



with Lyndsey McNally, RCM

ACMO's Manager of the Year award is presented to a Registered Condominium Manager (RCM) who has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment and dedication to professional condominium management. This year's recipient is Lyndsey McNally, RCM, Team Leader at Malvern Condominium Property Management. We asked Lyndsey what receiving this award means and what insight she has for new and future RCMs.

Q: Lyndsey, congratulations on being awarded Manager of the Year. In addition to nominations from within the industry, you received nominations from two condominium corporations. What does this award mean to you?

A: I'm so flattered to have received multiple nominations! It's always my goal working with condominium communities and in contributing within the industry to make meaningful contributions. This award validates that the hard work I put forward is recognized and proves that through hard work and dedication we can provide meaningful input and create better communities. Q: Under new legislation, condominium managers are now required to have a licence. How valuable do you think the RCM designation will continue to be?

A: The RCM designation has always shown an individual's commitment to the condominium management field. Licensing does not change that, but given that licence requirements are similar to that of an RCM it makes it more important for RCMs to work hard to set themselves apart in the industry. It is my hope that ACMO will continue to work to promote the RCM brand, and to provide additional opportunities for education and to elevate the reputation of ACMO and RCMs.

Q: You received your RCM 10 years ago. What changes have you seen since you were an up-and-coming RCM?

A: The RCM designation has greatly increased in popularity. More and more managers have worked hard to achieve the designation. This shows me that my RCM is even more valuable than when I first received it.

The condominium industry has changed significantly. Not just with legislative updates, but also with advancing technology, new standards for communication and physical building management exist. It is very important to continue to stay updated on





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Lyndsey McNallay, RCM receiving her Manager of the Year award from Richard Pearlstein, RCM, Robert Weinberg, RCM and speaker Mike Lipkin.

these advancements in order to ensure you possess the necessary skills to keep communities moving forward.

Q: In your experience, is there any one specific quality that helps make an exceptional RCM?

A: The most important quality for an RCM is communication skills! A manager's main role is to collect information, communicate it to their board, and in turn provide information to owners and residents about the board's directions. Without exceptional communication skills, boards may not receive the leadership and information they require to make decisions, and owners will not accurately understand what is happening in their communities.

Q: When you are presented with challenges on the job, how do you approach these types of situations or people?

A: Challenges in this role are so variable that each requires its own approach and set of solutions. The first thing you need to do is take a moment to calmly understand the scope of the challenge. Consider your desired result, and work backwards through the steps needed to achieve it. Communicating the required steps with all involved helps to make sure that everyone understands what to expect, and helps them to be a part of the solution.

Q: Tell CM readers about your current work on ACMO's new resource guides.

A: I was really excited to be selected to be part of this project. I enjoy writing, and jumped at the opportunity to submit a bid to participate. It was a pleasure to have met and worked with new people – Tracey Gunn and Joy Mathews were excellent to work with, and the editor ACMO selected, Beth McAuley, was such an amazing teacher and resource. Beth really helped us to understand how to create resource guides without having so much stress about perfect writing on the first draft. I hope that other ACMO members benefit from the Finance and Ethics guides and enjoy making use of them as much as I enjoyed working to write them.

Q: Talk a bit about leadership. How can new RCMs demonstrate leadership skills?

A: In my mind, a big part of successful leadership is about enthusiasm and commitment. If you can be genuinely enthusiastic about the success of your team, your community, and your projects then it is easy to be committed and show that commitment through leadership.

It's also very helpful to clearly communicate expectations. Not just your expectations of your team, but their expectations of you. No one can read minds, so if you take time to talk about what you need, everything will run more successfully!

Q: Manager of the Year is awarded for commitment and dedication. How can new and future RCMs contribute to ACMO and to the industry?

A: Every individual has their own set of strengths, and therefore, their own way of making a contribution to ACMO and the industry. The key is to be self-aware – knowing what your skills are and what time you can commit to making contributions. New RCMs should take the time to make sure they really understand their roles, find their strengths, and then dedicate themselves to something specific. It's incredible when you focus your energy what you can accomplish! ■

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