

## **Award Categories & Judging Criteria**

### **1. Best Design**

#### *Description:*

This category honors the most compelling and forward-thinking fashion design. It recognizes exceptional creativity, innovation, and the ability to tell a strong visual or conceptual story through garments.

#### *Judging Criteria:*

Concept & Vision: Originality of the idea and how well it's communicated through the collection

Innovation: Freshness of approach in silhouette, color, form, or styling

Cohesion: Consistency and clarity across the full body of work

Aesthetic Impact: Emotional and visual resonance of the collection

### **2. Best Sustainable Design**

#### *Description:*

This category celebrates fashion that pushes the boundaries of sustainable thinking. It acknowledges designers who incorporate responsible practices while demonstrating high design quality.

#### *Judging Criteria:*

Sustainable Approach: Use of eco-friendly materials, circular design principles, zero-waste pattern cutting, upcycling, etc.

Transparency: Clarity in sourcing, production, and lifecycle thinking

Impact Potential: Feasibility and scalability of the sustainable model

Design Quality: The look and feel still meets a high standard of style and wearability

### **3. Best Craftsmanship**

#### *Description:*

This category rewards exceptional technical skill in garment construction and textile manipulation. It highlights meticulous attention to detail and mastery of traditional or contemporary techniques.

#### *Judging Criteria:*

Technical Excellence: Precision in sewing, tailoring, pattern construction, or finishings

Material Mastery: Thoughtful and skilled use of fabrics and materials

Innovative Techniques: Unique or advanced methods that elevate the piece

Durability & Functionality: Structural soundness and wearability

**F.A.T. X**

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### **4. Best Tech Fashion Design**

#### *Description:*

This category spotlights designers who integrate cutting-edge technology into fashion. Whether through fabrication, wearability, or presentation, it celebrates work that redefines the possibilities of fashion in the digital age.

#### *Judging Criteria:*

**Tech Integration:** Innovative use of technologies like 3D printing, laser cutting, smart textiles, AR/VR, or digital fashion

**Conceptual Relevance:** Clear vision and rationale for using the chosen technology

**Execution:** How well the technology is implemented aesthetically and technically

**Future Potential:** How the work contributes to the evolution of fashion

### **5. Best First Nation Design**

#### *Description:*

This category celebrates designers who draw inspiration from First Nation cultures, traditions, and stories to create original and meaningful fashion. It honors craftsmanship, symbolism, and innovation that authentically reflect the heritage and contemporary expressions of Indigenous peoples.

#### *Judging Criteria:*

**Cultural Authenticity:** Respectful and meaningful incorporation of First Nation heritage, symbols, and stories

**Creativity & Innovation:** Originality in design that honors tradition while pushing creative boundaries

**Execution:** Quality of craftsmanship, materials, and presentation

**Impact & Storytelling:** How effectively the designs communicate cultural narratives and inspire appreciation