



Battlefords Business Excellence Awards

Recognizing Business Excellence Since 1994

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Media Release

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The **Battlefords Business Excellence Awards (BBEX)** Committee is pleased to announce that plans for the 2017 awards program are underway. Annually, the BBEX awards program honours excellence in the Battlefords business community, now in eight categories. 2017 marks the 24th anniversary of this prestigious business excellence awards program and celebration.

Nominations are now open! The categories in 2017 will remain **New Business Venture, Customer Service, Marketing, Micro Business, Heritage, Community Contribution, Battlefords' Best Employer and Business of the Year.**

In 2017, the Awards Program will continue with the new process for naming "**Business of the Year**". This is the marquee category and a highlight of each BBEX Awards program. In the past, this category has had a specific Application Kit and was treated as one of the 6 open category awards. This new format was introduced in 2015, and means that the "Business of the Year" category will be awarded to one business from the entirety of the finalist list in the 2017 six open categories.

"With the introduction of this new judging process, businesses can still complete Application Kits in 2 categories in the program," says Dallan Oberg, co-chair of the BBEX Awards committee. "We are very excited about having moved our program in this new direction which saw more anticipation building through the evening as each category is being announced and there is recognition of the number of great businesses in the community who could potentially be named as the final award winner".

For the third year, a "Battlefords' Best Employer" category is being included in the list of open categories. It will reward a business who excels in how employees are engaged in strategic goals and company values, and how human and supporting resources have been optimized to achieve and sustain commercial and competitive success. This application kit will require current employee testimonials, which will add a new and different component to the program.

"In this day and age of importance on employee development, retention, and work/life balance, the committee agreed that it is important to recognize a business who is creating a workplace of choice," added BBEX committee co-chair Dana Rissling.

Nomination kits are now available on-line at <http://www.battlefordschamber.com/connection/bbex.html>
Deadline for nomination submissions is Monday, July 31st, 2017. Kits may also be picked up at the offices of the Battlefords Chamber of Commerce at the Junctions of Highways 16 and 40 East, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed over the lunch hour)

The list of finalists is expected to be announced by Labour Day weekend, with winners in seven (7) of the categories being announced Tuesday, October 3rd, 2017 at the gala event and award ceremony. As is usual, the Heritage Award recipient will be announced along with the finalists in September. Tickets will go on sale for the gala event August 28th, 2017.

- 30 -

For further information contact:

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