



On 7 June, Consul General Vasilije Petkovic and President of the Serbian Cultural and Educational Community Zivorad Ajdacic delivered Golden Badges and Charters to the meritorious individuals and Serbian diaspora organizations in Canada, on the premises of the Consulate General of the Republic of Serbia in Toronto.

The Serbian Cultural and Educational Community in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture and Media awards every year Golden Badges to individuals and Charters to organizations having contributed with their work to the preservation and dissemination of Serbian culture and tradition abroad.

The 2019 Golden Badge recipients included president of SCA "Oplenac" and "Stara Raska" humanitarian organization Dragana Varaklic, artistic director and conductor of "Kir Stefan Srbin" Choir Jasmina Vucurovic, writer and charity worker Gordana Petkovic-Lakovic, historian and essayist Dr. Rajko Ray Radojevic, and mechanical engineer and aid worker Vojislav Zikic. Charters were also awarded to the Academy of Serbian Folk Dancing Association and "Novine", a weekly coming out in Toronto in Serbian language and Cyrillic script. The special Vuk Karadzic Award went to Toronto's writers association "Desanka Maksimovic".

Consul General Vasilije Petkovic stressed that the Serbian diaspora in Ontario and Canada today stood for one of the most important and best-organized communities abroad with a multitude of culture and art as well as sports associations and humanitarian organizations, each of them in their own way observing, preserving and promoting the fundamental national values.

Zivorad Ajdacic, President of the Serbian Cultural and Educational Community, said that the Serbian community in Ontario and Canada which received most of the awards this year only testified to its great efforts, perseverance and devotion to the Serbian motherland.

The event was covered by RTS correspondents in Canada, Ontario News daily and weekly and Toronto Television.