

January 15, 2007

## **2007 Alberta Business Awards of Distinction celebrate excellence**



**EDMONTON** – A “soft adventure” mountain guide, and a hotel that entices guests with gas credits and Tim Hortons certificates are among the 46 finalists for this year’s Alberta Business Awards of Distinction.

The Alberta Chambers of Commerce hosts the annual awards program in conjunction with numerous sponsors with the aim of recognizing and celebrating excellence across the business spectrum.

As evidenced by this year’s lineup of diverse finalists, the Alberta Business Awards of Distinction is the most comprehensive business awards program in the province.

The awards cover 15 categories that span the realities of business in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This year’s categories are designed to recognize excellence in business practices that encourage diversity in the workplace, offer employment for youth, Aboriginal and persons with disabilities, and celebrate marketing successes, safety initiatives, and international trade.

The awards are geared towards large and small business as evidenced by the variety of finalists, which include Shell Chemicals, Syncrude and Enbridge, each of which employs thousands of workers, as well as Logical Creations, a two-person company that makes rustic furniture from dead-standing Alberta logs.

Every finalist becomes eligible for the Premier’s Award of Distinction, which is presented, along with the rest of the awards, Feb. 21 at a gala evening at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton.

This year’s award sponsors are the following: Aboriginal Workforce Participation Initiative; Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry; Alberta Human Rights and Citizenship Commission; Business Development Bank of Canada; Indian and Northern Affairs Canada; Syncrude Canada Ltd.; University of Alberta & TELUS; Western Economic Diversification Canada; Workers' Compensation Board – Alberta; Alberta International, Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Relations; Agriculture Financial Services Corporation; and the Alberta Chambers of Commerce.

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*NOTE: A list of finalists for the 2007 Alberta Business Awards of Distinction is attached.*

# Finalists

## 2007 Alberta Business Awards of Distinction

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### **Innovation in Agriculture Award of Distinction**

- Carmen Creek Gourmet Meats, Calgary
- New Food Classics, Calgary
- Sepallo Food Ingredients, Barrhead

### **Aboriginal Woman Entrepreneur of the Year Award of Distinction**

- Mahikan Trails Inc., Canmore
- Muskwa Productions and Consulting, Calgary
- The Imagination Group (imagiNATION Cards Inc.), Calgary

### **Marketing Award of Distinction**

- Calgary Public Library, Calgary
- The Mayfield Inn & Suites Hotel, Edmonton
- The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Edmonton
- Northern Light Theatre, Edmonton

### **Diversity Leadership Award of Distinction**

- AgeCare, Calgary
- The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Edmonton
- Multicultural Health Brokers Co-operative Inc., Edmonton
- Shell Chemicals Canada Ltd., Fort Saskatchewan

### **Export Award of Distinction**

- Print Audit, Calgary
- Wedding Star Inc., Medicine Hat
- XSENSOR Technology Corporation, Calgary

### **WCB Alberta Safety Leader Award of Distinction**

- Canadian Fertilizers Limited, Medicine Hat
- Syntech Enerflex, a Division of Enerflex Systems Ltd., Calgary
- Warwick Industries Ltd., Calgary

### **WCB Alberta Safety Turnaround Award of Distinction**

- Calgary R C Separate School District No. 1, Calgary
- MBI Limited Smurfit – MBI Limited Partnership, Edmonton

### **Partners in Workplace Learning Award of Distinction**

- Gibson Energy Ltd., Calgary
- Master Flo Valve Inc., Edmonton

### **Employer of Persons with Disabilities Award of Distinction**

- Champion Feed Services Ltd., Barrhead, Grande Prairie, Westlock
- Kosmos Restaurant and Lounge, Leduc
- Lavtor Holdings (Alberta) Ltd. o/a Smitty's Family Restaurants, Edmonton, St. Albert, Red Deer
- Town of Bonnyville, Alberta

### **Syncrude Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneur Award of Distinction**

- Curve Sports, Enilda
- LiquidTrends Creative Studio, Edmonton
- Scott Ward Inc., Edmonton

**Eagle Feather Business Award of Distinction**

- Bigstone Ventures Ltd., Wabasca
- Primco Group of Companies, Cold Lake
- Seven Lakes Oilfield Services, Kehewin

**Aboriginal Relations – Best Practice Award of Distinction**

- ATCO Electric, Edmonton
- Enbridge Pipelines Inc., Edmonton
- EnCana Corporation, Calgary
- The Northern Institute of Technology (NAIT), Edmonton

**Employer of Youth Award of Distinction**

- Davco Solutions Inc., Grande Prairie
- East Central Health, Camrose
- Suncor Energy Inc., Oilsands, Fort McMurray
- Syncrude Canada Ltd., Fort McMurray

**Small Business Award of Distinction**

- Logical Creations Ltd., Airdrie
- Twist Inc., Calgary
- Weddingstar Inc., Medicine Hat
- Zocalo Gallery Inc., Edmonton

**Premier's Award of Distinction**

The Premier's Award of Distinction is presented to the organization that best embodies the Alberta Advantage, exhibits overall outstanding achievement and leadership in Alberta, and demonstrates ongoing and consistent involvement in community events and organizations locally and/or provincially.

All finalists from each category were automatically eligible, and considered for, this award.