



# BUSINESS EXCELLENCE FINALISTS

NELSON STAR



The Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards recognizes businesses and business leaders that have achieved excellence in the community through their efforts and initiatives. The recipients are businesses that display a sustained commitment to positive business development, economic growth as well as commitment to community.

Judges for the Business Excellence Awards are established or former business people who will not benefit in any manner from the selection process. Winners will be announced at the Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting and Business Excellence Awards March 28th, 5:00pm to 7:30pm at the Prestige Lakeside Resort.

## BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

This business stands out among its peers in the business community as a leading organization both in its approach to business and in service to the community. The business demonstrates true business excellence in overall operations, including customer service, employee relations, marketing, innovation and community support. This well rounded recipient is regarded as an industry leader with a strong reputation for their business success. The Business of the Year will be selected from the finalists listed below.

### NON PROFIT / COMMUNITY SERVICE EXCELLENCE

**NELSON FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY**  
Our mission is to provide initial monetary aid for travel-related expenses for medical treatment for children stricken with serious illness or injury and the families.

**THE SALVATION ARMY**  
Mission in Nelson is the same as in the world: Love people and give all people dignity and respect with low barrier services.



**NELSON & DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL**  
Providing artistic support and cultural experiences for all members of the community and tourists alike.

**THE CIVIC THEATRE**  
With 1,300 members and close to 50,000 visitors annually, The Civic Theatre supports and enhances our community through a wide variety of film presentations, cultural events, and innovation programs

### START UP/NEW BUSINESS ENTREPRENEUR EXCELLENCE

**BACKROADS BREWING CO.**  
Comfy and casual, Nelson's new gathering place found in the middle of Baker Street serving quality beers crafted by an award-winning brew master.

**NO. 6 COFFEE**  
A boutique coffee roastery and tasting bar that roasts and serves the highest quality coffee sourced from family-run farms and independent co-ops.



**BLACK SHEEP UNITED**  
Black Sheep United is the sandbox that companies grow in. Leading through example, we show entrepreneurs how to play, experiment and redefine the rules of business.

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE EXCELLENCE

**EDGE ROOFING LTD.**  
We are leaders in the industry by promoting products from recyclable materials and sustainable options for today's market.

**HALL PRINTING**  
In an industry that has many online low cost alternatives, we continue to grow by offering competitive pricing and great customer service.

**COVER ARCHITECTS**  
Cover is enthusiastic about continuing to build our community and have a hand in shaping the architectural landscape of the Kootenays.

### HOSPITALITY - FOOD AND BEVERAGE EXCELLENCE

**TORCHLIGHT BREWING CO.**  
A microbrewery committed to making high quality traditional and innovative all natural craft beers and sodas using environmentally conscious practices

**THE KOOTENAY BAKERY CAFÉ COOPERATIVE**  
An employee owned and operated organic bakery cafe' focussed on producing food that is delicious, wholesome, healthy and encompassing various dietary needs.

**MARZANO**  
A modern restaurant with staff trained in and committed to the traditions and methods behind the preparation of true Italian cuisine

### TOURISM EXCELLENCE

**KASLO JAZZ ETC SOCIETY**  
The KJES mission is to foster and promote the appreciation of Jazz and related genres in the Kootenay's. We recognize that our success would not be possible without the community we are a part of.

**WHITEWATER SKI RESORT**  
2017 BC Alpine Mountain Resort of the Year renowned for its authenticity, abundance of snow and legendary food - the most visited Powder Alliance resort.

**AINSWORTH HOT SPRINGS RESORT**  
A favourite getaway for young and old, honouring traditional history with a vision for the future of the Yaqan Nukiy people and Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort.

**MOUNTAIN CULTURE GROUP**  
Since we started 16 years ago we've been driven by the opportunity to do something extremely well.

### MANUFACTURING/TECHNOLOGY/INNOVATION EXCELLENCE

**SMRT1 TECHNOLOGIES**  
We have created a store in a box that Amazon or Ebay or any online vendor would love.

**VOYTECH COMPUTERS**  
We try to help people overcome their fear of technology. Why come to the shop when the shop can come to you?

### RETAIL EXCELLENCE

**STREETCLOTHES NAMED DESIRE**  
A Baker Street retail cornerstone; same owner providing shoppers with quality service and clothes of casual elegance for thirty two years.

**CARTOLINA**  
A one of a kind retail shopping experience offering a beautiful selection of paper goods, gifts, personal accessories and home accents.

**KOOTENAI MOON FURNITURE**  
A one-stop furniture and home decor business growing organically by listening to and helping their customers create a home they will love.

### INCLUSIVE EMPLOYER

**WAIT'S NEWS**  
We choose to treat everyone with respect and dignity as all humans deserve. There is no judgement, no stigmatizing, no criticism - Mari Plamondon - owner

**SAVE ON FOODS**  
Going the extra mile in support for community and staff with on-going training and development so they can achieve personal goals.