



For Immediate Release

NOVA AWARDS FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Tuesday, April 1, 2008 (TIMMINS) - The Timmins Chamber of Commerce Nova Awards Committee has announced the names of 34 local businesses and organizations as FINALISTS for the 2008 *Nova Business Excellence Awards* today. This year, the Chamber office was flooded with over 90 Nova Nominations – a record for this first-class business awards event. As such, it was with great difficulty that our judging panel, comprised of six impartial local judges, was forced to narrow each category to just three Finalists. Accordingly, the judging task was so challenging that one category has a total of four Finalists!

According to event organizers Gary Marriott and Joel Bergeron, this has been a record-year for nominations. “We are so pleased to see the substantial uptake and value of the Nova Awards within the Timmins business community,” stated Marriott. “We have heard from our judges that selecting three finalists for each category was not an easy task,” he added.

“As a group, the 2008 Finalists really exemplify business excellence in Timmins”, added Joel Bergeron, “Whether the Finalist demonstrates business excellence by providing a unique service to our region, offering outstanding customer service or showing innovation in marketing, all of these Finalists are to be commended for what they contribute to the Timmins’ business community.”

Chamber President Marilyn Wood stated “Historically, the Nova Business Excellence Awards is seen as a signature event for the Timmins Chamber of Commerce and Timmins’ business community. From what we have experienced for the 2008 awards, the sheer number of nominations submitted, coupled with the high calibre of nominees (and subsequent difficulty with which the judges named the 2008 Finalists) really serves to enforce the value of the Nova Awards program to the community.” Wood added, “The level of support we have received so far is simply overwhelming and we look forward to hosting our event – a popular and first-class evening – to celebrate the success of business in Timmins.”

The theme for this year’s *Nova Awards* gala is “Fire and Ice”. The event is being held at the McIntyre Arena during the evening of April 17. Gala tickets are \$55 and are moving fast. Contact the Chamber to reserve your tickets today!

To reserve your tickets or for more information, contact the Chamber office at 360-1900, or visit the website at www.timminschamber.on.ca/nova.htm

The Finalists for each category are, as follows:

The 2008 Nova Awards Finalists

Service Excellence

Three Small Rooms Boutique
Uptown Auto Parts Inc.
TeleTech Timmins

New Business (under 2 years)

Christopher's Coffee House
Dubé Designs
Liberty Mines Inc.

Marketing Innovation Achievement

Three Small Rooms Boutique
CHYK FM (HBG Radio)
JackpineJunction.com

Young Entrepreneur (under 30)

Praztek Construction
Brisco Media
1st Class Limo

Non-Profit Organization

Schumacher Lions Club
Barrier Elimination Action Corporation
Alzheimer Society of Timmins – Porcupine District
Kidsport Timmins

Apprenticeship Award

Northern Mechanical Services
Toromont CAT
On the Level Construction

Aboriginal Partnership Award

Wawatay Native Communications Society

Liberty Mines Inc.

Wasaya Airways LP

Business Contribution to the Community

Xstrata Copper

Perfect Settings

Canadian Tire

Business of the Year, 1-5 Employees

The Fitness Zone

Northern Swing Golf Centre

Dr. Donald Francis Dentistry

Business of the Year, 6-49 Employees

N. Lacroix Plumbing & Heating (Timmins) Limited

Northern Mechanical Services Inc.

ANO Architects/Architectes Inc.

Business of the Year, 50+ Employees

TeleTech Timmins

The Home Depot

Xstrata Copper

Media Person of the Year Award

To be announced at the event.

Environmental Award

To be announced at the event.