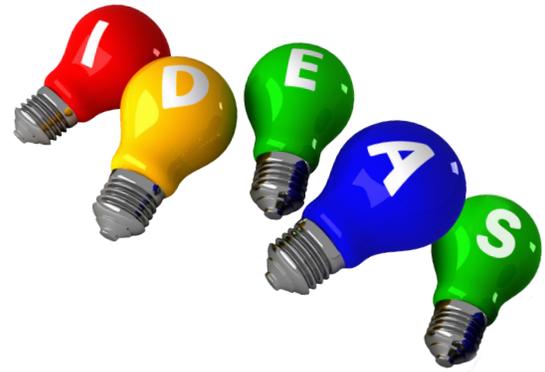


# 10 LESSONS LEARNED FROM WINNING AWARDS



- 1. Humility.** There is no experience more humbling than the acute awareness that many very deserving people – perhaps your colleagues and personal friends – weren't the award recipients. This may puzzle you (and others) for the rest of your life. Accept that not everyone will agree with the decision – acknowledge their perspectives and learn from them. Either win them over, work with them graciously despite differences, or let them go.
- 2. People are watching.** Some awards or nominations are totally unexpected. Influential decision-makers may be observing (and interpreting/judging) your actions from afar.
- 3. Do the best you can . . . always.** Related to Lesson 2, a consistent pattern of excellence and a commitment to continuous improvement both count!
- 4. Stay visible.** Also related to Lesson 2. Although you may consistently do amazing work, award committees or nominators may be unaware of it. Presentations, publications, and professional service contribute to others knowing about your work.
- 5. Be true to your vision.** Know your professional purpose and relentlessly pursue it. This is a lifelong mission – make the world a better place.
- 6. Be generous.** Freely share your talents, gifts, and connections through modelling, mentorship, and money.
- 7. Set aspirational goals . . . not for personal gain but to grow your profession.** Award-winning leaders may be given opportunities to influence.
- 8. Be patient.** Awards typically reflect a history of achievement. Hard work or significant professional accomplishments may not be acknowledged “in the moment.”
- 9. Be appreciative.** Count your blessings. Many, many people contribute to your success. Acknowledge that – and them – every chance you get.
- 10. Inspire others.** Your award may open doors; use your position of privilege with grace and dignity, to advocate for significant change.



Read about Dr. Roberta Neault's Gold Medal and Diamond Pin for Leadership in Career Development at: [www.lifestrategies.ca/docs/RobertaCitation.pdf](http://www.lifestrategies.ca/docs/RobertaCitation.pdf)

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