1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy governs the awarding of the Rural Surgeons Award. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the duration, value, frequency and conditions of the Award.

2. KEYWORDS
Awards Committee, Awards, Rural Surgeons Award, Provincial Surgeons of Australia

3. BODY OF POLICY
3.1. Background
The Rural Surgeons Award acknowledges significant contributions to surgery in rural settings in New Zealand and Australia. This award was previously called the “Provincial Surgeons Award” and was created by Council in 2002.

The contribution will be in the form of conspicuous continued involvement of at least 10 years to the development of a high standard of surgery and commitment to quality assurance and ongoing education and training of the individual and other health care staff.

3.2. Composition
3.2.1. The Rural Surgeons Award may be an annual award.
3.2.2. It is open to a Fellow in any Specialty and the nomination may come from any individual Fellow, surgical society or the Rural Surgery Section (formerly the Divisional Group of Rural Surgery).

3.2.3. Nominations shall be made to the Chair of the Rural Surgery Section (RSS). Following consultation with the RSS Executive, the Chair of RSS will recommend to the Awards Committee an agreed nominee and location for the presentation of the award.

3.2.4. The Award, in the form of a certificate, may be presented on behalf of RACS at a location to be recommended by the RSS at the time of nomination.

3.3. Nomination
3.3.1. Nominations shall be made to the Chair of the Rural Surgery Section (RSS). Following consultation with the RSS Executive, the Chair of RSS will recommend to the Awards Committee an agreed nominee and location for the presentation of the award.

3.3.2. The nomination shall be submitted to the Chair of the Awards Committee at least six (6) weeks prior to an Awards Committee meeting and shall contain evidence of how the nominee meets the criteria for the award. Nominators are required to substantiate their recommendation with a demonstrable reason for the award.

3.4. Financial implications for recipient of the Award
Travel and accommodation are not provided by RACS and costs will not be paid for or reimbursed by RACS.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS
Rural Surgeons Award procedure: REL-PCS-022