



Ulnooweg Development Group – 4th Atlantic Aboriginal Entrepreneur Awards Finalists Announced

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2008 - Ulnooweg is the proud host of the 4th Atlantic Aboriginal Entrepreneur Awards Show to be held in Charlottetown, PE on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2008. In its 4th year, the Atlantic Aboriginal Entrepreneur Awards Show gives Aboriginal people in Atlantic Canada the opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the Aboriginal business sector successes in their region. Celebrating these accomplishments is an important part of the process of building stronger economies for future generations.

Jury members gathered from all over Atlantic Canada to deliberate as a team and select the finalists and winners. Over fifty nominations were reviewed, from which two finalists were chosen in each category. The winners, one from each category, were chosen with great difficulty. Each of the finalists are positive examples of the entrepreneurial spirit of Atlantic Canada, and they continue to be a positive force within their communities. These finalists strive to create and sustain economic stability, aboriginal independence and success – creating a model of achievement to be followed by any entrepreneur seeking success.

The following is the list of finalists, by category, for the 4th Atlantic Aboriginal Entrepreneur Awards Show:

Youth Entrepreneur of the Year

- Kirk Christmas, Goodfella's Construction – Membertou, NS
- David Joyce, Atlantic Student Calendar Services – Corner Brook, NL

Woman Entrepreneur of the Year

- Phyllis Grant – Pabineau First Nation, NB
- Mae Labillois – Labillois Lobster Retail Fisheries – Eel River Bar, NB

Cottage Craft Business of the Year

- Madeline's Wooden Flowers – New Glasgow, NS
- The Grand River Canoe Company – Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL

Start Up Business (Under One Year) of the Year

- Cyril and Barbara Campbell, Campbell's B&B & Coffee Shop – Port Hope Simpson, NL
- Brenda Googoo, Brenda's Giftware and Smoke Shop – Eskasoni, NS

Band-Operated Enterprise of the Year

- Glooscap Variety and Gas Bar - Horton, NS
- St. Mary's Entertainment Centre – Fredericton, NB

Economic Development Officer of the Year

- Rose Julian – Paq'tnkek (Afton), NS
- Paul Rich – Innu Nation, NL

Business of the Year – Nova Scotia

- Mary Louise Bernard, Buckskin Tales and Indian Maiden Maple Syrup – Wagmatcook, NS
- Larry Peters, Mi'kmaq Wholesale and Distributors Ltd.– Middleton, NS

Business of the Year – New Brunswick

- Perry Francis, Sakiyik Inc. –Boucrouche, NB
- Mae Labillois, Labillois Lobster Retail Fisheries – Eel River Bar, NB

Business of the Year – Newfoundland and Labrador

- Tom Lyall, Lyall's Drafting and Design Ltd. – Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL
- Calvin White, Cal's Hunting and Fishing Lodge – Flat Bay, NL

Business of the Year – Prince Edward Island

- Debbie Bernard, Jake's Kwik Way – Lennox Island, PE
- Matilda Lewis, Megadealsrus – Summerside, PE

Lifetime Achievement Award

- Norman Morris Sr., Morris Trucking – Eskasoni, NS
- Calvin White, Cal's Hunting and Fishing Lodge – Flat Bay, NS

Congratulations to all finalists! The range of nominations that we received this year continues to show us the diversity of dreams and accomplishments among Aboriginal people in Atlantic Canada. One winner from each category will be announced and presented with an award at the 4th Atlantic Aboriginal Awards Show on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2008 at the Delta Prince Edward in Charlottetown, PE.

For more information about the show, becoming a sponsor or to purchase tickets, please visit the Ulnooweg website at www.ulnooweg.ca/awards, or contact Cathy Martin, Awards Show Coordinator.

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