



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY: Skills for Change hosts the 26th annual Pioneers or Change fundraiser gala. Nominations in eight categories are now open for this prestigious ceremony.

Toronto, On. January 15, 2017 – ASPIRE. LEAD. BUILD. CONTRIBUTE. For 26 years, Skills for Change has been celebrating the achievements of Canadian immigrants through the Pioneers for Change fundraiser gala. This year's theme, *Aspire. Build. Lead. Contribute.*, will honour those immigrants who dreamed to make a difference, and are now an inspiration to new Canadians to help them make their vision into reality.

BACKGROUND

Pioneers for Change (PfC) is Skills for Change's annual fundraiser to raise awareness around the issues that newcomers face when arriving in Canada. PfC represents the vision of a diverse & inclusive Canada. It is an ongoing commitment to identify the achievements of immigrants as well as break down barriers so that newcomers not only succeed, but thrive.

WHO ARE PIONEERS FOR CHANGE?

They ASPIRE to have their newcomer stories told.

They are nation BUILDers.

They LEAD in their industry, and inspire newcomers to work towards their own success.

They make lasting CONTRIBUTIONS.

NOMINATE A PIONEER TODAY!

We continue to celebrate the achievements of newcomers, while raising funds for newcomer programming. This year we will honour immigrants in the following categories: Arts, Women in Leadership, Innovation, Innovation (Southwestern Ontario), Youth, Community Engagement, Entrepreneurship and Social Impact. Nominations are open Canada-wide.

Do you know someone who champions the role of immigration in securing Canada's prosperity? Who is demonstrating the limitless potential of immigrants? Who has an incredible impact in building prosperous, vibrant communities in Canada? If so tell us about them!

Please [click here](#) to access the nomination form.

Submission Deadline: Monday, January 22nd

Previous PfC award recipients include Cameron Bailey (Artistic Director of TIFF), the Hon. Adrienne Clarkson (former Governor General of Canada), Mohamad Fakhri (owner & CEO of Paramount Fine Foods) & Ananya Mukherjee-Reed (Dean of the Faculty of Arts, York University).

www.pioneersforchange.ca

Hashtag: #pioneers2018

For over 35 years Skills for Change has supported the integration and well-being of immigrants and refugees in Canada. For more information on us please visit www.skillsforchange.org.

Twitter: @SkillsforChange

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SkillsforChange/>

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