individual or community organization whose dedication and vision have significantly strengthened Manitoba's queer community. Whether through advocacy, programming, mentorship, or grassroots organizing, the recipient has created meaningful opportunities for connection, empowerment, and visibility. Their work demonstrates the power of collective action and the importance of building inclusive spaces where queer people can thrive.

## Corporate Ally

Recognizing a large corporation or business entity with annual revenues of at least \$10 million, this award honours organizations that leverage their influence and resources to make a substantial positive impact on Manitoba's queer community. The recipient demonstrates authentic allyship through sustained investment, inclusive policies, and meaningful partnerships. This award highlights the role of corporate leadership in advancing equity, visibility, and opportunity for queer Manitobans.

## Chamber Member of the Year (Sponsored by MQCC)

Selected by the MQCC Awards Committee, this award honours an individual, business, or organization whose active membership has significantly contributed to the mandate of the Chamber, as well as Manitoba's queer community and economy. The recipient exemplifies the values of collaboration, advocacy, and leadership, serving as a role model for fellow members. Unlike other awards, nominations are not accepted; instead, the Committee identifies a member whose impact has been especially noteworthy over the past year.

# Partnership Benefits

## Presenting Sponsor - \$10,000

*One available*

- Speaking opportunity at event
- Verbal & printed logo recognition at event
- Ten (10) complimentary tickets to event
- Full page ad & logo in digital program; logo on event screens
- Minimum two (2) social media & newsletter mentions
- Mention in event press release

## Food or Beverage Sponsor - \$5,000

*Multiple available*

- Verbal & printed logo recognition at event
- Five (5) complimentary tickets to event
- ½ page ad & logo in digital program; logo on event screens
- Minimum one (1) social media & newsletter mention

## Award Sponsor - \$3,500

*One remaining*

- Opportunity to present award
- Two (2) complimentary tickets to event
- ¼ page ad & logo in digital program; logo on event screens
- Minimum one (1) social media & newsletter mention
- A portion to cover two (2) tickets to recipient in award category

## Equity & Access Sponsor - \$1,500

- Two (2) complimentary tickets to event
- Logo in digital program & on event screens
- A portion to cover contribution to Equity & Access Fund

## Advertiser - \$150, \$275, \$500

- ¼ page, ½ page, or full page ad in digital program

***In-Kind & Customized Sponsorships Also Available - Inquire to Learn More!***



# ***Lead with Pride: Support MQCC today!***



## **CONTACT**

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