



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2018 Canadian Tourism Awards Winners

GATINEAU, QC November 28, 2018 - Thirteen organizations and individuals were honoured tonight by the Tourism Industry Association of Canada (TIAC) as recipients of the 2018 Canadian Tourism Awards, presented by The Toronto Star.

The awards were presented earlier this evening in a ceremony at the Hilton Lac-Leamy in Gatineau, Quebec.

"The Canadian Tourism Awards highlights the creativity, diversity and originality found in tourism, tonight we applaud the organizations and individuals whose hard work will inspire new generations to seek a career in tourism and join the businesses large and small that power local economies across Canada," said TIAC President and CEO, Charlotte Bell.

"Congratulations to the winners of the 2018 Canadian Tourism Awards and to all of this year's nominees. These awards celebrate the outstanding contributions of the people in the Canadian tourism industry, which supports more than 1.8 million jobs. Thanks to your hard work and dedication, visitors keep coming back and keep spreading the word about our beautiful, welcoming country," said the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Tourism, Official Languages and La Francophonie, as she addressed the crowd gathered for the ceremony.

The Canadian Tourism Awards are presented annually by TIAC to recognize success, leadership and innovation in Canada's tourism industry, and to reward those people, places, organizations and events that have gone above and beyond to showcase Canada's very best and offer travellers superior tourism experiences in Canada.

The 2018 Winners are:

Pursuit Adventure/Outdoors Award

Traversée du lac Saint-Jean à vélo – Alma, QC

WestJet Airport Innovation & Excellence Award

Gaëtan Gagné – Québec, QC

Air Canada Business of the Year Award

Accent Inns – Vancouver, BC

VIA Rail Community Outreach Award

Sébastien Roy | Distillerie Fils du Roy – Petit-Paquetville, NB

Restaurants Canada & Diversey Culinary Tourism Experience Award

The Paisley Notebook – Kelowna, BC

Metro Toronto Convention Centre Event of the Year Award

Winter Festival of Lights – Niagara Falls, ON

ITAC Indigenous Cultural Tourism Award

Quaaout Lodge & Talking Rock Golf Course – Chase, BC

Marriott Hotels of Canada Innovator of the Year Award

Cities in Sync – Tourism Victoria, BC + Tourism Saskatoon, SK + Destination St. John's, NL

Accor Hotels Marketing Campaign of the Year Award

“Pacific. Authentic.” | Tourism Richmond – Richmond, BC

Hilton Worldwide Small or Medium-Sized Business of the Year Award

The Historic Reesor Ranch – Maple Creek, SK

Air Transat Sustainable Tourism Award

Shorefast Foundation – Joe Batt's Arm, NL

Tourism HR Canada Tourism Employee of the Year Award

Ian Cheverie | The Great George – Charlottetown, PE

Tourism Toronto Lifetime Achievement Award

Nancy Stibbard | Capilano Suspension Bridge Park – Vancouver, BC

About the Canadian Tourism Awards

The Canadian Tourism Awards were established in 2003 to recognize success, leadership and innovation in Canada's tourism industry, and to honour those people, places, organizations and events that have gone above and beyond to offer superior visitor experiences to travelers in Canada. Showcasing the nation's best tourism products, services and experiences, the Canadian Tourism Awards ceremony has become an annual highlight of the Tourism Congress, TIAC's annual convention.

About the Tourism Industry Association of Canada

The Tourism Industry Association of Canada is the only national organization representing the full cross-section of Canada's \$91.6 billion tourism industry. TIAC's members include air and passenger rail services, airport authorities, local and provincial destination authorities, hotels, attractions and tour operators.

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