

Crystal Awards for Business Excellence 2008

Awards Gala: 5:30 pm, Wednesday, April 16, Dunsmuir Lodge

Nominations are open for the second annual Saanich Peninsula Chamber of Commerce 2008 Crystal Awards for Business Excellence. The awards recognize the outstanding accomplishments and contributions of business towards the economic good health and vitality of our community, in the areas of products, services, marketing, customer and employee relationships, community support, and entrepreneurial spirit.

Nominations

- Nominations for the Crystal Awards for Business Excellence are open to all companies located on the Saanich Peninsula, and non-peninsula companies that are Peninsula Chamber members.
- Self-nominations are encouraged. Anyone may nominate a business.
- All nominees must satisfy the general requirements listed below as well as specific award criteria.
- Submit separate nomination documents, if you nominate a business in more than one category.
- Deadline for nominations: 4:30 pm, Friday, February 29, 2008.

Supporting Documentation

With your nomination please submit the following:

- **Statement of nomination:** how does the nominated business meet the judging criteria for the award, for which it is nominated. Criteria for each award are outlined below.
- **Business profile:** background information and description of the nominated etc, to a maximum of 150 words. This will be used in the awards program, should the business be selected as an awards finalist.
- **Letters of support:** minimum of one and maximum of three letters in support of the nomination.

General Requirements

All nominees must:

- be in good standing in the community;
- be in good standing with regulatory authorities;
- possess a current business license;
- agree to be nominated;
- be willing to attend the **Crystal Awards for Business Excellence Gala Dinner**, on Wednesday, April 16, 2008, at Dunsmuir Lodge.

Please complete the nomination form and provide the information requested. Please attach relevant and supportive documentation, articles or list of accomplishments along with your nomination. *Please do not submit videos or dvds, or any materials you would like returned.*

A diverse panel of judges, comprising business leaders and Peninsula Chamber directors, will make the final selections.

Categories and Criteria

1 - 3. Business of the Year Award: (*Nominees in this category must be members of the Saanich Peninsula Chamber of Commerce.*)

- Business of the Year 1 – 25 employees
- Business of the Year 26 – 50 employees
- Business of the Year 50 plus employees

The nominee business, in any of the above three categories, must:

- demonstrate continual business excellence through positive growth;
- show exceptional service within the community;
- embrace an outstanding commitment to quality.

4 . Contribution to Community and Community Service – Business

5. Contribution to Community and Community Service – Not-for-Profit Organization

The nominee business must:

- show exceptional support for community arts, cultural, sports and educational events;
- promote staff volunteerism in community organizations;
- provide significant support for community events or activities through volunteer hours or financial donations.

6. Environmental Responsiveness

The nominee business must:

- display environmental responsiveness through personal leadership and effort;
- demonstrate innovation in stewardship of the environment;
- display commitment to exemplary environmental responsiveness, beyond governmental requirements;
- encourage others to be environmentally responsible.

7. Innovation and Entrepreneurship

The nominee business must:

- produce innovative goods or services, and/or develop innovative strategies for conducting business;
- incur significant risk to start or grow the business;
- demonstrate commitment to continuous improvement.

8. New Business: Began operations by January 1, 2006

The nominee business must:

- be in business two years or less;
- show good growth potential and key milestones;

- show significant financial risk to develop the business;
- demonstrate high quality products or services;
- demonstrate excellent customer service.

9. Newsmaker of the Year – 2007

The nominee business must:

- have inspired a news/human interest story that attracted positive local, provincial, national or international media attention in 2007.

10. Tourism Excellence

The nominee business must:

- show positive influence on the development of tourism on the Saanich Peninsula;
- demonstrate active involvement in the tourism sector;
- foster collaboration to promote tourism.

11. Employee of the Year

The nominee must:

- exceed the expectations of the job;
- demonstrate leadership in the workplace;
- provide consistent, outstanding customer service;
- demonstrate productivity that contributes to the bottom line.

12. Employer of the Year

The nominee must

- demonstrate commitment to excellence by providing on-going training and/or professional development opportunities;
- provide healthy, safe and flexible work environment;
- implement and support a culture that enables employees to balance commitments to work, family and community.

13. Lifetime Achievement

The nominee business must demonstrate at least four of the following:

- history of success on the Saanich Peninsula;
- high ethical and professional standards;
- sustained quality relationships with customers, shareholders, suppliers and staff;
- innovation and entrepreneurship;
- encouragement and development of leadership among staff and colleagues;
- inspired, shared and developed vision for the future of the organization.