



Timmins Chamber of Commerce

For Immediate Release

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Chamber celebrates business stars with Nova Awards

April 19, 2007 (TIMMINS). The Timmins Chamber of Commerce presented the recipients of the 2007 Nova Awards, celebrating business excellence in the City of Timmins. Chamber President Ken Petersen said, "As the leading business organization in Timmins, we are pleased to host this celebration of local businesses. It was truly wonderful to have so many quality nominations and excited recipients."

"We were pleased with the quality of the nominations and the opportunity to highlight the talented business operators we have working in our City," commented Cheryl Corbeil, Nova Committee Co-Chair.

Mary-Lou Pollon, Event Co-chair stated "The organizing committee worked very hard on ensuring a celebration fitting the quality of businesses that were named as finalists in a non-traditional venue. We had a good time creating an event that doesn't happen everyday and we were very pleased that more than 400 business people attended the event."

More than 60 nominations were received for consideration in the fourteen award categories. Individuals, other businesses and the business themselves put forward business nominations for consideration.

The fourteen category winners were announced during a gala Awards ceremony at the McIntyre Arena on April 19, a Sold Out event with more than 400 guests in attendance.

The recipients list is attached.

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★ **Business Contribution to Community**

~Sponsored by Porcupine Joint Venture

Presented by Bill McMillan, Controller

Awarded to a company that chooses to make Timmins a better place by demonstrating a commitment of financial and human resources to support community goals. This award recognizes a company, not individuals.

Recipient- NorthernTel

Accepting- Dave McGirr

★ **Service Excellence** ~Sponsored by Northern College

Presented by Carol Halt, Vice Chair of the Board of Governors

Awarded to a company that has demonstrated a commitment to providing top quality customer service.

Recipient- Mikey's General Sales & Repair Ltd.

Accepting- Michael Mason

★ **New Business (under 2 years)**

~Sponsored by TEDC/Business Enterprise Centre

Presented by Dave McGirr, Board Chair

Awarded to a business that has been in operation for up to two years and has demonstrated outstanding growth and success.

Recipient- Branded Spaces

Accepting- Kerri Newton

★ **Marketing Innovation Achievement**

~Sponsored by Riocan-Timmins Square

Presented by Brenda Johnson, Property Manager

Awarded to a business that has launched an outstanding and unique marketing ad, event or promotional campaign for their own product or service.

Recipient- LoriJo Studio

Accepting- Lori Larocque

★ **Young Entrepreneur (30 and under)**

~Sponsored by The Venture Centre/Le Centre de développement

Presented by Remi Boileau, Treasurer

Awarded to an entrepreneur 30 years of age or younger who has demonstrated leadership and ability in operating his or her business.

Recipient- Pizzale Gardens Inc.

Accepting- Krista Hedican

★ **Business of the Year (1-5 Employees)** ~Sponsored by BDC

Presented by Marc Dinel, Manager, Business Development

Awarded to a company with up to 5 employees that has demonstrated excellence in sales, growth, product development, job creation and quality.

Recipient- Haasen Farms Ltd.

Accepting- Frank Haasen

★ **Business of the Year (6-49 Employees)**

~Sponsored by Scotiabank

Presented by John Becvar, Community Manager

Awarded to a company with between 6-49 employees that has demonstrated excellence in sales, growth, product development, job creation and quality.

Recipient- NorFab Metal & Machine

Accepting- Terry DiTullio

★ **Business of the Year (50+ Employees)**

~Sponsored by Northern Credit Union

Presented by Leo Morin, Branch Manager

Awarded to a company with 50 or more employees that has demonstrated excellence in sales, growth, product development, job creation and quality.

Recipient- Levis' IGA

Accepting- Dan Levis

★ **Media Person of the Year**

~Sponsored by Teletech

Presented by Andrew Marks, Site Director

Awarded to a local media person who has contributed to the promotion of the Timmins business community.

Matthew Ruiss of Timmins Radio Group

★ **Non-Profit Organization Award**

~Sponsored by the City of Timmins

Presented by Mayor Tom Laughren

Awarded to a non-profit organization that exemplifies entrepreneurial spirit.

Recipient- Timmins Symphony Orchestra

Accepting- Matthew Jones/Kathy Vainio

★ **Lifelong Learning Award**

~Sponsored by Far Northeast Training Board

Presented by Jim Nicholls, Board Member

Awarded to a business that exemplifies and promotes the experience of lifelong learning in the workplace.

Recipient- Riopelle Griener Professional Corporation

Accepting- Rob Riopelle

★ **Environmental Award**

~Sponsored by Union Gas

Presented by Paul Dambremont, Assistant Utility Services Manager

Awarded to a business that has demonstrated a commitment to preserving or enhancing our natural environment.

Recipient- Rio Tinto Minerals, Luzenac Inc.

Accepting- David Vodusek

★ **Aboriginal Partnership Award**

~Sponsored by De Beers Canada

Presented by Tony George, Mine Manager, Victor Project

Awarded to an aboriginal or non-aboriginal business who has demonstrated a commitment to developing partnerships within the community to forward aboriginal culture, acceptance and/or employment.

Recipient- Wasaya Airways

Accepting- Tom Morris

★ **Construction Trades Apprenticeship Award**

~Sponsored by Timmins Construction Association

Presented by Dan Dambremont, President

Awarded to a business that sponsors skilled trade apprenticeships.

Recipient – Accurate Electric

Accepting – Mark Shewen