



## **Pru Goward**

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Medical Research

Assistant Minister for Health

Minister for Women

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Tuesday, November 10, 2015**

### **NOMINATE YOUR 2016 WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

Minister for Women Pru Goward has today called on the community to nominate outstanding women for the 2016 NSW Women of the Year Awards.

Ms Goward said the Awards celebrate remarkable and inspiring women and the contributions they make in NSW.

“Every day women of all ages across NSW make immense and valuable contributions to their community, and these annual awards are our opportunity to publically acknowledge and celebrate these inspirational women,” Ms Goward said.

Award categories include the Premier’s Award for Woman of the Year; A.H. Beard’s Community Hero Award; Harvey Norman’s Young Woman of the Year Award; and REX Airlines’ Regional Woman of the Year Award.

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Leslie Williams joined Ms Goward to announce the 2016 Awards would also include a new award for the NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year.

Winners will join an honour-roll of inspirational alumni, including mining engineer and burns survivor Turia Pitt; leading research of pancreatic diseases, Professor Minoti Apte OAM; volunteer and fundraiser, Barbara Cowley; School of Life Foundation (Uganda) joint founder Annabelle Chauncey; OAM and co-founder, Mama Lana’s Community Foundation, Lana Borg.

Ms Goward said she was in awe of the nominations the Awards received every year.

“It is a fantastic reminder that there are women all over NSW who are striving to be their very best and achieving brilliant things,” Ms Goward said.

“Don’t miss out on nominating a woman who is doing extraordinary things. Start nominating now at [www.women.nsw.gov.au](http://www.women.nsw.gov.au). Nominations close on 13 January 2016.”

A ceremony for the 2016 winners will be held on 9 March 2016 at Parliament House with The Premier Mike Baird.

Award categories are:

**Premier's Award for Woman of the Year**

This award is specifically for:

- a woman who has demonstrated excellence in a career, field or passion; and/or
- a significant achiever in a traditionally male-dominated area.

**A. H. Beard's Community Hero Award**

This award is specifically for:

- community heroes and/or volunteers; or
- a woman making an outstanding contribution to her local community.

**Harvey Norman's Young Woman of the Year Award**

This award is specifically for:

- a positive and inspiring role model to other young women
- someone with drive, determination and motivation in her chosen field, or
- a young woman who has made significant achievements and/or contributions to the community.

**REX Airlines' Regional Woman of the Year Award**

This award is specifically for a woman from a regional area who is:

- a significant achiever in an area important to rural or regional communities; or
- a woman making an outstanding contribution to resolving issues faced by a rural or regional community; or
- a significant achiever in a traditionally male-dominated field within the rural community.

**NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year Award**

This award is specifically for an Aboriginal woman who is:

- an outstanding leader, who contributes to her own community; and/or
- respected in the wider for community for success and leadership in her chosen field.