The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme: Anthony von Mandl

Privilege to help youth

Do you feel that it is important for the community to engage with young people? 

VON MANL: As a business leader, you have a responsibility to give back to the community. The Award opens doors for the community and it serves as a bridge to connect in a meaningful way. Our involvement means we are able to make a positive contribution by helping to improve the lives of people—of all ages—who live in the local communities in which we operate our workforce and live.

The Charter for Business has a major and continuous impact on young people. It is important to you? 

VON MANL: This aspect of the program carries a significant weight as it supports youth business-partnership as a real opportunity. Funded by business, the Award is a great tool to help young people put forward their ideas and explore directions by involving at-risk youth and corporate sponsors as mentors—as well as their families and their communities. The impact of the Award programs to engage these young people and provide personal experiences that will make a real difference as an adult in their life. The executive and individual partners of The Duke of Edinburgh Group of Companies is privileged to be a chartering business in this program and to support all participants' personal best.

About the Award

*The Award transforms not only the young people who participate, but also the communities they live in. It empowers young people and young people with disabilities.

Peter Melanson, National President of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is an exciting personal challenge for any young person, regardless of background or circumstances. It promotes competitive programme of voluntary, personal and social development. The Award consists of four parts: personal and social development, adventure, physical recreation and service to the community.

Since it began in 1956, The Award has been one of the world's most successful youth programmes, affecting millions of young people..toString()

The Award's personal and social development is the highest accolade a young person can achieve, and as many as 3,000 participants every year.

How does the Award Work?

Any young person aged 14 to 25 can participate regardless of their circumstances or abilities.

The criteria for achieving an Award are based upon individual effort and personal commitment. To achieve an Award, each participant must complete four sections:

- Physical Recreation
- Service to the Community
- Personal and Social Development
- Adventurous Journey

Skills developed through pursuing and persisting in a sport, developing creativity and personal discovery.

Physical recreation promotes good health and a sense of achievement and satisfaction.

Adventure juvenile cultivates a spirit of adventure, teamwork, and an appreciation of the environment. The values are: bravery, silver and gold. Young people participate either as individuals or through organizations such as schools, police, youth and sports groups.

The Charter for Business

A partnership between The Award and the Canadian business community, the Charter for Business was created in 1996 to help expand the Award's work with disadvantaged young people. Some 50 corporations and individuals have become Founding Partners of the Charter, pledging over $3 million to support the Charter's initiatives. 

The Charter for Business offers a way for young people to learn life skills that will prepare them for future success.

Leaving it all behind and leaving it all behind

After eight months, Karin Gornich, chairman of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award for Canada, and Anthony von Mandl, co-founder of The Von Mandl Group, tie their Adventurous Journey. They have completed four sections: personal and social development, adventure, physical recreation and service to the community.

About Anthony von Mandl

Dr. Anthony von Mandl was born in 1939 in Vienna, Austria. He received his medical degree (M.D.) from the University of Vienna in 1961 and his Ph.D. in human nutrition from the Medical Research Council in London in 1962.

He has served as president and chief executive officer of the Von Mandl Group since 1967. In 1982, he was named president and chief executive officer of James Richardson & Sons Limited. In 1985, he was appointed chairman of James Richardson & Sons Limited and the James Richardson Foundation. In 1986, he was named a member of the Order of Canada. In 1989, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada. In 1992, he was named a Companion of the Order of Canada.

Mr. von Mandl was appointed to the board of directors of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in 2001 and served as chairman of the board from 2003 to 2007. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Canadian Foundation for Innovation.

Anthony von Mandl was a member of both the Order of Canada and the Royal Victorian Order (E.D.). He is a past president of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and a past president of the Canadian Medical Association.

Mr. von Mandl has been a member of the Board of Governors of the University of Victoria since 1996 and is a past president of the Board of Governors of the University of Victoria.

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