



Canadian Society for Chemistry | **For Our Future**  
Société canadienne de chimie | **Pour notre avenir**

## Melanie O'Neill New Investigator Award

This award is presented to a scientist residing in Canada who has made a distinguished contribution to biological chemistry or biophysical methods. Eligible candidates must have received their Ph.D. no more than 12 years prior at the time of initial nomination.

### Deadline

August 1 of every year

### Sponsor

The Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Division of the Canadian Society for Chemistry and [Simon Fraser University](#)

### Award

- A framed scroll
- \$500 cash prize
- The recipient will be invited to present an award lecture at the Canadian Chemistry Conference and Exhibition.

### Nomination Requirements

A nomination package must be submitted electronically through [Awards Force](#). Self-nominations are welcome. Documents may be submitted in English or French. The package should include the following:

- **Citation** (250 word maximum) statement of why the candidate should receive the award. This is the key document in the nomination and this information should be relevant to the achievements for which the award is being offered.
- **Biographical Sketch** (maximum one page) This provides background information on the nominee and summarizes past accomplishments. This is a summary of information obtained from a C.V.
- **Curriculum Vitae** (maximum nine pages).
- **Three Recent Publications** The publications should demonstrate the recent advance(s) for which the nomination is made and should be published within the past six years prior to the nomination.
- **EDI Statement** Nominees are encouraged to include a 1-2 page statement demonstrating actions, initiatives, or barriers they have overcome, or they have taken demonstrating their commitment to inclusive excellence in chemistry.

### Selection Criteria

- Originality, creativity, and novelty
- Scientific importance and potential impact
- Breakthrough in a particular area
- Quality and clarity of the presentation
- Contributions and commitment to EDI

### Eligibility

Eligible candidates must have received their Ph.D. no more than 12 years prior at the time of initial nomination.

An award winner must be a member in good standing to receive an award by the CSC, CIC, or CSChE. For award nominees CIC membership is encouraged but not required. Exceptions may be given in some award ToR.

Award nominees and nominators are ineligible to submit a nomination, if they have insights (or may be perceived to have insights) on the identity of the pool of nominated individuals. Ineligible nominees and nominators include the Directors for Awards of the three societies, and those serving on the respective award adjudication committees.

Members of the Boards of Directors of the CIC, CSC, or CSChE may nominate and support other nominees for any award, but they cannot be nominated for awards while serving on the respective board.

If the nominee has previously received awards by the CIC and/or Societies, the nominator must differentiate the current achievement from those that have been previously recognized.

The nomination shall remain in force for three consecutive years. Nominators are responsible for keeping the record of the nominee up to date and complete by following the resubmission [instructions](#) annually.

## Selection Committee

- CSC Director of Awards as non-voting Chair
- Member-at-Large from Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Division
- Past two winners of the Melanie O'Neill Award
- At least one member of the section committee should have a track record of experience working with EDI in chemistry.

Upon consultation with the Director of Awards, the Selection Committee may decide that the award may not be given in a particular year, for example, due to no or too few nominations that meet the criteria for the award.

The CSC strongly believes that equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) are foundational to the chemical sciences and society. For this and all our awards, we encourage applications from those who identify as members of historically underserved communities, including but not restricted to those who identify as women, Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Inuit and Métis), persons with disabilities, members of visible minority/racialized groups and members of LGBTQIA2S+ communities.