

2026 ANSM Award Citation

The Association of Nova Scotia Museums is excited to present the Awards for Excellence in Museum Practices program for the fourteenth consecutive year.

The Association accepts nominations in two awards categories—Individual Contribution, and Programming by an Organization. This year, ANSM was able to give out two awards at our 2026 Conference in the Individual Contribution category to Katie Tanner (Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame) and Pauline MacLean (Highland Village).

The Award of Excellence in Museum Practices, Individual Contribution acknowledges remarkable contributions by a museum professional (volunteer or paid) to a better knowledge of Nova Scotia's human or natural history. ANSM is pleased to present this award to two individuals this year, Pauline MacLean and Katie Tanner.

Pauline MacLean

Pauline MacLean is the recipient of the ANSM Award for Excellence in Museum Practices – Individual Contribution, in recognition of an extraordinary 39-year career at Baile nan Gàidheal | Highland Village Museum and her enduring contribution to the preservation, documentation and understanding of Nova Scotia's Gaelic heritage. As Manager of Collections and Genealogy, Pauline has dedicated nearly four decades to the stewardship of Highland Village's collections, archives and genealogical resources. Her knowledge of the collections, documentary record, family histories and communities they represent has also helped shape the development of Highland Village itself. As the museum has grown in its physical footprint, interpretation and programming, Pauline has contributed to the planning of facilities, exhibits, collections spaces and interpretive initiatives, helping ensure that this growth remains grounded in the history and lived experiences of Nova Scotia Gaels.

Katie Tanner

Katie Tanner is the recipient of the ANSM Award for Excellence in Museum Practices – Individual Contribution. Katie is currently the Museums and Communications Manager at the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame, playing an instrumental role in bringing the newly renovated Sport Hall of Fame to life. Aside from her 16 years of dedicated service at the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame, Katie has spent 8 years on the ANSM board as Secretary, Treasurer, and President. She has been secretary of the Cultural Federation of NS and also sits on the board of the Canadian Association for Sport Heritage as VP and will be joining the board of the International Sports Heritage Association. Katie has dedicated her life to the Heritage industry, and she has left a lasting impression wherever she has been.

Congratulations to both Katie Tanner and Pauline MacLean on their worthy receipt of these awards!