

Today's entrepreneurs are tomorrow's market leaders: Ernst & Young Firm announces Pacific finalists for 2009 Entrepreneur Of The Year®

(Vancouver – July 7, 2009) Entrepreneurial-minded companies are growing with incredible speed and quickly entering into the ranks of the world's largest corporations, Ernst & Young said today when unveiling this year's Pacific finalists for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards.

"In our globalized economy where innovation is vital to success, entrepreneurs matter," said Fred Withers, Director of Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year for the Pacific region. "When it comes to creating, long-term, sustainable growth, jobs and wealth, it's not just about politicians and central bankers — entrepreneurs will lead the way to recovery."

Historically, economists, academics and industry leaders have agreed that recessions foster the innovative thinking synonymous with entrepreneurship. As referenced in Ernst & Young's latest white paper, *Entrepreneurship and innovation*, many of today's most recognizable brands were actually born during recessions. Many of these so-called "downturn babies" now have market capitalizations in the hundreds of millions, or even billions, of dollars.

Today, in the midst of a recession worse than most of us have seen in our lifetimes, we think it's even more critical to listen to the ideas of our Canadian entrepreneurs," said Withers. "Our Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards program provides a great forum for recognizing their efforts."

A recent Ernst & Young survey, *Seizing opportunities*, shows many entrepreneurs already have the right idea. Ninety-three percent of respondents said that, despite the economic downturn, they are broadening their customer base and entering new markets.

"It's reassuring to see that many entrepreneurs in British Columbia are already taking bold steps forward," Withers said. "Along with its challenges, the global recession represents an unprecedented opportunity for growth. Those who seize opportunity and adapt quickly can emerge as leaders, and launch the great companies of our future."

The Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards recognize the unique spirit and contributions of entrepreneurs here and around the world. The Canadian program is in its 16th year of honouring the country's most impressive entrepreneurs from all areas of business.

The Pacific winners will be announced at a banquet on October 8, and the overall winner will represent the region at the national banquet, also being held in Vancouver this year, on November 24.

The 2009 Pacific finalists for Entrepreneur Of The Year:

Business family

David Yochlowitz

ABC Recycling Ltd. | Burnaby
abcrecycling.com

Scrap metal processor, exporter and broker.

Ryan Beedie

The Beedie Group | Burnaby
beediegroup.ca

Specializes in the design, construction and management of industrial buildings in Greater Vancouver and Alberta.

Anthony Stewart

Quails' Gate Estate Winery Ltd. | Kelowna
quailsgate.com

Estate winery owned and operated by the Stewart family.

**Business-to-business
products and services****Riaz Pisani**

Contact Services Inc. | Vancouver
contactservices.com

Direct marketing, print and fulfilment company specializing in personalized one-to-one communications that build brand and customer loyalty.

Brett Hodson

Corix Group of Companies | Vancouver
corix.com

Helps communities build and manage infrastructure for water, wastewater and sustainable energy.

Len Metcalfe

LMI Technologies Inc. | Delta
lmitechnologies.com

Global solutions provider of leading-edge machine vision technologies.

**Business-to-consumer
products and services****Jeff Donnelly**

Donnelly Hospitality Management | Vancouver
dhmbars.ca

Owns and operates 10 nightclubs, pubs and bars in Vancouver.

Daniel Sitnam

Helijet International Inc. | Richmond
helijet.com

Operator of scheduled helicopter services, charters for the film, television, aerial tour and general charter markets, as well as air ambulance services.

Queenie Chu, Kin Wah Leung, Kin Hun Leung

Kin's Farm Market | Richmond
kinsfarmmarket.com

Retailer of fresh produce.

Cleantech**Brad Miller**

IMW Industries Ltd. | Chilliwack
imw.ca

Designer and builder of high-pressure compressors for gaseous fuels used for fuelling vehicles, and for bulk gas transportation for industrial/commercial applications and power generation.

Ross MacLachlan

Lignol Energy Corporation | Burnaby
lignol.ca

Producer of fuel-grade ethanol and other biochemicals from wood waste and agriculture residue.

Jonathan Rhone

Nexterra Energy Corp. | Vancouver
nexterra.ca

Developer and supplier of biomass gasification solutions that generate heat and power for institutional and industrial customers.

Health sciences

Andrew Rae

iCo Therapeutics Inc. | Vancouver
icotherapeutics.com

Reprofiling company focused on redosing or reformulating drugs with clinical history for new or expanded indications.

Scott Cormack

OncoGeneX Technologies Inc. | Vancouver
oncogenex.com

Develops and commercializes new cancer therapies that address treatment resistance in cancer patients.

Simon Pimstone

Xenon Pharmaceuticals Inc. | Burnaby
xenon-pharma.com

Specializes in clinical genetic-based drug discovery and development.

Mining and metals

Rui Feng

Silvercorp Metals Inc. | Vancouver
silvercorpmetals.com

Primary silver producer with mining, development and exploration projects located in the People's Republic of China.

Robert Quartermain

Silver Standard Resources Inc. | Vancouver
silverstandard.com

Owner and operator of silver mines.

Russell Hallbauer

Taseko Mines Limited | Vancouver
tasekomines.com

Mining exploration, development and production company.

Real estate/construction

Hugh Dobbie

Dowco Consultants Ltd. | Surrey
dowcoconsultants.com

Structural steel detailers.

Jim Barkman

Eagle West Cranes Inc. | Abbotsford
eaglewestcranes.com

Mobile crane and freight services, self-erect crane sales and rentals, and crane accessories and self-erect crane distribution.

Mark Omelaniec

Langley Concrete LP | Langley
langleyconcretegroup.com

Provider of concrete pipe, manholes, catch basins and box culverts for the underground storm and sanitary construction industry, hydro/tel vaults, oil-water separator systems, agricultural products and other custom precast products.

Technology and media

Steve Comber, Ho Kim, Dennis Law

Camacc Systems Inc. | Saanichton
camacc.com

Digital video surveillance systems integrator and manufacturer.

Milun Tesovic, Alan Juristovski

Metroleap Media Inc. | Burnaby
metroleap.com

Owner of Metrolyrics.com, which receives around 30-million unique monthly visitors and almost 80-million page views.

David Paperny

Paperny Films Inc. | Vancouver
papernyfilms.com

Producer of documentary, comedy and reality television shows.

Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year is sponsored nationally by Global Television Network, *National Post*, *La Presse* and RDI. Pacific region program sponsors are the *Vancouver Sun* and *BCBusiness* magazine.

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