



COS Humanitarian Service Award

The **COS Humanitarian Service Award**, first presented in 2026, recognizes Society members for exemplary humanitarian efforts. The recipient will have demonstrated significant contributions to improving the quality of human life, including charitable activities, care for marginalized communities, and community service performed above and beyond the typical duties of an ophthalmologist.

Each year in August the COS invites nominations for the Humanitarian Service Award with the nominations closing in October. The recipient of the Award will receive their certificate at the COS Annual meeting and Exhibition the following year.

Eligibility:

The nominee must be a member in good standing of the Canadian Ophthalmological Society who has demonstrated a sustained pattern of humanitarian service in Canada or abroad over several years. Qualifying service may include, but is not limited to:

- Free care for marginalized communities.
- Service in inner-city, rural, or international locations serving disadvantaged populations.
- Care for underprivileged individuals.
- Care provided in high-risk settings.

Selection of recipients is based on factors such as intensity, continuity, and length of service; the need for the service; personal sacrifice of the ophthalmologist; and recommendations from the nominating organization or other references. Only one award may be given to an individual during their lifetime. Self-nomination is not permitted.

How to Nominate:

Nominations for this award will be accepted between August and October, via the online submission portal.

Supplemental documents that may be uploaded with the nomination form include:

- **Required:** One letter of recommendation (maximum two pages, PDF format).
- **Required:** One-page biographical sketch highlighting the nominee's contributions in humanitarian service (PDF format).
- **Optional:** News articles or other supporting documents demonstrating the nominee's efforts (PDF format).

Questions? Contact Kate Cooke at kcooke@cos-sco.ca or Elisabeth Fowler at efowler@cos-sco.ca.