



INNOVATION AWARD – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The French-American Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest (FACC PNW) is pleased to call for nominations for the 2018 Innovation Award. This award will recognize excellence in businesses that are driving innovation and fostering French-American trade relations. Winners will be announced at the French-American Business Awards event on May 18, 2018 in Seattle. Please note that the application deadline is April 5, 2018.

Eligibility Requirements

- Applications can be submitted directly by the applicant. New this year, applications can be submitted on the behalf of the nominee, with their permission.
- Qualifying companies must have a presence in Washington, Oregon or Idaho, regardless of their country of incorporation or origin.
- Applicant must have a connection with France or the Francophone community.
- The product or service that is the focus of the Innovation Award must have been launched on or after January 1, 2013 and must be current/valid during the application process (Feb - May 2018).

Evaluation Criteria for the Innovation Award

- Innovation of the project or the product (how revolutionary is the project or product)
- Risk taking / merit of the applicant (extent of involvement/aid of third parties)
- Specific and measurable outcomes (facts or figures related to the project or product)
- Impact of the innovation or compelling idea (qualitative outcomes).
- Effect on the local community and the Pacific Northwest (employment, business, reputation)
- Presentation of significant benefits, addressing of market needs, or creation of new markets.
- Recentness of the innovation (priority given to more recent developments)

Nomination Process & Key Dates

- Applications will be reviewed by an Honors Selection Committee (jury) composed of experts representing various economic sectors, including representatives from presenting sponsors.
- The deadline for receipt of the applications is April 5, 2018.
- Finalists will be informed of their nomination status during the week of May 1, 2018.
- Winners will be announced at the French-American Business Awards (FABA) event on Friday, May 18, 2018 at the Rainier Club in downtown Seattle.

Benefits for Finalists

- Finalists will be featured on the FACC PNW website for a period of one year.
- Program information will be featured on social media (Facebook, Twitter) prior to the event.
- Dedicated FABA event website will present finalists' achievements prior to the event.
- Presentation of the company in the June issue of the FACC PNW's newsletter, *La Dépêche*.

Benefits for the Winner

- The winner will have the opportunity to make a short presentation at the awards event on May 18, 2018. This is usually three minutes and can include PPT or video formats.
- The winner will have the opportunity to participate in special networking events facilitated by the FACC PNW.
- The winner will enjoy a one-year promotion on the FACC PNW website, including 1) award webpage, 2) a block ad (300 x 250 pixels) on the FACC PNW website, 3) presentation of the winner on the main page and up to three follow-up articles during the year (featured on the main page).
- Interview in the FACC PNW newsletter *La Dépêche*.
- Social media postings (Facebook, Twitter) after the event.
- Dedicated e-mail to FACC PNW database presenting the winning company after the event.
- Quarter-page ad in the program of the following year's FABA event.

Disclaimers

- Information contained in the application will be used solely for the purpose of the award evaluation.
- Applicants consent to their name and logo being published in marketing materials associated with the event.
- Finalist companies will arrange to send a minimum of one representative to the French-American Business Awards Pacific Northwest Ceremony on May 18, 2018 at the Rainier Club in Seattle.

Application Format

- Applications can be submitted via the online form provided by FACC PNW. Click [here](#) for the survey link, complete the form, and then "Submit." (A preview of the form's questions are on the next page of this document.)
- Questions about the process can be sent via email at info@faccpnw.org or call 206.443.4703.
- The deadline for nominee applications is Friday, April 5, 5pm PST.



INNOVATION AWARD - APPLICATION FORM

Complete the application online – click [here](#).

Thank you very much for your interest in submitting you/ your company as nominees for the FABA 2018 Innovation Award. This award will recognize excellence in businesses that are driving innovation and fostering French-American trade relations. Winners will be announced at the French-American Business Awards event on May 18, 2018 in Seattle. Please reply as fully as possible to the questions below. Dates to note: The application deadline is April 5. Notification of finalists will take place on May 1, and the awards ceremony will take place on May 18 at the Rainier Club in downtown Seattle.

1. Enter your contact information/the contact information of the nominee: name, title/company (if applicable), address, email, phone). our contact information (name, title, company, address, email, phone).
2. Describe your company's mission, history and business sector/focus.
3. Number of employees in the states of Washington, Oregon or Idaho, and in France (as applicable):
4. Provide a general description of the innovation, product, project or service that is the focus of the award nomination. Include - as applicable - information on budgets, headcount, grants, investments, launch date/timelines and target market(s).
5. What is the problem that the innovation solves? How is it helping the client/user company? In what ways is the solution viewed as innovative in its approach, application or utilization?
6. Describe the measurable outcomes and successes resulting from the innovation in terms sales, revenue, number of users, improvement rate, or results.
7. Describe the impact on the Pacific Northwest community, if applicable. This could include impacts on job creation, links with other companies in the region, or solutions to specific needs or issues within the region.
8. Please describe you/your company's ties with France/Francophonie or our region's French/Francophone community.
9. Please add any other information that you'd like to be taken into consideration during the nomination evaluation process. Feel free to include links/URLs to supporting

information. (Optionally, if you would like to submit files in Word, PDF, PNG, video or other formats, please send those files as email attachments to info@faccpnw.org.)