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JUNE 19, 2025

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SMALL BUSINESS AWARD

windspeaker
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INDIGENOUS BUSINESS AWARD



Chambers Plan
Employee Benefits

HEALTH AND WELLNESS AWARD

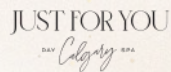
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WHERE MEMBERS MATTER AND BENEFITS COUNT

Our role as representatives is to do everything we can
to maintain an inclusive, thriving economy in Alberta.

Program

6:30 PM – Cocktail Reception & Tapas

Kick off the evening in style with gourmet tapas and cocktails while walking the red carpet. Enjoy finalist interviews and networking with Alberta's top business leaders.

8:00 PM – Awards Program

Celebrate the best of Alberta's business community as we honour this year's finalists and announce the recipients of the Awards of Distinction.

9:30 PM – Winners Circle: Interviews & Celebration!

Toast to success! Mingle with award recipients, capture red carpet moments, and enjoy a vibrant celebration of Alberta's business excellence.





The Alberta Business Awards of Distinction recognize businesses/organizations that have demonstrated outstanding achievement and contribution to their community while having developed business acumen & management practices to ensure long-term sustainability. To date, more than 391 companies have been named Alberta Business Award of Distinction recipients. There are currently 12 diverse award categories, with an additional Alberta's Best of Business Award.

The Alberta Business Awards of Distinction was initially created by Alberta Economic Development and Tourism in 1992 during a merger of the Alberta Export Achievement Awards and the Alberta Small Business Owner of the Year Awards. The Government of Alberta originally presented the Alberta Business Awards of Distinction in the fall of each year from 1992 to 1995.

In 1996, the Alberta Chambers of Commerce took over the management and presentation of the Awards, and in 2017, took over full ownership of the program. The Alberta Business Awards of Distinction are 100 percent funded by the Alberta Chambers of Commerce and the generous support of its partners.

1

BEST OF
BUSINESS

12

AWARDS

36

FINALISTS

34

YEARS



ALBERTA BUSINESS
AWARDS
OF DISTINCTION

185

ATTENDEES

232

SUBMISSIONS

293

NOMINEES

404

WINNERS



Prepare to be entertained and captivated throughout the awards show as dynamic duo Brian Wong from All Culture All Day and Angela Nguyen from The Leader Within Podcast take the stage as our MC and Interviewer. Their expertise in creating engaging and memorable experiences will ensure an evening that leaves a lasting impression on all in attendance.



MC

Brian Wong

Organizer

ALL CULTURE ONE DAY

Community Ambassador
Calgary Flames

**Are you
ready?**

You might just find yourself being interviewed by the charismatic Angela Nguyen while being broadcasted on LinkedIn Live, gaining exposure to a wider audience and making your mark on the business world.



Interviewer

Angela Nguyen

Host & Producer



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 AWARD FINALISTS!

BUSINESS INNOVATION

Eco-Flex Recycled Rubber Solutions
(Sturgeon County)
McMillan-McGee (Mc²) (Calgary)
Tacit Edge Inc. (Calgary)

COMMUNITY ATTRACTION

Métis Crossing (Smoky Lake)
Rabbit Hill Snow Resort (Edmonton)
Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo (Calgary)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

The Work Place (Grande Prairie)
Tiny Toes Castle (Red Deer)
World Guardian Security Services (Edmonton)

FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR

Bright Wire Leadership (Calgary)
Leduc Physio, Navisess, Compression Care
(Leduc)
Modern Muse Media (Edmonton)

GLOBAL GROWTH

Big Rig (Grande Prairie)
Norcada (Edmonton)
QinetiQ Target Systems Canada (Medicine Hat)

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Beyond Insurance (Red Deer)
Compassion Medical Wellness Centre (Edmonton)
Goodwill Industries of Alberta (Edmonton)

INDIGENOUS BUSINESS

Acden (Fort McMurray)
Jack59 (Edmonton)
pipikwan pêhtâkwan (Sturgeon County)

MARKETING

Goodwill Industries of Alberta (Edmonton)
Grant Berg Gallery (Grande Prairie)
Modern Muse Media (Edmonton)

MENTORSHIP

Don't Be Chy Boutique (Sexsmith)
Sparkle & Sheen Organize and
Cleaning Services Ltd. (Edmonton)
Tiny Toes Castle (Red Deer)

NEWCOMER ENTREPRENEUR

350 Farms (Bonnyville)
SABAH Consulting (Calgary)
The Tisto Factory (Calgary)

SMALL BUSINESS

Diplomat Consulting (Edmonton)
Orange Frog Productions Inc. (Calgary)
The Hot Tub Man Ltd. (Red Deer)

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR

KOOLIOS (Grande Prairie)
Music Studio 27 (Spruce Grove)
SKNN Aesthetics (Calgary)

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 AWARD WINNERS!



ALBERTA BUSINESS
AWARDS
OF DISTINCTION
2025

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 AWARD WINNERS!

ALBERTA'S BEST OF BUSINESS

BUSINESS INNOVATION

McMillan-McGee (Mc²)
(Calgary)

COMMUNITY ATTRACTION

Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo
(Calgary)

EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

The Work Place
(Grande Prairie)

FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR

Bright Wire Leadership
(Calgary)



World Guardian Security
Services (Edmonton)

GLOBAL GROWTH

QinetiQ Target Systems Canada
(Medicine Hat)

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Beyond Insurance
(Red Deer)

INDIGENOUS BUSINESS

Jack59
(Edmonton)

MARKETING

Goodwill Industries of Alberta
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Tiny Toes Castle
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350 Farms
(Bonnyville)

SMALL BUSINESS

Diplomat Consulting
(Edmonton)

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR

KOOLIOS
(Grande Prairie)

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POSTMEDIA



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Alberta's Best of Business Award of Distinction Winner



**WORLD
GUARDIAN**

A homegrown Alberta success story providing top-tier protection for communities, companies, and infrastructure. Their work goes beyond safety—it fuels confidence in Alberta's economy by creating secure spaces where businesses and people can thrive.



*This prestigious award is presented to an Alberta business that
has demonstrated achievements in leadership and growth.*



ALBERTA'S BEST OF BUSINESS
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
WINNER



**WORLD
GUARDIAN**

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WINNER

BUSINESS INNOVATION

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Recognizes a business/organization
that has achieved outstanding results
through original innovative strategies.

ECO-FLEX RECYCLED RUBBER SOLUTIONS



Eco-Flex is a well-established manufacturing company with over 32 years of experience, proudly operating in both the United States and Canada. Our mission is to become the leading manufacturer of innovative, value-added products made entirely from 100% recycled rubber. We are dedicated to ensuring that all recyclable rubber is utilized in the most sustainable and impactful way, benefiting both the environment and the global community. To date, Eco-Flex has successfully recycled over 100 million tires.

MCMILLAN-MCGEE CORP.



McMillan-McGee Corp. (Mc²) is a Calgary-based engineering company that specializes in cleaning up contaminated soil and groundwater using advanced thermal technologies. The company developed and patented ET-DSP™ and IT-DSP™, which use heat to safely remove harmful chemicals from the ground. Mc² works on challenging environmental projects across North America and worldwide. The team combines science, innovation, and experience to deliver reliable results.

TACIT EDGE INC.



Tacit Edge Product Leadership is a Canadian education company founded by global tech innovation leaders Christa Hill and Renee Matsalla. Self-funded and built from the ground up, Tacit Edge is redefining how AI and Product Management are taught—through accessible, applied programs designed in direct collaboration with industry. With a systems-level approach and national partnerships across leading institutions, Tacit Edge is building the infrastructure to prepare Canada for the future of work, and business.

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Business Innovation Award of Distinction Winner

Mc²
McMillan-McGee

A Calgary-based environmental engineering with over 150+ successful cleanups worldwide, Mc² uses patented thermal remediation technology to tackle hard-to-reach contaminants. All equipment is manufactured in-house, fueling 84% revenue growth last year and showcasing the power of Alberta-made innovation.



Recognizes a business/organization that has achieved outstanding results through original innovative strategies.



BUSINESS INNOVATION
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
WINNER

Mc²
McMillan-McGee

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WINNER

COMMUNITY ATTRACTION

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Recognizes a business/organization that has had a positive impact/influence on a community by making that community more attractive.



MÉTIS CROSSING



Métis Crossing is Alberta's premier Métis cultural destination, offering authentic experiences that showcase the rich history, traditions, and resilience of the Métis people. Through immersive cultural programming, Indigenous-inspired cuisine, and sustainable tourism initiatives, the company provides a unique opportunity to connect with Métis heritage while contributing to regional economic development and community engagement.

RABBIT HILL SNOW RESORT



Rabbit Hill Snow Resort is the largest ski resort in the Edmonton region, offering 40 acres of skiable terrain, a tube park, and a top-tier terrain park. With a legacy spanning 70 years, they are dedicated to fostering community, developing young athletes, and providing a welcoming environment for skiers and snowboarders of all levels. Through sustainability initiatives, local partnerships, and youth employment programs, they strive to create lasting positive impacts both on and off the slopes.

WILDER INSTITUTE/CALGARY ZOO



The Wildier Institute/Calgary Zoo is a not-for-profit charitable organization dedicated to wildlife conservation and fighting the extinction of species around the world. In addition to operating the Calgary Zoo, they manage the Archibald Biodiversity Centre—Canada's largest conservation breeding and research facility. Passionate about inspiring and educating future generations, the Wildier Institute/Calgary Zoo is committed to protecting biodiversity and making the world a wildier place.

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Community Attraction Award of Distinction Winner



Passionate about inspiring and educating generations of visitors about the importance of biodiversity and conservation. The Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo welcomed 1.5M+ guests in 2024—and global visitors are taking notice, with a 143% surge in international ticket sales.



Recognizes a business/organization that has had a positive impact/influence on a community.



COMMUNITY ATTRACTION
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
WINNER

Wilder Calgary Zoo
INSTITUTE

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WINNER

EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION (EDI)

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Recognizes a business or organization with outstanding achievement in practice, events, applied research, policy, programs, or other activities that foster equitable, sustainable and measurable change, especially for those who historically have been under-represented

THE WORK PLACE



The Work Place has provided career and employment services and program design, implementation and evaluation for over 25 years. Denise Derenowski-Carlson is dedicated to building a community that embraces diversity and promotes equity and inclusion, ensuring that all voices are heard and all perspectives are valued. She leads a diverse, passionate team of professionals committed to providing exceptional customer service in the employment field. Operating from a holistic, inclusive approach has strengthened the reputation of The Work Place as a provider of high-quality, impactful services.

TINY TOES CASTLE



Tiny Toes Castle is a well-established early learning center founded in 2010, dedicated to shaping bright futures for children while nurturing a progressive, inclusive environment where their team thrives. Grounded in social responsibility and strong community involvement, they prioritize diversity, equity, and well-being—placing their team and the children they serve at the core of their mission.

WOLD GUARDIAN SECURITY SERVICES



World Guardian Security Services is a trusted leader in providing comprehensive security solutions across various sectors, including fire and flood watch, construction site security, oil and gas, mall security, and commercial and private security. Serving Edmonton, Calgary, Red Deer, and extending across Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Ontario, their highly trained personnel specialize in tailored security services to meet the unique needs of each client. They pride themselves on delivering reliable, top-tier protection, ensuring a safe and secure environment for people, property, and assets.

2025

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Award of Distinction Winner



The Work Place, a long-standing employment services provider in Grande Prairie, has supported individuals and employers across northern Alberta for over 30 years. Committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI), the organization integrates inclusive practices throughout its operations—from recruitment and staff development to mentorship and client service.



Recognizes a business/organization with outstanding achievement in practice, events, applied research, policy, programs, or other activities that foster equitable, sustainable and measurable change.



Its team reflects the diversity of the community, representing a wide range of ages, cultures, languages, lived experiences, and immigration journeys. The Work Place offers inclusive, tailored programming for Indigenous Peoples, newcomers, older adults, and youth, and is widely recognized for its volunteer-led supports for individuals displaced by conflict, including Ukrainian newcomers, as well as its culturally responsive services.



Through meaningful community partnerships, The Work Place collaborates to share inclusive practices and expand access to equitable employment opportunities. With regular features in local media—such as My Grande Prairie Now and Peace Country Sunrise Radio—and active involvement in community-led inclusion efforts, The Work Place continues to foster a more accessible and welcoming labour market for everyone in northern Alberta.



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FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Recognizes a female entrepreneur for outstanding business achievements and meaningful contributions to the Alberta economy.

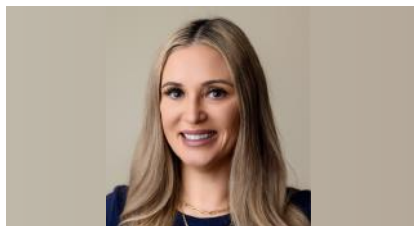
BRIGHT WIRE LEADERSHIP



BRIGHT WIRE ✨

Bright Wire Leadership is a leadership development firm dedicated to reimagining the world by unlocking leadership. They equip individuals, teams, and organizations to lead with clarity, resilience, and lasting impact through tailored programs, coaching, and strategic advisory. By helping A players find their plus, Bright Wire empowers clients to Surpass Themselves and lead where it matters most.

LEDUC PHYSIO, NAVISESS, COMPRESSION CARE



Tenielle Magee is a dedicated physiotherapist and entrepreneur, leading Leduc Physio, Navisess, and Compression Care to deliver specialized healthcare solutions across Alberta and Canada. Leduc Physio provides physiotherapy, massage therapy, and rehabilitation services locally in Leduc and through mobile services province-wide. Navisess offers comprehensive injury management and ergonomic assessments for businesses, while Compression Care supplies high-quality compression products and recovery tools with innovative virtual consultations and nationwide shipping.

MODERN MUSE MEDIA



Modern Muse Media, founded by multi-award-winning television producer Jesse Schewchuk, is a leading content creation agency that empowers professionals to elevate their brand through video. With over two decades of TV experience and a passion for authentic storytelling, Jesse is also a keynote speaker, emcee, and bestselling author advocating for menopause awareness through her initiative, The Menopause Mission. Her goal across all platforms is to educate, empower, and elevate others through creativity, vulnerability, and connection.

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Female Entrepreneur Award of Distinction Winner

BRIGHT WIRE ✱

With over 1,000 leaders supported, a custom-built Leadership Centre in downtown Calgary, and Alberta's first accredited coach training program, they're elevating leadership.



Recognizes a female entrepreneur for outstanding business achievements and meaningful contributions to the Alberta economy.



FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
WINNER

BRIGHT WIRE^{*}

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WINNER

GLOBAL GROWTH

AWARD OF DISTINCTION



Recognizes a business/organization that demonstrates outstanding achievement in exporting products or services outside of Canada's borders.



[Return to program page](#)



Presented by:



BIG RIG



| BIG RIG |

Big Rig is a leading provider of collision repair, refurbishing, and custom manufacturing for heavy-duty and transit vehicles across North America. With decades of experience and a skilled team of craftsmen, welders, painters, and technicians, Big Rig delivers precision work and dependable service that keeps fleets moving. The company's strength lies in its people—their expertise, pride, and commitment to quality are what drive Big Rig's reputation for excellence.

NORCADA



Norcada is a Canadian nano-MEMS and photonics company specializing in the design and manufacturing of advanced sample holders, MEMS chips, and vacuum-compatible components for in-situ, biomedical, and cryo microanalysis. They work closely with researchers and instrument manufacturers to provide high-precision solutions that enable real-time, nanoscale experiments. With a global footprint, they serve academic institutions, government labs, and industrial R&D centers in over 40 countries. They are a leading developer of nano-MEMS and photonics products, providing advanced microscopy sample holders and MEMS devices for electron and X-ray microscopy applications.

QINETIQ TARGET SYSTEMS CANADA



QINETIQ

QinetiQ Systems Canada is a global leader in the innovation, development, and delivery of advanced uncrewed vehicle systems, proudly supporting Canada's national security and allied defence operations worldwide. With a focus on mission-led innovation, they deliver high-performance solutions that enhance operational readiness while contributing to economic growth at local, provincial, and federal levels through a strong Canadian supply chain, advanced research and development, and skilled employment. By combining cutting-edge technology with real-world expertise, they provide reliable, cost-effective solutions that address the complex needs of modern defence forces globally.

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Global Growth Award of Distinction Winner

QINETIQ
TARGET SYSTEMS

With 45+ years of expertise, and 80% export-driven revenue, QinetiQ's Alberta-built tech is driving global growth—marked by a 400% revenue surge in Japan, CFB Suffield partnerships, and a 40% local workforce boost.



*Recognizes a business/organization that demonstrates outstanding achievement
in exporting products or services outside of Canada's borders.*



GLOBAL GROWTH
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
WINNER

QINETIQ
TARGET SYSTEMS

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WINNER

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Recognizes a business/organization that demonstrates best practices when it comes to initiatives, programs, and benefits that enhance the physical and mental health and well-being of its employees and their families, both in and outside the workplace.



Sponsored by:



BEYOND INSURANCE



Beyond Insurance is a proudly independent brokerage founded in Alberta in 2017. Built on a boutique, values-based people-first model, we provide personalized insurance solutions for individuals, families, and businesses—serving sectors from agriculture and construction to hospitality and high-net-worth personal clients. At Beyond, we believe thriving people build thriving businesses—and that how we care for each other is just as important as how we serve our clients.

COMPASSION MEDICAL WELLNESS CENTRE



Compassion Medical Wellness Centre in Chappelle, Edmonton, delivers compassionate, inclusive, and patient-centered care through a team-based model in partnership with the Edmonton Southside Primary Care Network. The clinic offers comprehensive medical, mental health, and aesthetic services to individuals of all ages and backgrounds, with a strong focus on holistic wellness and equitable access. Rooted in trust, collaboration, and cultural sensitivity, Compassion Medical Wellness Centre is committed to supporting the complete well-being of every person it serves.

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF ALBERTA



Since 1963, Goodwill Industries of Alberta's mission is to provide Albertans with disabilities or barriers the opportunity to enhance their lives through meaningful employment. Your donations make a positive impact in the community, as your used household goods provide opportunity, service and GOOD.

2025



Health and Wellness Award of Distinction Winner



Beyond Insurance has grown into a trusted Alberta brokerage with 90%+ client retention—offering home, auto, farm, and commercial coverage. Their wellness-focused culture features a staff-designed calendar, DEI-driven events, and inclusive policies, supporting mental health and community well-being.



Recognizes a business that demonstrates best practices when it comes to enhancing the physical and mental health and well-being of its employees.



HEALTH AND WELLNESS
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
WINNER

Beyond
INSURANCE 

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WINNER

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INDIGENOUS BUSINESS

AWARD OF DISTINCTION



Recognizes a business/organization that is a major economic driver for First Nations, Metis or Inuit communities, by investing in, owning and/or managing subsidiary businesses to advance community interests.



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windspeaker
radio network



ACDEN



Acden is 100% community-owned by Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN). Established in 1994, it has grown from one truck and 10 employees, to over 1900 employees and 22 companies. ACFN Chief and Council play a pivotal leadership role within Acden as the Chair and Board of Directors, ensuring the benefits generated by the business are maximized for the Nation and its future generations. The unique dual leadership role roots the business firmly in ACFN's values, keeping the organization stable, strong, and successful.

JACK59



Jack59 is an Indigenous-owned, women-led company crafting premium, plastic-free, waterless shampoo and conditioner bars. Handmade in Edmonton, their products are rooted in Indigenous values, sustainability, and inclusivity, using clean, science-backed ingredients. Jack59's extensive product line is vegan, pH balanced, and free from sulfates and parabens—made for all hair types, without compromising on quality results.

PIPIKWAN PĒHTĀKWAN



pipikwan pēhtākwān is investing in youth to build capacity within their communities—recognizing that whether these young leaders stay with the organization or move on, their growth uplifts Indigenous Peoples across Turtle Island. With a vision rooted in the well-being of seven generations, the team at pipikwan pēhtākwān proudly serves as helpers who understand the barriers Indigenous communities face and speak in ways that resonate. Through collaboration with partners, they create communications and engagement strategies that are meaningful, effective, and grounded in Indigenous values.

2025

Indigenous Business Award of Distinction Winner

jack 59

Jack59, founded by Métis entrepreneur Vanessa Marshall, is an Indigenous-owned, women-led Canadian brand redefining sustainable hair care. Known for its high-performance, plastic-free, vegan, and pH-balanced shampoo and conditioner bars, Jack59 has diverted over 1 million plastic bottles from landfills.



Recognizes a business/organization that is a major economic driver for First Nations, Metis or Inuit communities, advancing community interests.



jack
59

All products are manufactured in-house in Edmonton, where the company fosters inclusive, flexible, family-first employment opportunities for women, mentors Indigenous entrepreneurs, and integrates cultural ceremony in the workplace-guided by elders to ensure authenticity. Through its "Dreams" line, Jack59 donates proceeds to Indigenous causes and provides haircare to Indigenous-serving organizations.

Available in over 275 retailers across North America—including Sobeys, Hudson's Bay, London Drugs, and Well.ca—Jack59 is expanding globally through e-commerce in the U.S., Europe, and Asia.



Under Vanessa's leadership, the brand has earned B Corp certification, co-founded the Indigenous Beauty Collective, and been featured in Profit Magazine, Women of Influence, and national gift guides. Vanessa has been named Indigenous Entrepreneur of the Year, spotlighted on the Maverick Makers podcast, and invited to speak on the intersection of Indigenous knowledge, sustainability, and entrepreneurship.

Jack59 isn't just a beauty brand—it's a movement blending culture, chemistry, and community to set a new standard for impact-driven enterprise.



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MARKETING

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Recognizes a business/organization that developed and implemented a successful marketing initiative that has a demonstrable impact on business outcomes.



Presented by:



GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF ALBERTA



Since 1963, Goodwill Industries of Alberta's mission is to provide Albertans with disabilities or barriers the opportunity to enhance their lives through meaningful employment. Your donations make a positive impact in our community, as your used household goods provide opportunity, service and GOOD.

GRANT BERG GALLERY



Grant Berg Gallery is Grande Prairie and area's largest commercial art gallery with original artwork representing over 55 Canadian artists. They are members of Indigenous Tourism Alberta and Indigenous Tourism Canada.

MODERN MUSE MEDIA



Modern Muse Media, founded by multi-award-winning television producer Jesse Schewchuk, is a leading content creation agency that empowers professionals to elevate their brand through video. With over two decades of TV experience and a passion for authentic storytelling, Jesse is also a keynote speaker, emcee, and bestselling author advocating for menopause awareness through her initiative, The Menopause Mission. Her goal across all platforms is to educate, empower, and elevate others through creativity, vulnerability, and connection.

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Marketing Award of Distinction Winner

Goodwill Industries of Alberta empowers Albertans through meaningful employment and sustainability programs. Their Thrifting Hall of Fame campaign drove 250% social media growth, boosted donations by 8%, and earned 7 media stories—amplifying their mission to transform used goods into opportunity.



*Recognizes a business/organization that developed and implemented a
successful marketing initiative that has a demonstrable impact.*



MARKETING
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
WINNER



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WINNER



MENTORSHIP

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Recognizes a business/organization that exemplifies professionalism, and dedication to learning, and endorses a distinct strategy or program that promotes mentorship.



Presented by:



DON'T BE CHY BOUTIQUE



Chyanne and Darryl Smith are the duo behind three small-town businesses spanning photography, retail, and beauty—fueled by hard work, teamwork, and just enough wine to keep things interesting. After learning (sometimes the hard way) how to grow something from nothing, they're now passionate about mentoring others through the chaos of entrepreneurship. Their goal? Help fellow business owners feel less alone, more confident, and maybe even laugh a little along the way.

SPARKLE & SHEEN ORGANIZE & CLEAN SERVICES



Sparkle & Sheen Organize and Cleaning Services Ltd. is a company redefining the cleaning industry through eco-conscious, pet-safe services committed to ensuring every home or office we touch SPARKLES—inside and out. The company is home to Maid for Products, a Canadian-made line of sustainable cleaning products, and Maid to Learn, an in-house training and development initiative empowering team members and others with business, life and leadership skills in the cleaning industry. Through its charitable arm, Maid to Help, Sparkle & Sheen extends its reach by offering free cleans to individuals in need.

TINY TOES CASTLE



Tiny Toes Castle mentorship program reflects a deep commitment to professional growth, empowering educators at all stages of their careers through coaching, collaboration, and shared learning. By nurturing leadership from within, the organization fosters a strong, supportive culture where every team member feels valued, guided, and equipped to deliver high-quality care and education to the children and families they serve.

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Mentorship Award of Distinction Winner

Tiny Toes Castle

Their inclusive mentorship model supports youth, seniors, newcomers, Indigenous staff, and individuals with disabilities—achieving 98–99% retention, 100% goal success, and a 65% boost in productivity. Through an integrated learning approach, they're strengthening Alberta's early learning workforce.



Recognizes a business/organization that exemplifies professionalism, and dedication to learning, and endorses a distinct strategy or program that promotes mentorship.



MENTORSHIP
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
WINNER

Tiny Toes Castle

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WINNER

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with **Stacey Brotzel**

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Edmonton, AB



SAVE THE DATE!

NEWCOMER ENTREPRENEUR AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Recognizes a newcomer who has overcome unique challenges to build a successful business/organization in Alberta and make meaningful contributions to the Alberta economy. This award honours the entrepreneurial successes and efforts of individuals who were born outside of Canada and now call Alberta home.



NEWCOMER ENTREPRENEUR
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
FINALISTS

Presented by:



350 FARMS



350Farms is nestled in the heart of the Lakeland region, offers guests an authentic Alberta experience. Just a short drive from Cold Lake, they combine sustainable agriculture, eco-friendly hospitality, and wellness services to create memorable, meaningful stays that guests can cherish for years. 350Farms highlight the beauty of Alberta's natural landscape through ethically raised pastured meats and immersive on-farm dining experiences. Their animals are raised in natural habitats, contributing to ecological balance and producing healthier, flavorful products for the community.

THE TISTO FACTORY



The Tisto Factory is redefining pierogies with visually striking, striped dumplings made using only natural vegetable extracts—no artificial dyes. Their bold, inventive fillings—like smoked brisket with pickles, caramelized pear with mascarpone, and honey-glazed chicken with spinach—turn each pierogie into a unique culinary story. Creating a new niche called Art Pierogies, they prove healthy, natural ingredients can be both delicious and beautiful. Recognized with three Avenue Magazine awards, The Tisto Factory brings restaurant-quality, fun, and fancy pierogies straight to home kitchens, making every meal a memorable experience.

SABAH CONSULTING



NEWCOMER ENTREPRENEUR
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
FINALISTS

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SABAH is a strategic consulting firm helping organizations grow — not just by doing more, but by doing better. Known as The Growth Reimagined Company, they bring together brand, marketing, innovation, and digital to help leaders drive sustainable, human-centered growth. Through bold thinking and measurable outcomes, they enable their clients to stay relevant, resilient, and ready for what's next.

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Newcomer Entrepreneur Award of Distinction Winner



350Farms invites guests to experience Alberta's natural beauty through sustainable farming and farm-to-table dining. With local hiring, vendor partnerships, and community donations, 350Farms is growing Alberta's agri-tourism and rural economy sustainably.



This award honours the entrepreneurial successes and efforts of individuals who were born outside of Canada and now call Alberta home.



NEWCOMER ENTREPRENEUR
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
WINNER

350 FARMS
AUTHENTIC HERITAGE

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WINNER

SMALL BUSINESS

AWARD OF DISTINCTION



Recognizes the contributions that small business owners provide to Alberta's economy. Because the SME industry plays such a crucial role in Alberta's economy, we want to recognize the entrepreneurs who work hard in making their small businesses a success.



[Return to program page](#)



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ORANGE FROG PRODUCTIONS



Orange Frog Productions is a Calgary-based event production company specializing in high-end lighting design and immersive event experiences. With over 25 years of expertise rooted in theatrical storytelling, they create bold, unforgettable environments for corporate galas, product launches, and large-scale celebrations. Their team brings creative precision, technical excellence, and a collaborative spirit to every event they produce.

DIPLOMAT CONSULTING



Diplomat Consulting is an Alberta-based government relations and strategic communications firm specializing in highly regulated industries. Founded in 2020, the firm combines regulatory foresight with authentic relationship-building to deliver clear outcomes for clients across sectors like agriculture, health care, and emerging technologies. Diplomat creates tangible value by aligning public affairs strategy with economic opportunity.

THE HOT TUB MAN



This Alberta-based company is a trailblazer in hot tub service, custom spas, and locally manufactured cold plunges. With a mission to simplify and elevate the ownership experience, they deliver exceptional service, innovative products, and honest advice. Backed by a perfect 5.0 Google rating, a growing team, and a service-first philosophy, the company is proudly leading the evolution of the hot tub industry across Alberta.

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Small Business Award of Distinction Winner



Diplomat Consulting is an Alberta-grown strategic communications and government relations firm. Pioneers of Canada's first cannabis event insurance and contributors to the Pharmacare Act, they support startups and small businesses with regulatory navigation and funding strategies.



*Recognizes the contributions that small business owners provide to
Alberta's economy.*



SMALL BUSINESS
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
WINNER



DIPLOMAT
CONSULTING

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WINNER

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Recognizes young entrepreneurs who exemplify the qualities of effective leadership, innovatively applied know-how, and excellent potential for growth. They are opportunity grabbers, passionate about innovation and progress.



YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
FINALISTS

Presented by:



KOOLIOS



Koolios rolled ice cream is a proudly Canadian dessert brand known for it's handcrafted, made to order rolled ice cream! Created by Maia, a 20 year old entrepreneur in Grande Prairie, Alberta, Koolios blends creativity, quality, and a fun-loving culture to serve unforgettable dessert experiences.

MUSIC STUDIO 27



Music Studio 27 is a music teaching business located in Spruce Grove that serves Parkland County and the surrounding area. It takes a creative but classical approach to music learning for students ages 2 through adult.

SKNN MEDICAL AESTHETICS



YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
FINALISTS



SKNN Medical Aesthetics was founded on a commitment to exceptional customer service, transparency, and a results-driven approach. Guided by strong core values, the team delivers their very best at every appointment and interaction. Their goal is to ensure every client leaves not only with beautiful results, but also with a positive, empowering experience. Dedicated to enhancing natural beauty and supporting the journey to self-love, client satisfaction remains SKNN Medical Aesthetics' top priority.

2025

Young Entrepreneur Award of Distinction Winner

KOOLIOS
rolled ice cream

Maia Gervais, who launched KOOLIOS in 2023, introduced Grande Prairie's first rolled ice cream concept, turning a cherished family tradition into a vibrant, hands-on dessert experience. Under her leadership, KOOLIOS quickly built a loyal community following through local events-like ice cream paint nights and "Pawtio" dog patio parties-partnerships with businesses like Ace of War for laser-tag dessert combos, and a welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere.



Recognizes young entrepreneurs who exemplify the qualities of effective leadership, innovatively applied know-how, and excellent potential for growth.



KOOLIOS
rolled ice cream

In its first year, KOOLIOS became profitable and earned widespread recognition, winning two 2024 Grande Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce Awards: Small Business of the Year – Under 10 Employees and the Emerging Business Award, both presented during Small Business Week. The business also won Silver in both the “Ice Cream” and “Dessert” categories in the 2024 CommunityVotes Grande Prairie public poll, reinforcing its popularity and strong local support.

With over 113K followers and 2.6M likes on TikTok, KOOLIOS has established a dynamic digital presence. Now poised for expansion through a food truck, future franchising, and ongoing marketing campaigns, Maia’s strategic vision continues to drive the brand’s long-term growth and success.



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An advertisement for Bareology Beauty. It features a woman's hands holding a black bag of beauty products. The text "Bareology BEAUTY" is prominently displayed, followed by the tagline "Where luxury meets confidence, naturally." Below this is the website "BareologyBeauty.ca" and social media icons for a website, Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. A QR code with the text "shop online" is also present.

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ALBERTA BUSINESS AWARDS OF DISTINCTION 2026



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