

## Voting Rules and Regulations

The Saskatchewan Country Music Association has authorized the presentation of Awards in the twenty-six categories. Only one award will be presented in each category. The winners of the S.C.M.A. awards are chosen by the combined votes of all eligible members of the SCMA and a 5-member impartial jury.

### Selection Procedures

First Ballot: Each eligible member of the S.C.M.A. may propose only one contender in each category. **The 11 major award nominees must be chosen from the included compiled list of eligible nominees.** The five contenders receiving the most mentions by the jury, in each category, will appear on the Final Ballot as Nominees, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the S.C.M.A. Awards Verification Committee.

### Eligibility Requirements

All nominees must have established residency in Saskatchewan. Nominees are required to be members of the Saskatchewan Country Music Association. At least 50% of a group, or acts members, must have resided in Saskatchewan at some time during the eligibility period. The same applies when two or more people are nominated in a category, such as Record producer. Participation in balloting is limited to voting members of the S.C.M.A. in good standing as of April 30. Voting rules may be subject to change at the discretion of the S.C.M.A. Board of Directors.

The Eligibility Period for all award categories is from January 1 to December 31 each year. In categories involving a record or release, the recording must have been first released during the eligibility period.

A ballot containing a nomination in the wrong category will be considered a spoiled category. Due to security procedures established, it will not be possible to issue duplicate ballots. **TO BE COUNTED, VOTES MUST BE MADE USING THE OFFICIAL BALLOT.**

Since ballots are emailed to the last email address provided by the member, the SCMA then considers the member to have received it. It is not necessary for you to complete all categories on your ballot.

## Clarification of Voting Procedures

In response to questions raised regarding voting procedures, the SCMA Board of Directors offers these answers to frequently asked questions about ballots, voting, and security.

- Ballots are sent out electronically via SurveyMonkey to the email provided by the eligible member. Only one submission is allowed per member. The SCMA knows who was sent a ballot. However, the ballots are only received by the Accountant, not the SCMA. No member of the SCMA knows whom each member voted for.
- When tabulation of the 1<sup>st</sup> ballots is completed by the Accountant, the list of the top ten nominees, in no particular order, are returned to the Verification Committee. Should any of the nominees not meet eligibility requirements as set out in the Voting Rules and Regulations, the Accountant would supply the name of the next nominee.
- While the Verification Committee is checking the eligibility of each nominee, it may be necessary to contact other members of the music industry to determine such details as album release dates, authorship of songs, production credits, etc. At no time is the perceived quality of the nominee's work discussed. If there are production or song writing credits under current dispute with SOCAN or any other registering agency, and documentation is provided, the nominee will be disallowed, should the award need to be presented to a person in dispute. For example, if a song is nominated for Single of the Year and Song of the Year, but the composer is under dispute, the song would still be eligible for Single of the Year since that award goes to the artist who recorded it. It would not be eligible for Song of the Year since the award goes to the composer, who is under dispute.
- A panel of 5 jurors from across Canada will adjudicate nomination submissions and select the final five nominees in each of the below categories. The judges are balanced geographically to represent the country music industry across the country. Judges review the music independently without deliberating with other members of the jury to allow for objective decisions to be made without influence from other sources.
  - Female Vocalist
  - Male Vocalist
  - Group of the Year
  - Song of the Year
  - Country Gospel Album of the Year
  - Album of the Year
  - Emerging Artist
  - Video of the Year
  - Aboriginal Artist of the Year
  - Roots Artist of the Year
  - Roots Album of the Year

\* Final voting results for the above categories are weighted between SCMA members (60%) and jury members (40%).

\*\* All other categories are voting solely by SCMA members.

- The final ballots are sent out electronically via SurveyMonkey to the email provided by the eligible member. Only one submission is allowed per member.
- The names of the winners of each category are sealed and not opened until the Award presentation. Ballots are destroyed after the Award ceremony.

Please address any inquiries or concerns to:

**The Awards Verification Committee  
C/O SCMA  
P.O. Box 26035 Lawson Heights  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 8C1  
(306) 978-7262**

## Split Categories

Effective January 24, 2010, in an effort to reflect the growth of the Saskatchewan country music scene and to more emulate the standards and policy of the Canadian Country Music Association (C.C.M.A.), the Saskatchewan Country Music Association (S.C.M.A.) split the radio-related SCMA Award categories into Major and Secondary market awards.

The split reflects the C.C.M.A.'s awards structure; however, while the C.C.M.A. splits the markets at 250,000 persons per the 2006 Canadian Census, the S.C.M.A. will use the 20,000 mark. The 20,000 level will see a balance among stations in the Major and Secondary Market category. Like all award categories, to be eligible for an award, each station will be required to hold a current S.C.M.A. membership.

The categories to be split into Major and Secondary Markets include; Station of the Year, On Air Personality, and Music Director.

<b>The “Major Market” stations will potentially include (in order by population, subject to membership):</b>	
Saskatoon	CJWW 600 (600 AM)
Saskatoon	92.9 The Bull (92.9 FM)
Regina	620 CKRM (620 AM)
Regina	Big Dog 92.7 (92.7 FM)
Regina	91.3 F CJTR Regina’s Community Radio
Prince Albert	Today’s Country 900 CKBI (900 AM)
Moose Jaw	Country 100 FM (100.7 FM)

<b>The Secondary Market stations will potentially include (in order by population, subject to membership):</b>	
Yorkton	GX94 (940 AM)
Swift Current	CKSW 570 (570 AM)
North Battleford	CJNB 1050 (1050 AM)
Estevan	CJ1280 (1280 AM)
Weyburn	AM1190 (1190 AM)
Melfort	FM Country CJVR (105.1FM)

## **Saskatchewan Country Music Association Awards Category Descriptions**

### **Category 1: Fans Choice Entertainer (s) of the Year (all members vote)**

This award is given to the act, (solo, vocal collaboration or group) displaying the greatest competence in all aspects of the entertainment field. Voters should give consideration to live performance, public acceptance, staging, leadership qualities, good attitude, and overall contribution to enhance the Saskatchewan Country Music image.

### **Category 2: Female Artist of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award is based upon individual performance, either on recording or in person. Feature vocalists and instrumentalists are both eligible. This award goes to the artist.

### **Category 3: Male Artist of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award is based upon individual performance, either on recording or in person. Feature vocalists and instrumentalists are both eligible. This award goes to the artist.

### **Category 4: Group of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

A group is defined as an act composed of two or more people (duos, trios, quartets, etc.). Instrumental groups are eligible. The difference between a group and an individual performer (female or male recording artist) is: John Doe and the Sodbusters qualify John Doe in the Male vocalist category ONLY, and the Sodbusters in the Back-Up Band category, ONLY. At least 50% of the group must hold valid SCMA memberships.

### **Category 5: Aboriginal Artist of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award will recognize a group of aboriginal musicians or a single aboriginal artist who display the greatest competence in all aspects of the entertainment field. Voters should give consideration to live performance, public acceptance, staging, leadership qualities, good attitude and overall contribution to enhance the Saskatchewan Country Music image. In a nominated band, 50% of the members must be of Aboriginal or Métis decent as described in The Indian Act

### **Category 6: Song of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award goes to the composer(s). On collaboration, at least one of the writers must have resided in Saskatchewan at some point during the eligibility period. Only one artist may submit the song. The song must have been released during the eligibility period as a single or on an album. Voters should give consideration to lyrics, music, and public acceptance of the song.

### **Category 7: Single of the Year (No voting for this category)**

This award is for a Single. Tracks from albums or compilation volumes are acceptable. The single must have been released during the eligibility period. Artists submit their eligibility to the Verification Committee and the winner is determined by the number of spins tracked by Mediabase.

### **Category 8: Album of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award goes to the individual, duo or group. The recording must have been released during the eligibility period. Submissions for this category are not eligible for other album categories. The Award goes to the act.

**Category 9: Video of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award will recognize an original audio and video production released during the eligibility period. It must feature only one artist or group from Saskatchewan, and be no more than ten minutes in length. Only one artist may submit eligibility on a collaboration. The Video of the Year will go to the Artist or group.

**Category 10: Country Gospel Album of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award is given to the individual, duo, or group. The recording must have been released during the eligibility period. The recording must be 1/3 Christian and/or gospel lyric content. The award is given to the act. The recording must have been released during the eligibility period. Submissions for this category are not eligible for other album categories.

**Category 11: Emerging Artist Award (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This category is open only to those artists who have never before won an SCMA award in categories 1 through 8 inclusive, and have never been nominated more than twice for the Rising Star Award in the past. Nominees in this category are also eligible to be nominated in other categories in the same year. This award goes to the artist.

**Category 12: Roots Artist of the Year (Participating & Corporate members only)**

This Award is given to a Roots Act whose music is based on traditional country styles, but is different from what is considered mainstream country within the eligibility period. If winner is a Group/Duo, one Award is presented to each core member of the Group/Duo. The Act must be a Saskatchewan resident. Within a Group or Duo at least 50% of the members must be a Saskatchewan resident

**Category 13: Roots Album of the Year (Participating & Corporate members only)**

This award is given to the individual, duo, or group. This Award is given to a Roots Act whose music is based on traditional country styles, but is different from what is considered mainstream country within the eligibility period. The recording must have been released during the eligibility period. Submissions for this category are not eligible for other album categories.

**Category 14: All Star Band of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award recognizes six (6) individual instrumentalists on recording or on stage. One award is presented for each of the following: Guitar, Bass, Drums, Keyboards, Fiddle and Specialty.

**Category 15: On Air Personality of the Year – Major Market (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award goes to the individual on air that has made a significant contribution to promote Saskatchewan Country Music. Consideration should be given to public acceptance of the person. See page 4 for potentially qualified stations, subject to approval. Nominee must hold a valid personal SCMA membership to qualify.

**Category 16: On Air Personality of the Year – Secondary Market (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award goes to the individual on air that has made a significant contribution to promote Saskatchewan Country Music. Consideration should be given to public acceptance of the person. See page 4 for potentially qualified stations, subject to approval. Nominee must hold a valid personal SCMA membership to qualify.

**Category 17: Music Director of the Year – Major Market (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award goes to the Music Director of a radio station in Saskatchewan. The individual should have made a significant contribution to maintain and to promote Saskatchewan country music on the air. See page 4 for potentially qualified stations, subject to approval. Nominee must hold a valid personal SCMA membership to qualify.

**Category 18: Music Director of the Year – Secondary Market (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award goes to the Music Director of a radio station in Saskatchewan. The individual should have made a significant contribution to maintain and to promote Saskatchewan country music on the air. See page 4 for potentially qualified stations, subject to approval. Nominee must hold a valid personal SCMA membership to qualify.

**Category 19: Radio Station of the Year – Major Market (all members vote)**

This award goes to the Saskatchewan Radio Station that has contributed substantially to the exposure of Saskatchewan country music artists and/or composers. Consideration should be given to the stations overall contribution to promote, encourage, develop, and enhance Saskatchewan country music. See page 4 for potentially qualified stations, subject to approval.

**Category 20: Radio Station of the Year – Secondary Market (all members vote)**

This award goes to the Saskatchewan Radio Station that has contributed substantially to the exposure of Saskatchewan country music artists and/or composers. Consideration should be given to the stations overall contribution to promote, encourage, develop, and enhance Saskatchewan country music. See page 4 for potentially qualified stations, subject to approval.

**Category 21: Manager of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award goes to the Manager of a Saskatchewan individual, duo, or group (one or more of these) who has contributed significantly to the success of his/her artist(s) in the field of country music.

**Category 22: Record Producer(s) of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award goes to the Saskatchewan Record Producer(s) who has produced a recording which was released during the eligibility period.

**Category 23: Recording Studio of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award goes to the recording studio. The firm must have a valid business license and an operating facility in this province during the eligibility period.

**Category 24: Country Music Person of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award recognizes the volunteer who has given significantly of his/her time and talents “behind the scenes” to support, encourage, expand and build the Saskatchewan Country Music industry.

**Category 25: TV or Radio Show of the Year (Participating & Corporate members vote)**

This award is presented to the Director and Producer of the show. If the show is a special event, the show must have been broadcasted in Saskatchewan for the first time during the current eligibility period. If the show is a series, it must have been recorded and broadcasted during the current eligibility period. Consideration should be given to the amount of air time our Saskatchewan artists, and the promotion country music events in Saskatchewan, received; and their general commitment to country music in Saskatchewan and the SCMA.

**Category 26: Nightclub of the Year Award of Merit**

The Club of the Year Award of Merit will recognize a Saskatchewan Nightclub that has contributed significantly to the promotion of the country music industry in Saskatchewan. Consideration should be given to the percentage of Saskatchewan acts the club has employed, promotion of artists outside the club, sponsorship of Saskatchewan country music events and the commitment to country music in Saskatchewan and the SCMA. This award is determined by the Board of Directors based on 1<sup>st</sup> ballot nominations and submission from Nightclubs.

*Voting rules may be subject to change at the discretion of the S.C.M.A. Board of Directors.*