

THE WARKENTIN PRIZE - 2026

Deadline for application: **February 6, 2026**

Deadline for optional letter(s) of reference: **February 13, 2026**

Dr. Benno P. Warkentin professed that human society co-evolved in harmony with the vital soil. His passion, convictions and actions were an inspiration to all. He documented and stated that human development and progress was shaped by understanding, working with, and caring for the soil. He was passionate and convinced that knowing the science of soil would ensure the future of human society. His works were a testament to his passion –

FOOTPRINTS in the SOIL: People and Ideas in Soil History

The Warkentin Prize is in recognition of his vision and passion. Dr. Benno P. Warkentin was an international scholar, teacher, and mentor in the field of soil science. He believed that young scientists should publish their findings as a means to advance the science of soil and to recognize the contribution that soil science research continues to make towards human welfare. A prize of **\$750** has been established to recognize an outstanding recent graduate or current student who has published a refereed article or graduate thesis in the field of Soil Science.

The Warkentin Prize is awarded by the Faculty of Land and Food Systems at the University of British Columbia on recommendation of the PRSSS.



The application deadline for this award is

February 6, 2026

11:59 p.m. Pacific Time

Optional Letters of Reference will be accepted until

February 13, 2026

Students who meet the eligibility requirements may apply directly for this award or can be nominated by a PRSSS or CSSS member. Eligibility is as follows:

1. The applicant or nominee must be currently enrolled in or graduated in the past two years from a full-time graduate program at a British Columbia post-secondary institution in the area of soil science
2. The applicant or nominee must be a current PRSSS member
3. Previous recipients of the award are not eligible for subsequent awards
4. The PRSSS accepts nominations from PRSSS and CSSS members

Application or Nomination Requirements

Applicants or nominees must submit via our awards form which can be found at this link: <https://forms.gle/xVegfb4vvvorHp4e8>

If you have technical challenges with your submission, email prssawards@gmail.com

Please gather the following information in order to submit:

1. Name of nominator (if appropriate) OR name of applicant and contact information
2. Name of student, institution attended, and most recent degree
3. Copy of **published article or thesis** for evaluation
 - o Only **one** article or thesis may be submitted
 - o If the article is multi-authored, provide a clear statement of the student's contribution
 - o Peer-reviewed publications that have been accepted, peer-reviewed publications in press, and graduate theses are all eligible. However, preference will be given to peer-reviewed publications.
4. A clear statement of the student's contribution to a specific area of soil science.
5. A brief statement outlining the significance of the research to the public.

An applicant or nominee may also choose to submit up to two letters of support. Please note that these are not required but may be used to differentiate candidates of equal ranking in the application process.

6. A maximum of two letters of support (preferred but not required), sent directly by referees to prssawards@gmail.com

The PRSSS Awards Committee may request a Proof of Enrolment or Program Completion Letter from the applicant/nominee. This document must be submitted upon request.