



Tony Zasada Memorial Fund

Tony Zasada joined the Regina Rowing Club in 1978 at the age of 15. He was not doing a lot that summer, so his mother suggested that he join the canoe club on Wascana Lake. Tony went down to the lake, and unfortunately for the canoe club but fortunately for rowing, he went to the wrong club.

Tony's rowing skills developed very quickly, and within a couple of years he was a Canadian and Henley medal winner. In 1982 he headed off to the University of Victoria where he rowed in their varsity program for several years. By 1983 Tony had made his way to the Canadian National Rowing Team, receiving a bronze medal in the eight at the Pan American Games in Venezuela. In 1984, he was named to the coxed pair at the Los Angeles Olympic Games, where he and his crewmates, Harold Backer and Tan Barkley, came 5th in a field of 22. Five days after returning from the Games, Tony was killed by a drunk driver in a car accident.

In 2009 Tony, along with his crewmates, was inducted posthumously into the University of Victoria Sports Hall of Fame.

To commemorate Tony's life and his contributions to Canadian rowing, the Saskatchewan Rowing Association, Rowing Canada Aviron, and the Zasada family established The Tony Zasada Memorial Award, offering the first award in 1985. **This \$2000 award is provided annually to an athlete who best emulates Tony's character and determination.** Many of Canada's National Team and Olympic Rowing Team members are former award recipients. This year marks the award's 41st anniversary.

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

To be eligible for this award, applicants must be registered members with a Canadian Rowing Club and Rowing Canada Aviron (RCA). National carded athletes are not eligible.

This award is presented annually and is considered a "one time only award." The following factors are considered in determining the final award recipient (not in priority order):

- Athlete performance
- Athlete's stated goals
- Need
- Personal qualities
- Contributions made to club and/or association

Selection of the Award winner is determined by:

Mr. Adam Zasada - Zasada Family Representative
Dr. Dave Millar - Past President, Saskatchewan Rowing Association
Mr. Bob Ellard - Past President, RCA and Saskatchewan Rowing Association

Tony Zasada Memorial Fund Application Form

Personal			
M	☐	F	☐
Name:			
Address:			
Telephone:			
Email Address:			
RCA Registration #:			
RCA Club Affiliation:			

History of Oarsperson				
Year	Club Affiliation	Crew(s)	Coach	Regatta Results

References
Please provide the names, phone numbers and/or email addresses of people (maximum of three) who may be contacted by the Tony Zasada Memorial Fund for references on your character, athletic accomplishments and/or other pertinent details.

Education and Career Summary

Please indicate your education and/or career pursuits and accomplishments in the past five (5) years.

Personal Statement

Each applicant may include a personal statement as to why they are deserving of this award. This personal statement may not exceed one 8 1/2" x 11" page.

Deadline for Applications

All applications shall be sent via e-mail to:

Mr. Bob Ellard

ATTENTION: TONY ZASADA MEMORIAL FUND

E-mail: bob@ellarddesign.ca

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 2ND, 2026