

MEDIA ADVISORY - For Immediate Release:

Stratford – Nominations are now being accepted for the 2017 Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce 21st Annual Business Excellence Awards (BEA). The Chamber of Commerce BEA Awards offer businesses the chance to shine and are an opportunity for businesses to promote advancement of responsible business leadership within the community. The organizing committee is seeking public input for the nominations.

Any business or entrepreneur whom you feel has exemplified leadership, customer service, determination and creativity is eligible to be nominated in any of the 10 award categories -

Retail
Hospitality
Commercial

Manufacturing
Non-Profit/Charitable
Entrepreneur

Service
Professional
Innovation

These businesses will be assessed in the areas of growth, customer service, innovation, sales, marketing and promotion, technological advancement, community support, commitment and leadership, employee relations/management, and environmental responsibility. The Non-Profit/Charitable Award will focus on an organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the community through involvement and dedication to the community, outstanding contribution to a supported cause(s), proven effective/successful fundraising initiatives, growth, innovation, staff/ management/volunteer relations and demonstrated leadership.

The **Community Leader** award is presented to a person who will have demonstrated a commitment to self-development and contribution to the business community. This year the Community Leader award will be chosen by the Board of the Chamber of Commerce and presented at the Awards Gala.

Finally, we honour one business with the **Business of the Year** award. This business has leveraged innovation and demonstrated outstanding performance, effective leadership, responsive management and quality service over the years but particularly in the past year. Not only has this business achieved tangible performance improvements in efficiency, productivity, competitiveness and market share with their products or services, they have also developed excellent employee-employer relationships.

The nominees must be within the geographical boundaries of the Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce, which includes the City of Stratford, Town of St Marys, Townships of Perth East and South, and the Municipality of West Perth. Nominations can be made by any individual who knows of a business that has demonstrated business excellence and meets the criteria.

Nomination can be made online at the Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce website www.stratforddistrictchamber.com. The nominator should be sure to indicate on the nomination form why they are nominating their choice. To complete the nomination process the nominee will be asked to provide detailed information on how they meet the criteria through a questionnaire sent out by the Chamber of Commerce.

Nominations open on Monday, January 9, 2017

Deadline for nominations is Sunday, February 5th, 2017

Winners will be announced at the BEA Awards Gala held at the Arden Park Hotel on Thursday, May 4th, 2017

For further information contact:

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