



Nomination Guide

Contents

About the awards	2
Key stages and dates	2
Award Categories	3
Emerging Leader Award	3
Community Leader Award	3
ACCO Leader Award	3
Judging Criteria	3-4
How to Nominate	4
Terms and Conditions	4-7
Eligibility	4
Nomination Process	5
Finalists	5
Judging and Selection	5
Awards and Recognition	6
Nominators' Consent	6
Nominees' Consent	6
Privacy Statement	7
Privacy Policy	7
Liability	7

About the Mollie Dyer Awards

The Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) is proud to announce this year's annual Mollie Dyer Awards, in honour of VACCA's extraordinary founder, Aunty Mollie Dyer.

The theme of the Mollie Dyer Awards in 2021:

Leadership through Crisis - Celebrating extraordinary people in extraordinary times

This theme celebrates service excellence, people who have gone beyond, and everyday heroes during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The award covers:

- Services delivered in the past 12 months
- A focus on leadership as a quality, especially in challenging times
- An adaptive responsive, connected to community, stepping-up in a time of need, responding to change and challenges

Nominees will have shown great leadership, inspired positive change, and worked to strengthen Aboriginal children and families

The Awards honour excellence in three categories that recognise contributions to Aboriginal child and family welfare, particularly children in out-of-home care. The Awards ceremony will be held virtually at VACCA's AGM on Friday 26 November 2021. At the event, the winners will each be presented with a commemorative plaque and \$3000 cash prize, for showing leadership and inspiring positive change.

The Award categories are:

- Emerging Leaders (18-24 years of age)
- Community Leaders
- Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Leaders

2021 Key Stages and Dates

<i>Key stage</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Nominations open</i>	Monday 30 August 2021
<i>Nominations close</i>	Friday 8 October 2021 (6wks)
<i>Judging period</i>	Monday 18 October-Friday 29 October 2021 (2wks)
<i>Finalists announced</i>	Monday 8 November 2021
<i>Awards ceremony</i>	Friday 26 November 2021

Award Categories



Emerging Leaders

The **Mollie Dyer Emerging Leaders Award** celebrates an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young person living and working in Victoria who has shown strength and leadership at a time of need and crisis. Our young people are the next generation of change-makers and we want to celebrate how deadly they are!



Community Leaders

The **Mollie Dyer Community Leaders Award** recognise an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community member living and working in Victoria who has shown leadership through crisis. This could be by adapting to new challenges and changes, advocating for the needs of their community, or caring for their community during difficult times.



ACCO Leaders

The **Mollie Dyer Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Award** recognises an exceptional Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person who, through their work, has adapted the challenges of crisis and positively contributed to the lives of Aboriginal children, young people, and families. This could be through improving practice, service excellence, raising awareness or advocating for the rights of Aboriginal children, young people or families during times of crisis.

Judging Criteria

The judging panel will consider the extent to which each nominee's contribution demonstrates the specific category criteria:

- Celebrate service excellence, people going beyond, and everyday heroes during the COVID-19 pandemic. The focus is on leadership as a quality and not just a title. Nominees will have shown great leadership, inspired positive change, and worked to strengthen Aboriginal children and families.

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Step One

Decide who you would like to nominate for an award. Ensure you get their permission.

Step Two

Complete the nomination form online visit awards.vacca.org. Alternatively, you can email awards@vacca.org. Or you can telephone (only between 9am-5pm Monday-Friday) on 0439 921 589. Include your details, the details of your nominee, and the details of one referee. Please carefully read the Nomination Guide and Terms and Conditions.

Step Three

Upload an image of your nominee.

Step Four

Complete your nomination process by 5pm Friday 8 October 2021. You will receive an email confirmation of your nomination submission.

Step Five (finalist only)

Finalists will be announced late October. Finalists' biographies and images may be used on the VACCA website and Awards microsite, in VACCA social media or media coverage, to promote the Awards in the lead-up to the winners' ceremony on 26 November.

Terms and Conditions

Please note that the Terms and Conditions include a screening process. Please carefully read the Terms and Conditions, to ensure that you understand the Awards before completing nomination requirements.

1. Anyone who nominates (**nominator**) a person (**nominee**) for the Mollie Dyer Awards and submits a nomination is deemed to have accepted these Terms and Conditions.

Eligibility

2. Nominees and nominated teams must:
 - (a) be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community member living and working in Victoria
 - (b) people who have demonstrated service excellence, gone beyond, and everyday heroes during the COVID-19 pandemic. The focus is on leadership as a quality and not just a title. Nominees must have shown great leadership, inspired positive change, and worked to strengthen Aboriginal children and families
3. For the Emerging Leaders Award:
 - (a) Nominees must be aged between 18-24 years of age (at time of nomination)
4. Nominations must focus on the specific contributions of the nominees.
5. A person cannot nominate themselves.
6. Members of the Judging Panel are ineligible to be a nominee.

Nomination Process

7. Completed online nominations must be received by 5pm on Friday 8 October 2021.
 - (a) Nominations received after this time cannot be considered for the Awards and no responsibility will be accepted for lost, late, incomplete, or incorrectly submitted nominations.
8. Nominations **must** include one referee who supports the accuracy and validity of the nomination and verify the contribution of the nominee or nominated team. The names and contact details of the referee/s must be included in the nomination. Referees must **not** be the nominator or nominee.
9. Video submissions supporting a nominee can be uploaded as part of the nomination submission. This is **optional** - it is not mandatory.
10. Nominations will be acknowledged with a confirmation email once your nomination form has been submitted. The nominee will also receive a confirmation email.

Finalists

11. All finalists will be required to confirm their acceptance and agree to the Terms and Conditions of the Awards. This will be done via email.
12. If a finalist does not accept the Terms and Conditions, the nominee will be deemed ineligible to be considered for the Awards.

Judging and Selection

13. A four-person judging panel will be appointed, including the VACCA CEO, an Elder, a sector leader, and a young person
 - (a) A judge may be replaced if they are unable to perform their duties as described, or due to illness.
14. The Judging Panel will consider all eligible nominations and rate each against the criteria for the selected award category. Nominations with the highest combined scores will be shortlisted as a finalist.
15. VACCA reserves the right to shortlist nominees prior to the Judging Panel reviewing and decided on the finalists and winners.
16. VACCA and the Judging Panel may request further information or clarification from the nominator, nominee or referees regarding any nomination.
17. VACCA reserves the right to review the judging process and update the questions and selection criteria at their own discretion in future.
18. The decision of the Judging Panel, regarding finalists and winners, is final.

Awards and Recognition

19. A virtual ceremony will be held at the VACCA AGM on Friday 26 November 2021, at which winners will be presented with a commemorative plaque and a cash prize of \$3000.
20. Travel reimbursement for finalists attending the Awards ceremony is at the discretion of the VACCA CEO.
21. The names of the Mollie Dyer Awards winners and/or finalists may be published on the VACCA website and Mollie Dyer Awards microsite, on VACCA social media and other media channels.

Nominators' Consent

22. By submitting a nomination, and information provided as part of that nomination, each nominator confirms that they give their own consent, and have the consent of any person whose personal information is contained in a nomination.

Personal information is as defined in the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic).

Personal information contained in a nomination includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) the nominee
- (b) the referee

Nominators must have consent to provide personal information to VACCA, and for VACCA to disclose that personal information to other parties including, but not limited to, the Judging Panel.

23. If the nominator does not agree, or have the requisite consent, the nominator must not provide their personal information or the personal information of anyone else and may be unable to submit a nomination for the Awards.
24. Each nominator consents to VACCA using their nomination statements, name, participation in the Awards (including photographic, film and/or recording of the same) in any media for an unlimited period of time without further notification, remuneration or compensation, for the purpose of promoting, publicising or marketing the Mollie Dyer Awards (including any outcome).

If the nominator does not agree that nominator must not provide their personal information, or the personal information of anyone else, and may be unable to submit a nomination for the Awards.

Nominees' Consent

25. By accepting the nomination, the nominee consents to VACCA using their nomination statement and video submissions, name, image, and participation in the Awards (including photographic, film and/or recording of the same) in any media for an unlimited period of time without further notification, remuneration or compensation, for the purpose of promoting, publicising or marketing the Awards (including any outcome).
26. Nominees consent to VACCA using their personal information, and for VACCA to disclose their personal information to other parties including, but not limited to, the Judging Panel, for the purpose of conducting the Awards. If the nominee does not agree, the nominee must not accept their nomination and will be ineligible for the Awards.

Privacy Statement

27. Consistent with Victorian legislation, and the Privacy Policy of VACCA, we adhere to fair and reasonable information handling practices. Personal information supplied will be used by VACCA and the Judging Panel for the purposes of judging nominations, selecting finalists and winners of each award category, and promotion in media, on social media and the VACCA website and Awards microsite.

Information will not be disclosed or used for any other purpose, without the express consent of the person to whom the information relates, unless otherwise required or permitted by law.

Privacy Policy

28. The Privacy Policy of VACCA set- out the scope and limitations to which VACCA adheres, to protect the privacy of our clients and staff. The Privacy Policy of VACCA is available on the VACCA website and the Awards microsite.

Liability

29. It is intended and agreed that the conduct of the Awards shall not give rise to any legal obligations, liabilities, or duties, valid or enforceable in any way against VACCA.

About Mollie Dyer

Aunty Mollie Dyer, a proud Yorta Yorta woman, is remembered as a courageous advocate for the rights of Aboriginal children and families. She held an unwavering belief in the strength of the country, community, and culture, believing that “Our kids are the most viable enterprise we can be engaged in”.

She fostered many children and young people in her life, and advocated tirelessly for Aboriginal community, especially for Aboriginal children in care to be placed with Aboriginal families whenever possible.

Aunty Mollie Dyer helped to found VACCA and was instrumental in establishing other Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, including the national peak body SNAICC. She received many important awards for her work including the Order of Australia, International Year of the Child Award, and the Advance Australia Award. She remains an inspiration to many people today.

About VACCA

The Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) is Victoria’s leading Aboriginal child and family services organisation and the largest provider of Aboriginal family violence and homelessness services. We have been supporting children, young people, and families within the community for over 40 years as an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation. To learn more about our work, please visit www.vacca.org.