

THE SASKATCHEWAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ABEX
AWARDS

2025 APPLICATION PACKAGE

Celebrating success since 1984.

The Achieving Business Excellence (ABEX) Awards are the highest award for Saskatchewan business. The ABEX Awards have been celebrating the success of businesses and business leaders across the province since 1984.

The ABEX application process is completed via an online platform. You can access your account as many times as you need to until the application deadline on [April 1, 2025](#).





ABEX AWARDS 2025 APPLICATION PROCESS

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INTRODUCTION

The Achievement of Business Excellence (ABEX) Awards stand as the most prestigious recognition for businesses in Saskatchewan. Since 1984, these awards have been dedicated to acknowledging the achievements of businesses and leaders throughout the province.

The ABEX application process is conducted exclusively through an online platform. You have the flexibility to access your account multiple times until the application deadline on **April 1, 2025**. Businesses may apply for multiple award categories. Please note that any applications not finalized and saved by the deadline will not be considered.

IMPORTANT DATES

Applications & Nominations Open: February 12, 2025

Applications Close: April 1, 2025 @ 11:59pm

Finalists Announced: Week of June 16, 2025

Tickets Launch: June 13, 2025

Early Bird Deadline: August 21, 2025 @ 11:59pm

Ticket Deadline: September 13, 2025 @ 11:59pm

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

- Must be a for-profit business.
 - *Exception: Non-Profit organizations can apply for the Non-Profit Impact Award.*
- Must demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Must have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
 - *Exception: Must be in operation for 1-3 years to be considered for the New Venture Award as of April 1, 2025.*
 - **Operating' entails engaging in commercial activities, providing goods or services, generating revenue, or carrying out other business-related functions within Saskatchewan's borders.*
- Must not apply for a category in which the business has won the previous year (other categories remain eligible).
- Must not have won Business of the Year the previous year (all categories ineligible - but can apply the following year)
 - *Exception: Business of the Year winners are not eligible to receive Business of the Year again for five (5) years.*
- Must not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.
- Note: Membership in the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce is not required.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- Financial success is an important criterion in recognizing business excellence and as such, all categories require audited financial statements. This information is held in strict confidence and is permanently deleted after the ABEX Awards.
- Finalists may be contacted by our independent adjudicators at Doane Grant Thornton LLP to provide specific data aiding in the assessment of your organization's financial stability. All information is handled with utmost confidentiality.



HOW TO APPLY

TIP: Start early and save as you go! Our online application lets you save your progress and return later.

Step 1: Review Eligibility and Categories

Before you start your application, check to ensure you meet the eligibility criteria for each award, found in this document or [here](#). You can apply for multiple categories, choose the ones that best fit your business.

To help you prepare, read through this package to review questions asked throughout each category in advance. Note: A Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce membership is *not* required to participate.

Step 2: Gather Your Materials

Ensure you have the following items ready to complete your application:

- A high-resolution organization logo (.png format).
- 5-10 high-quality photos showcasing various aspects of your organization, such as your workplace, team, and community involvement. Photos relevant to your chosen category are encouraged, as they may be featured in awards videos if you become a finalist.
- For ABEX Young Entrepreneur applicants: A headshot and biography are required.

Step 3: Submit Your Application

1. Create an account on our application portal [here](#).
2. Select the category you wish to apply for and begin answering the application questions.
3. Upload the required materials (photos, logo, and any additional documents as specified).
4. Save your progress if you need more time—our online application allows you to return and edit your submission later.
5. Submit your application before the deadline of 11:59 PM, April 1, 2025.

Important Application Notes

- Applicants are responsible for the accuracy of all submitted materials.
- The details from your entry form will be used as submitted for award production, presentation, and media recognition.
- The Saskatchewan Chamber reserves the right to disqualify incomplete applications without notice.
- Categories may be realigned or removed depending on the number of entries. If changes occur, affected applicants will be notified.
- All entrants agree to be bound by these rules.

What Happens Next?

- Once the application deadline has passed, submissions are reviewed for eligibility.



- Eligible applications are evaluated by third-party adjudicators.
- Finalists are selected and notified. An official announcement will be made via a news release and social media in the third week of June.
- Finalists will receive a Finalist Guide with all key details to prepare for the awards.

Finalist Expectations

- All ABEX finalists must purchase a ticket and attend the event.
- Finalists and their guests are invited to an exclusive Finalist Cocktail Reception, 30 minutes before the awards ceremony.
- The awards ceremony will be followed by the ABEX Awards 'Afterglow' Afterparty, open to all attend.

NOMINATED FOR AN AWARD?

Being nominated for an ABEX Award is an exciting recognition of your business's success! Here's what you need to know:

- A nomination does not automatically enter you into the competition—you must complete an application to be considered.
- Review the award categories and eligibility criteria to determine which category (or categories) best fit your business.
- Submit your application before the deadline (11:59 PM, April 1, 2025).
- A nomination is not required to apply! If your business meets the criteria, you can apply regardless of whether you were nominated.
- Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce membership is not required to participate.



2025 AWARDS CATEGORIES

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AWARD

The ABEX Community Involvement Award goes to the business that has demonstrated exceptional commitment to supporting arts and culture, amateur sports, education, healthcare, or voluntary groups. Judging considers the relative size of the business. Greater consideration is given for involvement that is not an extension of the business's main activities. This award celebrates businesses that actively contribute to the betterment of their communities, demonstrating a genuine dedication to making a positive impact in areas that extend beyond their core business functions.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won Business of the Year the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Demonstrate active contributions to community betterment through investment, time-commitment of staff, and/or leading key initiatives.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION AWARD

The ABEX Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award recognizes the business that has demonstrated outstanding achievement in fostering equitable, sustainable, and measurable change. Recognizing excellence in practices, events, applied research, policy, programs, or other activities, this award highlights initiatives focused on traditionally under-represented groups such as women, visible/racialized minorities, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, and 2SLGBTQ+. Encouraging the celebration of cultural differences, community relationship-building, and substantial progress within organizations and the broader community, this award champions efforts to advance diversity and inclusion.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won Business of the Year the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.



Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Demonstrate commitment to inclusive employment practices, showcase measurable impact on under-represented groups, and/or display innovative diversity initiatives.

GROWTH & EXPANSION AWARD (SMALL BUSINESS)

The ABEX Growth & Expansion Award (Small Business) recognizes the business with less than 50 employees that has achieved significant growth or expansion through strategic initiatives. Growth may include increased revenue, market share, or customer base, while expansion may involve new locations, expanded product or service offerings, or entry into new markets. Businesses that have successfully expanded their reach through export—whether within Canada or internationally—will also be recognized for their role in strengthening Saskatchewan’s presence beyond provincial borders.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won Business of the Year the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.
- Have less than 50 employees.

Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Display evidence of financial growth, as well as growth or expansion in other areas (market share, customer base, geographical reach, business locations, product lines, service offerings).
- Showcase the development of strategies and projections for future growth.

GROWTH & EXPANSION AWARD (MEDIUM & LARGE BUSINESS)

The ABEX Growth & Expansion Award (Medium & Large Business) recognizes the business with 50 or more employees that has successfully executed growth or expansion strategies, leading to measurable business success. Growth may include revenue increases, workforce expansion, or market share gains, while expansion may encompass new geographic markets, product diversification, or investment in innovation. Businesses that have grown Saskatchewan’s economy through export—whether by bringing local goods and services to national or global markets—will be recognized for their contributions to expanding the province’s economic footprint.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.



- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won Business of the Year the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.
- Have 50 or more employees.

Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Display evidence of financial growth, as well as growth or expansion in other areas (market share, customer base, geographical reach, business locations, product lines, service offerings).
- Showcase the development of strategies and projections for future growth.

INNOVATION AWARD

The ABEX Innovation Award is presented to the business that redefined its industry through cutting-edge technologies, systems, services, or products. The successful business not only successfully implements innovative solutions but also leaves a lasting positive impact on their industry and contributes to enhanced sales, productivity, and overall sustainability. This award recognizes the bold trailblazing and positive transformation achieved by the forefront innovator, shaping a better future for both their industry and society.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won Business of the Year the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Demonstrate successful ideation and implementation of an innovation.

MARKETING AWARD

The ABEX Marketing Award recognizes businesses that have achieved exceptional results through innovative and impactful marketing strategies. Businesses may acknowledge the contributions of their marketing partners or agencies in their submission. This award recognizes innovators who have not only embraced creativity in their marketing endeavors but have also achieved measurable success in enhancing brand visibility, engagement, and overall market impact. The award highlights businesses that go beyond conventional approaches, exhibiting a deep understanding of their target audience, industry trends, and a commitment to achieving excellence in the competitive landscape.



Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won Business of the Year the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Demonstrate innovative and effective marketing strategies.
- Show measurable success in brand visibility, engagement, or market impact.

NEW VENTURE AWARD

The ABEX New Venture Award is presented to the new business venture that has been in existence for one to three years and has demonstrated exceptional performance in profitability, job creation, and entry into new markets. Judging criteria emphasizes financial metrics, the unique nature of the new venture, and its significant impact on job creation and market expansion. This award acknowledges the success and innovative contributions of the winning new venture to the business landscape.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least 1 year and no more than 3 years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won Business of the Year the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Demonstrate strong financial performance and business growth.
- Show significant impact through job creation or market expansion.

NON-PROFIT IMPACT AWARD

The ABEX Non-Profit Impact Award is presented to the non-profit organization that has contributed to the betterment of Saskatchewan's business landscape. Through innovative practices and transformative initiatives, the successful organization plays a crucial role in building a robust and vibrant ecosystem that contributes to making Saskatchewan an ideal place for businesses to thrive.



Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a registered non-profit organization.
 - *Note: Charities are not eligible. As per the CRA, organizations operating as charities cannot be considered non-profits.*
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Receive no more than 50% of funding from government entities.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Provide proof of impact on the Saskatchewan business community.
- Showcase measurable outcomes that highlight the organization's contributions and achievements.
- Demonstrate effective implementation of innovative programs or projects that have driven meaningful change for businesses or the broader economic landscape.

SERVICE AWARD

The ABEX Service Award is presented to the business, regardless of industry, that consistently surpassed expectations in delivering high-quality service. Judging criteria consider the unique conditions of each business, evaluating factors such as size, growth potential, and the effectiveness of customer service initiatives. The successful business not only meets but exceeds industry standards, fostering strong customer relationships and contributing significantly to the overall advancement of their respective sector.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won Business of the Year the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Demonstrate proof of exceptional customer service initiatives.
- Showcase innovative service offerings.
- Outline impact of service initiatives on business success.



SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP AWARD (NEW FOR 2025!)

The ABEX Sustainability Leadership Award recognizes businesses that exemplify leadership in integrating sustainability into their core strategies, driving both environmental and economic value. This award celebrates organizations—whether large corporations or small businesses—that prioritize sustainability through efforts such as waste reduction, energy efficiency, sustainable sourcing, or educating their communities on environmental responsibility. The successful business sets a powerful example for others, demonstrating that sustainability is not just a commitment to environmental well-being, but a strategic investment that drives long-term success, resilience, and growth across all sectors.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won Business of the Year the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Demonstrate implementation of sustainable business practices that demonstrate a commitment to environmental responsibility.
- Show a proven track record of sustainability initiatives over the past two years.
- Demonstrate measurable results from sustainability efforts (e.g., energy reduction, waste management improvements, carbon footprint reduction).

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARD

The ABEX Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award is presented to an entrepreneur between the ages of 18-35 who has demonstrated success in launching and operating a new or existing business. Eligible candidates must offer a product and/or service; have long-term goals with corresponding strategies and have a demonstrated ability to innovate in response to marketplace challenges, resulting in a significant competitive advantage. Special consideration will be given to those who display an innovative approach to entrepreneurship.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won Business of the Year the previous year.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.
- Must be the ages of 18-35 as of April 1, 2025.



Evaluation Criteria

To be successful in this category, organizations should ideally:

- Demonstrate evidence of financial success.
- Include strategies for future goals.

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

The ABEX Business of the Year Award is presented to the business that has exhibited exceptional performance in resilience, growth, stability, and overall business excellence. The recipient of this award is selected from all 2025 ABEX *finalists*, spanning across all application-based categories.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this award, the organization must:

- Be a for-profit business.
- Demonstrate financial viability by submitting financial statements.
- Have been operating in Saskatchewan for at least two years as of April 1, 2025.
- Not have been the recipient of this award in the previous year.
- Not have won this category within the past five (5) years.
- Not currently serve as a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.
- Show evidence of business excellence across multiple areas of business.
- Show evidence of economic impact on the province.



The ABEX Awards – General Questions

Section 1: Eligibility Questions

1. How many years has your business been operating in Saskatchewan as of April 1, 2025? *(Businesses must have been operating for at least two years as of this date. New Venture applicants must have been operating for 1-3 years as of April 1, 2025.)*
2. Do you agree to provide financial statements? These will remain confidential and will only be shared with the third-party adjudicator, not the judging committee. **(Yes/No)**
3. Does your business operate as a for-profit entity? *Nonprofit organizations may only apply for the Non-Profit Impact Award.* **(Yes/No)**
4. Has your business won in the category you are applying for in the previous two years? *If yes, you are ineligible to apply for this category but may apply for others.* **(Yes/No)**
5. Has your business won the ABEX Business of the Year Award in the previous year? *If yes, you are ineligible to apply in any category this year but may apply next year.* **(Yes/No)**
6. Are you or any representative of your business currently a board member or staff of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce? **(Yes/No)**

Section 2: General Information

The below questions are required of all organizations applying for ABEX Awards. *(Tip: If you are applying for multiple categories, save this information into a document for easy copy and pasting).*

Organizational Details

1. Organization Name
2. Organization Address
 - o *If head office is outside of Saskatchewan, please also include an address for your primary Saskatchewan location.*
3. City/Town
 - o *If head office is outside of Saskatchewan, please also include location of your primary Saskatchewan location.*
4. Postal Code
5. Website
6. Number of Years in Operation (as of April 1, 2025)
7. Number of Employees (as of April 1, 2025)
8. Business Number (BN)
9. Business Structure *(Select one)*
 - a) Sole Proprietorship
 - b) Partnership
 - c) Corporation
 - d) LLP/LLC



- e) Non-Profit Organization (*eligible to apply for non-profit award only*)
 - f) Charity (*not eligible for any category*)
11. Organization Description: Provide a concise overview of your business, including its core products or services, industry, unique value proposition, target audience, and mission or purpose. (*Max. 200 words*)
12. Workplace Safety:
- 1. Describe any processes your company follows to ensure a safe workplace. (*pass/fail*)
 - 2. Describe a health and safety incident from the past 12 months. Explain the actions taken to effectively address the issue and prevent recurrence. You may also include your Total Recordable Injury Frequency (TRIF) or other relevant safety statistics. (*pass/fail*)
13. How did you hear about the ABEX Awards? **Please check all that apply.*
- SCC e-newsletter
 - Local chamber of commerce
 - ABEX or SCC social media
 - Radio promotions
 - Other (please explain)

Required Attachments

- 1. High-Resolution Logo (Full Colour) (*PNG preferred*)
- 2. High-Resolution Logo (White Version) (*PNG preferred*)
- 3. Letter of Support (*Minimum of one, recommended from a client, partner, or industry association*)

Contact Information

- 1. Primary Business Contact Information (**All communications regarding the ABEX awards will be sent to this contact.*)
 - a. Name (First and Last)
 - b. Title
 - c. Email
 - d. Phone Number
- 2. President/CEO/Leadership Contact Information
 - a. Name (First and Last)
 - b. Title
 - c. Email
 - d. Phone Number

Business Demographics (Optional - For Data Collection Only)

This section is for research and reporting purposes only and will not affect the judging process.

- 1. **Does your organization identify as any of the following?** (*Select all that apply.*)
 - a. Indigenous owned (51%+ Indigenous ownership)



- b. Female-owned (51%+ owned, managed, and controlled by women)
- c. Visible Minority-owned
- d. Persons with Disabilities-owned
- e. None of the above
- f. Prefer not to disclose

Section 3: Financial Information

1. Sales revenues for the organization's last three full fiscal years.
2. Completed financial statements for the last three years. Audited financial statements are preferred.

Section 4: Finalist Video Assets

1. Please provide a 35–45-word description of your organization. If applying for multiple categories, ensure each description is tailored to the specific category. This description will be used verbatim in the video voiceover should you be selected as a finalist.
Example: "The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce is the voice of business in the province, advocating for policies that foster a thriving economy. We support businesses of all sizes by providing valuable resources, networking opportunities, and a platform for growth and success."
2. Photo Upload: Please upload a minimum of five (5) high-quality photos. These will be used in awards videos if your organization is selected as a finalist. (**Tip:** Dynamic and candid shots often work best for video montages!)

Photo Submission Guidelines:

- Provide a variety of visually appealing images that showcase your business.
- If applying for multiple categories, ensure that each set of photos is unique and relevant to the specific category.

Suggested Photos:

- Team members in action
- Products or services in use
- Your office/building (interior and exterior)
- Images that highlight key elements related to the award category you are applying for
- Any additional photos that capture the essence of your organization

Photo Requirements:

- High resolution (minimum 1920x1080 pixels)
- Clear, well-lit, and visually interesting
- No text overlays or heavy filters

AWARD SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

ABEX Community Involvement Award

1. Describe your organization's community engagement activities throughout the current reference year. Indicate the relevant category for each initiative (Arts & Culture, Amateur Sport, Education, Health Care, Volunteer Community Groups, or Other). Activities should be distinct from main organization activities. *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*
2. How does your organization support staff participation in community engagement during working hours? Provide an estimate of total staff time invested (in hours) over the past year and share examples of the types of activities included. *Suggested Word Count: 100-200 words*
3. Does your organization have a defined corporate objective in community involvement? Please provide specific examples or details regarding your organization's goals and strategies for community engagement. *Suggested Word Count: 100-150 words*
4. How does the organization measure outcomes and gauge the impact of its programs, services, or activities? Please specify the metrics used and provide results for the past two years. *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
5. What was the total expenditure by your organization on community engagement activities in the last two years? *Suggested Word Count: 50 words each*
 - a. Cash Contributions: Provide a breakdown of cash contributions made during this period.
 - b. Donations In-Kind: Specify the value and types of in-kind donations provided.

ABEX Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award

1. What motivated the organization to adapt its practices to focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives? Why is this important to the organization? *Suggested Word Count: 100-200 words*
2. Discuss any initiatives, policies, or programs aimed at creating an inclusive workplace. How does your organization foster an environment that embraces diversity and ensures equitable opportunities for all? *Suggested Word Count: 100-200 words*
3. In what ways have these initiatives been integrated into your organization culture or tie into your organization's mission? Provide examples of how diversity, equity, and inclusion are promoted and sustained within your organization. *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
4. What successes or impact have your initiatives had as it relates to your organization, and/or the community? Please explain how you measure success and include results from the metrics used. *Suggested Word Count: 200-300 words*

5. How do you involve employees in shaping and contributing to diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives within the organization? Provide examples of employee engagement and feedback mechanisms. *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*

ABEX Growth & Expansion Award (Small Business – Under 50 Employees)

1. What were your primary goals for growth or expansion? (e.g., increasing revenue, adding new locations, expanding your product/services, entering new markets). *Suggested Word Count: 100-200 words*
2. Describe the key steps you took to grow your business. Highlight specific activities, rationale, and the time frame during which these activities occurred, and how they compared to your initial goals. Please include the type(s) of growth or expansion experienced. *Suggested Word Count: 250-300 words*
3. What measurable impact has this growth had on your organization? Provide sales figures from the past three years, including percentage growth, along with other key data (e.g., market share, productivity). If applicable, note the impact on your workforce as part of your organizational growth. *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*
4. How many jobs have been created as a result of your growth? Where are these jobs located, and what actions are being taken to sustain them? *(100-150 words)*
5. In the past two years, has your business expanded beyond Saskatchewan? If so, please specify where, how, and outline any measurable impacts (e.g., national/international sales, revenue growth, job creation, market penetration). *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*
6. Outline your plans for continued growth, including how you'll navigate potential challenges. Include export goals, if applicable. *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*

ABEX Growth & Expansion Award (Medium & Large Business – 50+ Employees)

1. What were your primary goals for growth or expansion? (e.g., revenue, acquisitions, market expansion, workforce growth). *Suggested Word Count: 100-200 words*
2. What major initiatives or strategies drove your expansion? Highlight specific activities, rationale, and the time frame during which these activities occurred, and how they compared to your initial goals. Please include the type(s) of growth or expansion experienced. *Suggested Word Count: 250-300 words*
3. What measurable impact has this growth had on your organization? Provide sales figures from the past three years, including percentage growth, along with other key data (e.g., market share, productivity). If applicable, note the impact on your workforce as part of your organizational growth. *Suggested Word Count: 100-150 words*
4. How many jobs have been created as a result of your growth? Where are these jobs located, and what actions are being taken to sustain them? *Suggested Word Count: 100-150 words*

5. In the past two years, has your business expanded beyond Saskatchewan? If so, please specify where, how, and outline any measurable impacts (e.g., national/international sales, revenue growth, job creation, market penetration). *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*
6. Outline your plans for continued growth, including how you'll navigate potential challenges. Include export goals, if applicable. *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*

ABEX Innovation Award

1. Describe the innovation, highlighting its key features, functionalities, and the specific problem or need it addresses. *Suggested Word Count: 100-200 words*
2. Is the innovation unique to the organization? Provide insights into its origins and distinctive aspects setting it apart in the market. *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
3. How long has the organization been utilizing this innovation? Describe the timeline of its implementation and any notable milestones. *Suggested Word Count: 100-150 words*
4. What are the overall outcomes and achievements of the innovation relative to its intended purpose? Describe and quantify specific metrics (e.g., cost savings, increased effectiveness, new business value). *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
5. Include any additional honours, awards, recognition, accomplishments, etc. resulting from the innovation. *Suggested Word Count: 50-100 words*

***Does the innovation address any sustainability or environmental impact considerations? If yes, consider also applying for the Sustainability Leadership Award (new for 2025!)**

ABEX Marketing Award

1. Who is your target market, and how do you ensure your marketing resonates with their needs and preferences? *Suggested Word Count: 50-100 words*
2. Describe a marketing campaign you've implemented in the last three years. What made it innovative, and how did it stand out from conventional approaches? *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
3. What were the main objectives of the campaign? How did you define success, and what specific metrics did you use to measure its effectiveness? *Suggested Word Count: 50-100 words*
4. What were the results of the campaign? Share key data or outcomes (e.g., sales increase, brand awareness, customer engagement). If applicable, how did these results compare to your initial goals? *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*

5. How does this campaign fit into your overall marketing strategy? Explain how it contributes to your business's broader goals and brand vision. *Suggested Word Count: 100-150 words*
6. What marketing channels or platforms did you use, and why did you select these methods? (e.g., digital, social media, print, events, etc.) *Suggested Word Count: 50-100 words*
7. Did you develop this campaign in-house or with the help of external agencies? Briefly describe the roles of any internal teams or external partners in planning and executing the campaign. *Suggested Word Count: 50-100 words*
8. Have you received any recognition, awards, or notable accomplishments related to this campaign? *Suggested Word Count: 50 words*
9. Please attach visual examples that highlight key elements of the campaign.

ABEX New Venture Award

1. Describe the new venture's initial business plan/strategy. Outline key goals or objectives, including specific targets (sales, market expansion, job creation, etc.). *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
2. Has the organization achieved these goals? Outline the tactics used to reach these goals, and include corresponding metrics. *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
3. What investments were required to start the new venture? This may include, but is not limited to research and development, physical location, key equipment or technology. Outline their impact on the organization. *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
4. List the organization's sales for each year within the company's existence, up to a maximum of three years. Then, list the organization's sales projections for the next two years.
5. List the total number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) employees for each year within the company's existence, up to a maximum of three years. Provide a brief overview of the workforce evolution during this period. *Suggested Word Count: 50-100 words*
6. Please explain the company's long-term strategy or vision (5+ years). *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*

ABEX Non-Profit Impact Award

1. Describe your organization's mission and how it aligns with contributing to the betterment of Saskatchewan's business landscape. Please provide specific examples of your impact on the community. *Suggested Word Count: 200-300 words*
2. Share details about innovative programs or projects your organization has implemented to enhance Saskatchewan's business ecosystem. How have these initiatives demonstrated



creativity and effectiveness in addressing challenges or opportunities? *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*

3. Demonstrate how your organization actively engages with the local community. Share examples of partnerships, collaborations, or initiatives that showcase your commitment to community involvement and support. *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
4. Share specific, measurable outcomes that highlight the impact of your organization on Saskatchewan's business landscape. This could include data on job creation, economic growth, or any other quantifiable metrics that demonstrate success. *Suggested Word Count: 100-200 words*
5. Outline your organization's future plans for continuing to contribute to Saskatchewan's business environment. How do you envision building on your past successes and adapting to emerging needs and opportunities in the coming years? *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*

ABEX Service Award

1. What sets your organization's customer service apart? Briefly describe its evolution within your organization. *Suggested Word Count: 100-150 words*
2. Explain how quality customer service is integrated into your corporate strategy. *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
3. Detail the specific activities or initiatives undertaken to enhance your customer service program internally and to ensure consistency on delivery? Include any targets or goals and how they are measured. *Suggested Word Count: 200-250 words*
4. How does your organization measure and track customer satisfaction? Discuss results, proving insights into the methods, tools, or metrics used and frequency of feedback received. Share any changes made based on customer feedback. *Suggested Word Count: 100-150 words*
5. Highlight instances where your organization has been recognized for exceptional service, such as awards, accolades, or industry acknowledgments. *Suggested Word Count: 50-100 words*
6. Upload testimonials or letters showcasing your organization's commitment to customer service excellence. Please include the name of the individual providing said testimonial.

ABEX Sustainability Leadership Award

1. What are your key sustainability initiatives? Briefly describe what you've done and how it has impacted your business and the environment. *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*

2. How do you measure the success of your sustainability efforts? Share key data or examples (e.g., energy savings, waste reduction, carbon footprint improvements). *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*
3. What innovative sustainability practices or technologies has your business adopted beyond standard practices? How do these innovations go beyond typical sustainability efforts in your industry? *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*
4. How do you engage employees, customers, or the community in sustainability? Share any education, outreach, or partnerships that promote environmental responsibility. *Suggested Word Count: 150-250 words*

ABEX Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award

1. Share your vision for the future of your organization and how you plan to sustain and elevate your entrepreneurial success. Include any major goals and strategies on how to achieve them. *Suggested Word Count: 200-300 words*
2. Outline products or services offered by your organization that generate revenue. Explain how these offerings address a real need in the market. *Suggested Word Count: 50-150 words*
3. Outline the processes and resources used to develop your business idea. *Suggested Word Count: 50-150 words*
4. Identify the communities your organization serves. Describe efforts made to develop a profound understanding of clients and communities. *Suggested Word Count: 100-150 words*
5. How have you applied the concept of corporate social responsibility or ESG within your organization? Provide examples of your commitment to conducting business in an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable manner. *Suggested Word Count: 100-150 words*
6. Describe your personal leadership style and how it has evolved during your entrepreneurial journey. Highlight any specific experiences or challenges that have contributed to your professional growth. *Suggested Word Count: 100-150 words*
7. Share instances where you've demonstrated innovation and adaptability within your organization, including how you navigated challenges and embraced changes in the industry or market. Discuss specific situations where your innovative approaches helped overcome significant challenges. *Suggested Word Count: 150-200 words*
8. Highlight instances where your company has been recognized for exceptional service, such as awards, accolades, or industry acknowledgments. *Suggested Word Count: 50-100 words*



9. Provide a brief bio of the business owner(s) showcasing your entrepreneurial journey, key achievements, and your commitment to business excellence. *Suggested Word Count: 150 words*
10. Upload a headshot of the business owner(s).

ABEX Business of The Year

1. If eligible, we encourage you to be considered for the ABEX Business of the Year Award. If you wish to do so, briefly explain how your business demonstrates overall excellence, resilience, growth, and economic impact in Saskatchewan.

**The ABEX Business of the Year is selected by the ABEX Judging Panel. The judges evaluate all finalists who opt in for consideration and complete the additional question in their ABEX application. The winner is chosen based on overall excellence, resilience, growth, and economic impact in Saskatchewan. This business should be well-rounded with proven success across various aspects of business.*



JUDGING PROCESS

The 2025 ABEX Awards application deadline is April 1, 2025. Applications undergo objective third-party adjudication by an accounting firm, with potential follow-ups for additional information. Using a scoring matrix, each application is evaluated and ranked.

Once ranking is complete, applications are sent to a judging committee composed of past presidents of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce. Financial statements are not shared with the judging committee; financial information is assessed solely during third-party adjudication.

Judges review and score applications, discuss their merits, and vote to determine the top five (5) finalists in each category. If fewer than five suitable candidates are identified, a category may have fewer finalists.

Finalists will be announced in late June through a province-wide media release and on the Chamber's social media channels (Note: Be sure to follow the Chamber's ABEX specific channels, @abexawards, on Facebook and Instagram). Individual finalists will be contacted via the primary contact email provided on their application. ABEX finalists are expected to purchase tickets and attend the in-person event.

Award recipients will be announced at the ABEX Awards on September 27, 2025, in Saskatoon, SK. The **ABEX Business of the Year** is also revealed at the event. The ABEX Business of the Year is selected by the ABEX Judging Panel. The judges evaluate all finalists who opt in for consideration and complete the additional question in their ABEX application. The winner is chosen based on overall excellence, resilience, growth, and economic impact in Saskatchewan. This award is exclusive to for-profit businesses in operation in Saskatchewan for 3+ years.

Note: The special ABEX Awards (Hall of Fame, Business Leader, Community Leader, Roger Phillips Chamber Builder) are hand-selected by the judging committee.

ABEX Awards Gala 2025

ABEX Awards Gala Details

- **Date:** September 27, 2025
- **Time:** Doors open at 5:00 PM
- **Location:** TCU Place (Grand Salon), Saskatoon
- **Dress Code:** Our suggested dress code includes formal, black-tie, or cocktail attire. This year's theme draws inspiration from the beauty of golden prairie sunsets and the abundance of the autumn harvest. Guests may embrace this theme by wearing gold, amber, burgundy, or rich metallic hues.
- **Event webpage:** <https://abex.saskchamber.com/awards-gala>

QUESTIONS?

Have questions about ABEX or the application process? Contact us at events@saskchamber.com.