

For immediate release

Ernst & Young honours Prairies finalists for Entrepreneur Of The Year 2012

Awards shine the spotlight on Canadian entrepreneurs' ability to create sustainable growth – and jobs

(Toronto – July 5, 2012) Ernst & Young is proud to announce the finalists in this year's Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® Awards and once again shine the spotlight on game-changing entrepreneurs who continue to drive sustainable growth and job creation across the country.

“We're excited to honour this year's group of finalists who have shown the remarkable ability to build businesses from the ground up,” says Rob Jolley, Prairies Director of Entrepreneur Of The Year. “It's business leaders like these who continue to be a driving force behind the Canadian economy and job creation.”

According to the recent Ernst & Young report, *Global job hot spots: help wanted*, entrepreneurs expanded jobs in Canada — and globally — by 16% in 2011 and still show signs of growth.

“Each year we have the pleasure of celebrating a group of entrepreneurs who not only contribute to Canadian business but to their communities across the country as well,” says Jolley. “Statistics reveal that the majority of these business leaders actively support community services, and 25% have created or funded an educational program.”

These results combined are proof points that show how important it is for all stakeholders to support entrepreneurship in Canada and abroad.

“Our Entrepreneur Of The Year program is one way we're drawing attention to the amazing contributions these men and women are making – but there's always more work to be done,” says Jolley. “Each and every one of us has to step up to the plate and support local talent if we're to create a truly thriving entrepreneurial culture.”

Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates the contribution and spirit of entrepreneurs everywhere. The Canadian program is in its 19th year of honouring the country's most impressive entrepreneurs from all areas of business. Award finalists are chosen based on their vision, leadership, financial success and social responsibility.

The Prairies winners will be announced at a banquet on October 11, and the overall winner will represent the region at the national gala held in Toronto on January 16, 2013.

For more information on *Global job hot spots: help wanted*, click [here](#).

The 2012 Prairies finalists for Entrepreneur Of The Year:

Business-to-business products and services

Maury Van Vliet, Scott Van Vliet, Todd Van Vliet

Environmental Refuelling Systems Inc.

envirofuel.ca

Provides complete fuel management, including procurement, transportation, onsite delivery and storage, and project administration

Kim Caron

Executive Mat Service Ltd.

executivemat.com

A market leader in the textile rental market providing quality product, superior service and environmental stewardship

Angela Santiago

The Little Potato Company Ltd.

littlepotatoes.com

A leading brand in the creamer potato market sold through major retailers and foodservice companies across North America

Business-to-consumer products and services**Dr. Alan Ulsifer**

FYi Doctors

fyidoctors.com

The first and only eye care company to merge full scope optometric practices into a single entity

Dianna Davidson

Magellan Vacations

magellanvasions.com

An online travel agency offering luxury hotel booking services in select North American destinations to global clientele

Ryan Pomeroy

Pomeroy Lodging LP

pomeroyinnandsuites.com

A full-service hospitality company focused on limited-service hotels in secondary and tertiary markets, providing development, construction, management and franchise services

Cleantech**Perry Gerwing**

Earthmaster Environmental Strategies Inc.

earthmaster.ab.ca

Provides environmental consulting services and has co-developed a proprietary phytoremediation technology for cost-effective cleanup of contaminated sites

Dan Balaban

Greengate Power Corporation

greengatepower.com

Develops quality wind energy projects across Alberta

Evan Chrapko, Shane Chrapko

Himark bioGas

himarkbiogas.com

Converts waste to energy and provides algae growth and harvest technology

Dan Guenette, Don Guenette

Infratech Corporation

infratech.cc

Manufactures combustion process and incineration-related products and state-of-the-art infrared imaging, and provides consulting services, combustion equipment optimization and maintenance

Emerging entrepreneur**Ken James**

Oak Point Energy Ltd.

oakpointenergy.ca

An oilsands exploration and development company delivering value through high-quality resources, game-changing technology and an experienced, highly committed team

Lyle Michaluk, Cliff Wiebe

Poseidon Concepts Corp.

poseidonconcepts.com

Provides safe, innovative fluid-handling solutions to the oil and natural gas sectors across North America

Regan Stevenson

Sunpeak Multiwise

sunpeakfoods.com

Provides top-quality, natural, convenient and enjoyable food products

Energy – privately held

Blaine LaBonte

Cougar Drilling Solutions

cougards.com

Supplies high-performance vertical, directional and horizontal drilling services to the oil, gas and geothermal exploration and development industries

Dean Shaver

CSI Canada Safety Inc.

csicanadasafety.com

Provides experienced rig, completions and construction safety consultants

Lance Torgerson

Noralta Lodge Ltd.

noraltalodge.com

Provides remote workforce accommodation services to the Canadian oilsands industry

Gerry Chalifoux

Petrospec Engineering Ltd.

petrospeceng.com

Provides turn-key reservoir monitoring solutions to unconventional oil and gas companies

Energy – publicly traded

Don Caron

Bri-Chem Corp.

brichem.com

A leading distributor, blender and manufacturer of drilling fluids and steel pipe

Brian Vaasjo

Capital Power Corporation

capitalpower.com

Produces, develops, acquires, operates and optimizes power generation from a variety of energy sources

Jim Rakievich

McCoy Corporation

mccoyglobal.com

A one-stop shop for onshore and offshore oilfield tools and technological solutions

Manufacturing

Henry Friesen

Convey-All Industries Inc.

convey-all.com

Manufactures conveyors and equipment for the grain-handling and oilfield industry

Dean Spence

Dynamic Solutions/DSI Thru-Tubing

dsinc.ca

Specializes in the design, manufacture and operation of coiled tubing downhole tools

Nicholas Donohoe

ICI Artificial Lift Inc.

iciartificiallift.com

Designs, manufactures, installs and services a unique line of oil and gas production equipment

Jason Parks

Profab Corp.

profabcorp.com

A multi-divisional company servicing several aspects of the oil and gas, construction and agriculture industries

Professional and investment services

Terry Stephenson

Blackjack Investments Ltd.

bj-investments.com

A privately held investment company in the energy and resource sector

David Aplin

David Aplin Group

aplin.com

Provides recruitment services across Canada for executive, mid- to senior-level technical, professional and office personnel

David Cronin, Chris Izquierdo

DevFacto Technologies Inc.

devfacto.com

A software consulting company specializing in systems integration and solutions for construction and energy verticals

Real estate and construction

Bert DeBruin, Jeanette DeBruin

AltaPro Electric

altapro.ca

An electrical contracting company providing design and build electrical services for commercial and industrial services

Alex Pagnotta, Mario Pagnotta

Pagnotta Industries Inc.

pagnotta.ca

Provides construction management and concrete contracting

Jeff Jessamine

Sprague Group of Companies
sprague-rosser.com

A full-service contracting company that offers fully licensed and bonded services in civil, commercial and industrial construction work

Wayne Chiu

Trico Homes
tricohomes.com

Provides meaningful product choices for single- and multi-family homes

Technology**Trevor MacFarlane, Glenn Yuen**

Dynamic Risk Assessment Systems, Inc.
dynamicrisk.net

Works with pipeline companies to model their pipelines in an effort to identify where problems may occur and their consequences

Marcos Lopez

Solium Capital
solium.com

A leading global provider of web-based stock plan administration technology and services

Tara Kelly

SPLICE Software Inc.
splicesoftware.com

A global leader in provisioning human voice messaging and interactive voice solutions across virtually any industry group that communicates regularly with its customer base

About Entrepreneur of The Year

Entrepreneur Of The Year honours the spirit and contribution of entrepreneurs here and around the world. Nominees are reviewed by an independent judging panel composed of several distinguished business leaders and previous award recipients. The 2012 Prairies judging panel consisted of Mike Duff, President and CEO, Design Group Staffing; Tony Franceschini, retired President and CEO, Stantec Inc.; Linda Hohol, Corporate Director; Curt Vossen, President, Richardson International; Kelley Smith, Vice President, Corporate Development, Viterra; and Stephanie Yong, Director, W. Brett Wilson Centre for Entrepreneurial Excellence.

For more information on the program, FAQs, and key dates, please visit ey.com/ca/EOY.

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This year's national program sponsors are *National Post*, *La Presse* and RDI.

About Ernst & Young's Entrepreneurial Services Practice

Ernst & Young LLP's Entrepreneurial Services Practice guides Canadian entrepreneurs by delivering integrated services tailored to their goals and needs at every stage of the business lifecycle. We are the world's leader in advising, guiding and recognizing the entrepreneurs who propel the economy – and community – forward.

For more information, please visit ey.com/ca/Entrepreneurs.

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