**2018 BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD NOMINATION PROCESS**

Award nominations may be submitted by representatives from any company/organization to Prospera Business Network. Please complete and submit the two-page form below.

You are encouraged to self-nominate, or to collaborate with your nominee on the nomination details. Multiple award nominations are welcome; please submit separate forms for each nomination. Award finalists in each category will be notified in early to mid-September. Winners in each category will be announced during the awards program the evening of the event, Friday, November 9th, 2018. Winners must be present at the event, or agree to arrange for a representative to attend on their behalf.

**Nomination form and letter must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Friday, August 31, 2018**

Nomination form can be submitted via a web form at: [prosperaMT.org/events/awards](http://prosperaMT.org/events/awards)

Contact Chrissie Majewski with any questions regarding the event or nomination submissions. 406.587.3113 or cmajewski@prosperaMT.org

**AWARD CATEGORIES**

**INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR:** A business or individual recognized for creating new, innovative, sustainable, or value-added products or services, or an innovative business model. Measurements could include value-added agriculture, manufacturing, or technology products, and any innovative programs or services, including proprietary programs within the business.

**ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR:** An individual recognized for exceptional performance with their early-stage business. The nominee(s) must have primary responsibility for the recent performance of the company.

**(NEW!)** MONTANA WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE: A man or woman business owner or company recognized for exceptional leadership and performance as a Champion of the WBC and the small business community. Advocates for the WBC, their programs, trainings and overall mission.

**ECONOMIC LEADERSHIP AWARD:** An individual leader (from government, non-profit or business) who has made a significant contribution to the economic development of our area.

**BUSINESS OF THE YEAR:** An established business (in business for five or more years) recognized for its significant contribution to the economic development of our area.