

Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Media Release
October 24, 2009

North Ridge Development Corporation Named Saskatchewan Business of the Year

North Ridge Development Corporation, Saskatchewan's largest residential development and construction company, was named Saskatchewan's *Business of the Year* at the 26th Annual Achievement in Business Excellence (ABEX) Awards Dinner.

North Ridge Development Corporation was also the winner in the *Service* category.

Founded over 25 years ago by current President Walter Mah, North Ridge sets itself apart by constantly pursuing excellence in the quality of its product, the quality of its organization, and the quality of the home ownership experience.

From its humble roots as a part time business venture North Ridge is continuing to grow. However even through expansion, the company has maintained a common-sense, down-to-earth philosophy that fits well with hometown Saskatchewan sensibilities: the customer comes first, and customer satisfaction is the most important part of any North Ridge employee's job.

"We are proud to name the North Ridge Development Corporation as Saskatchewan's 2009 Business of the Year," noted Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce CEO Steve McLellan. "The Business of the Year is an exclusive award recognizing success and potential in a variety of areas. North Ridge demonstrated a commitment to Saskatchewan through both its business and community orientated activities and I am excited to see where they will be in another 25 years."

The *Business of the Year* is selected from all ABEX entrants. It is awarded to the business demonstrating exceptional performance that is particularly outstanding and deserving of praise. The performance may represent either individual achievement or overall success. The Award is judged according to profitability, growth, stability, investment strategy, and impact based on the relative size of the corporation.

Approximately 700 people from across the province attended the 26th Annual ABEX Awards which occurred in Saskatoon on October 24th, 2009.

Fourteen ABEX Awards in addition to the Business of the Year were presented to companies representing a variety of regions across the province. A complete list of 2009 ABEX Award Winners can be found below.

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The 2009 ABEX Award Winners

The TIA New Saskatchewan Product Award Sponsored by the Saskatchewan Research Council

WINNER: Bio-Extraction Inc., Saskatoon

The TIA New Saskatchewan Product Award goes to a business demonstrating exceptional performance in launching a new Saskatchewan-made product, technology or service, which is original and has good commercial potential. The winner receives a \$10,000 monetary prize provide by Saskatchewan Research Council's Technology-in-Action Fund.

Bio-Extraction Inc. (Bio-Exx) develops, constructs, owns and operates oilseed processing facilities. Bio-Exx is the first company worldwide to develop and commercialize a low temperature oil extraction and protein isolation system that allows for the separation and sale of very high value protein isolates from canola.

Contact:

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Bio-Extraction Inc.
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Toronto, Ontario, M6K 3J1.
Ph:416 588-8911 ext 119

The New Venture Award Sponsored by Enterprise Saskatchewan

WINNER: Team Drilling, Saskatoon

The Award goes to a new business venture which has been in existence for 3 years or less and has shown positive performance in terms of current or expected profitability, job creation or entry into new markets. Financial criteria, as well as the nature of the new venture and its impact on job creation and market expansion are evaluated.

Team Drilling is a Canadian owned and operated company based on knowledge, experience, integrity, and safety, whose aim is to provide drilling services for underground and surface exploration in the minerals industry. Team Drilling focuses their drilling activities throughout Northern Saskatchewan, across Canada and worldwide.

Contact:

Robert Fleming, President and General Manager
Team Drilling
A3035 Miners Avenue
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7K 8A1.
Ph: 306-955-8326

**The Community Involvement Award
Sponsored by the Canadian Bankers Association**

WINNER: Pic-Man Tattoo, Saskatoon

The Award for Community Involvement goes to a business demonstrating exceptional performance in its support of the arts and culture, amateur sports, education, or volunteer groups. Judging takes into account the relative size of the business. Greater consideration is given for involvement that is not an extension of the firm's main business activities.

Pic-Man Tattoo is a tattoo parlor located in downtown Saskatoon, specializing in custom body art, cosmetic reconstruction and enhancement. Investment in the community is just one of the many ways that Pic-Man Tattoos demonstrates their commitment to being a good business citizen. Involvement as event sponsors and participating in events with staff time and expertise means that staff donated 10% of their time in 2008 to volunteer causes.

Contact:

Marc and Tracey Grand'Maison, Owners
Pic-Man Tattoo
226- 3rd Ave South
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7K 1L9
Ph: 306-384-7887

**The Award for Job Creation
Sponsored by WorkSafe Saskatchewan**

WINNER: Point2 Technologies, Saskatoon

The ABEX Award for the Job Creation Category is awarded to the business demonstrating exceptional performance in creating new permanent jobs, taking into account the relative size and nature of the business.

Point2 Technologies Inc. develops and markets inventory management and online marketing software for the real estate and heavy equipment industries. Over the past 16 months, Point2 Technologies has grown from 90 to 135 employees. New employees at Point2 are offered on the job training and provided with continuous education opportunities.

Contact:

Roger Noujeim, VP of Public Relations
Point2 Technologies Inc.
500-3301 8th Street East
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7H 5K5
Ph: 306-955-1855

**The Environment Award
Sponsored by SaskWater**

WINNER: Ground Effects Environmental Services, Regina

The Environment Award goes to a business that demonstrates excellence in the development of innovative programs, products and/or services offering improvement for environmental purposes. Improvements may relate to soil, air, water, noise or visual pollutants, or energy conservation. Consideration is given to the projected impact of the improvements, the relative size, nature and special conditions of the business, and other factors such as capital investment and innovation.

Ground Effects Environmental Services Inc. (GEE) is an environmental remediation manufacturing company based in Regina, Saskatchewan. GEE helps customers treat contaminated soil, groundwater and air onsite with very little environmental disturbance. The company has more than 70 industry-leading innovations, holds two patents and maintains an industry leading runtime record of 99.9% on all its equipment.

Contact:

Sean Frisky, President
Ground Effects Environmental Services
P.O. Box 1605, 2251 Industrial Drive
Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 3C4
Ph: 306-352-1400

**The Marketing Award
Sponsored by KPMG LLP**

WINNER: Saskatoon Motor Products, Saskatoon

The Marketing Awards goes to a business demonstrating exceptional performance in marketing. The jury evaluates the success of a marketing program, giving consideration to the nature of the product and the relative size of the business.

In 2008, Saskatoon Motor Products launched an aggressive marketing campaign to distinguish the dealership and General Motors products from others in the Saskatoon market. Radio and print advertisements supported the dealership's showroom, activities and ongoing promotions such as morning radio shows and "Test Drive Tuesday" were established. During the 2008 focus period, sales volume increased 71%.

Contact:

Robert Mann, Sales Manager
Saskatoon Motor Products
715 Circle Drive East, P.O. Box 370
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7K 3L3
Ph: 306-242-0276

The Health Innovation Award
Sponsored by MD Ambulance Care, Regina Qu'Appelle Health
Region and Saskatoon Health Region

WINNER: TinyEYE Therapy Services, Saskatoon

The Health Innovation award is presented to a Saskatchewan business that demonstrates excellence in the provision of health services, medical technology or the creation of products or services used by the health/medical sector in Saskatchewan or around the world.

TinyEYE Therapy Services has created a tele-health application that enables Speech Language Pathologists to treat patients in various regions across the world. TinyEYE initially sold licenses of their proprietary speech therapy telepractice software. However, in 2008 TinyEYE evolved beyond being a technology vendor and created a remote speech therapy practice. TinyEYE now provides Speech Language Pathology services over the internet using software, web cameras and headsets.

Contact:

Greg Sutton, President
TinyEYE Therapy Services
1276-116 Research Drive
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 3R3
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The Service Award

WINNER: North Ridge Development Corporation., Saskatoon

The Service Awards goes to a business demonstrating exceptional performance in providing quality customer service (wholesale and retail trade, purchasing and distribution, transportation, brokering, professional services, communications, financial, etc.), giving consideration to the relative size and particular conditions of the business, as well as the growth potential, stability, investment strategy, and quality of customer service initiatives.

North Ridge Development Corporation is the province's largest residential development and construction company. The goal of the North Ridge Development team is to build a quality product that demonstrates craftsmanship and provides value. The company maintains a common-sense, down-to-earth philosophy: the customer comes first, and customer satisfaction is the most important part of any North Ridge employee's job.

Contact:

Wally Mah, President
North Ridge Development Corporation
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Ph: 306-242-2434

The Investment Award
Sponsored by PFM Capital Inc.

WINNER: Richardson International Limited, Yorkton

The ABEX Award for the Investment Category is awarded to the business demonstrating exceptional performance in making capital investment. The jury evaluates the economic impact of capital investments, taking into account the relative size and nature of the business.

Richardson International Limited is involved in all aspects of the agriculture product cycle. Recently Richardson has pursued a significant capital expansion program in Saskatchewan which has included the investment of over \$18 million in Saskatchewan facilities. Additionally in 2008, Richardson began construction of a canola processing plant in Yorkton with a construction budget of \$165 million.

Contact:

Jean-Marc Ruest, Vice President
Corporate Affairs and General Counsel
Richardson International Limited
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Ph: 204-934-5961

The Export Award
Sponsored by the Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership

WINNER: Mustard Capital Incorporated, Gravelbourg

The ABEX Award for the Exports Category is awarded to the business demonstrating exceptional performance in exporting goods or services outside of Saskatchewan including increased export sales and successful entry into new markets.

Mustard Capital Inc. (MCI) operates a dry mustard milling facility. The facility provides processed, high quality yellow, oriental and brown mustard ingredients to customers around the world. Since the company's inception in 2007, it has sold products to 15 different countries. Currently MCI is targeting selected markets in Asia and the Middle East for market expansion in 2009-10.

Contact:

Tom Halpenny, CEO
Mustard Capital Inc.
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Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan, S0H 1X0
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**The Business Leader of the Year Award
Sponsored by Viterra Inc.**

WINNER: Clay Dowling - Ghost Transportation Services, Saskatoon

The Business Leader of the Year Award goes to an individual who exemplifies the qualities of the business visionary. This person has shown outstanding success in business or industry through the development of a new process, product or service or for meaningful contributions to the local business community.

Clay Dowling founded Ghost Transportation Services with the goal of offering diversity and flexibility to customers. Dowling recognizes that contact and communication are keys to success and facilitates these within Ghost Transportation. In 2008 Dowling was inducted into the Saskatchewan Transportation Hall of Fame. He is also is a former Saskatchewan Chamber President and North Saskatoon Business Association President.

Contact:

Clay Dowling, President
Ghost Transportation Services
715E 46th Street West
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7L 6A1
Ph: 306-249-351

**The Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award
Sponsored by Cameco Corporation**

WINNER: Danny Elder - OffAxis, Regina

The ABEX Award for Young Entrepreneur of the Year is awarded to an entrepreneur between the ages of 18-35 who has achieved success in the start-up and operation of a new or existing business. Eligible candidates must offer a product and/or service; have served at least ten customers; have an original concept; have long term goals, as well as strategies to meet those goals; and have demonstrated innovation by adapting to marketplace challenges.

In 2001, Danny and his brother Doug opened a retail store focused on board sports. OffAxis markets itself by organizing events that young people can enjoy and that revolve around the products OffAxis retails. Committed to offering innovative products and the latest fashion trends, OffAxis doubled its size in 2004, opened a second location in 2007, and plans to open a third by late 2009.

Contact:

Danny Elder, Owner
OffAxis
2581 Quance Street East
Regina, Saskatchewan, S4V 2Y7
Ph: 306-522-7433

**The Aboriginal Business Award
Sponsored by SaskEnergy**

WINNER: Aboriginal Consulting Services, Saskatoon

The Aboriginal Business Award is presented to a business or individual who has demonstrated leadership and commitment to the growth of Aboriginal businesses in Saskatchewan. Primary emphasis is given to businesses or individuals with established practices, a record of support, proven accomplishments and a commitment to the highest ethical standards and practices.

Aboriginal Consulting Services has delivered awareness training and helped with strategic planning for doing business with Aboriginal communities for numerous businesses and organizations. Originally established to help companies hire and retain Aboriginal employees by delivering Aboriginal Awareness Seminars, ACS later created the Eagle Feather News which has covered the Aboriginal community for 12 years.

Contact:

John Lagimodiere, President
ACS Aboriginal Consulting Services
P.O. Box 924
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7K 3M4
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**The Training Excellence Award
Sponsored by Enterprise Saskatchewan**

WINNER: Alliance Energy Group of Companies, Regina

The Training Excellence Award goes to a business demonstrating an ongoing commitment to training staff in Saskatchewan. Consideration is given to the accessibility of training, long term training strategies as well as the firm's financial commitment to training relevant to its size.

The Alliance Energy Group of Companies supplies professional electrical contracting services for the construction industry and is the largest electrical contractor in Saskatchewan. Alliance constantly trains apprentices, providing them with opportunities to learn the skills necessary to obtain their journeyman's certificate. 100% of employees have access to training, as training is a part of the culture at Alliance.

Contact:

Paul McLellan, CEO
Alliance Energy Group of Companies
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Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 3B8
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Saskatchewan Business Hall of Fame Inductee
Rawlco Radio

The Saskatchewan Business Hall of Fame was established in 1990 to recognize those businesses which have demonstrated excellence over an extended period of time and which have contributed significantly to the economic well being of Saskatchewan and its residents.

Rawlco Radio was named to the “Saskatchewan Business Hall of Fame” at the 2009 Achievement for Business Excellence (ABEX) Awards Dinner. Rawlco has been a cornerstone business in Saskatchewan, contributing significantly to the economic and social wellbeing of the province since it was established in 1946. Rawlco Radio is a private, family owned and operated radio company, founded by Ed Rawlinson and now owns and operates 12 radio stations across Saskatchewan. Rawlco has distinguished itself as a leader by providing local content and supporting Saskatchewan communities. Rawlco Radio is the 22nd entrant into the Business Hall of Fame.