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Celebration of the Spirit and Innovation of Entrepreneurs in Central Kootenay

Community Futures Central Kootenay honoured the spirit and innovation of entrepreneurs in this region at the 2010 Client Recognition Awards.

On Wednesday November 3, about 75 people attended the awards evening at the Hume Hotel. Nine winners in seven categories were selected from 50 nominees all over the region, from Nakusp to Creston.

“These awards give us the opportunity to celebrate the many successes of our clients,” says CFCK General Manager, Paul Wiest. “We get to see the passion that people have for their business.”

A buffet dinner was followed by a talk from local guest speaker Paul Edney, who inspired people to do small actions in return for a big impact.

The winners of the awards are:

1. Youth In Business

the business owner(s) must be under 29 years

- Nat Wansink, Bent Fork Restaurant, Nelson

2. Community Economic/Employment Impact

the business is providing sustainable economic or employment benefit to its community

- Jonathan Proctor, Selkirk Eyecare Optometrists, Nelson

3. Overcoming Barriers to Business

the business owner(s) has overcome significant personal, socio-economic, cultural or health challenges to create a sustainable business

- Carla Stephenson, Underground Arts Railroad, Salmo
- Susan Cooley, Akasha Fine Art Glass, Slocan Valley

continued

4. Internationally Recognized

owner and/or business has been recognized internationally through international sales, or international media

- Jason Remple & Kerry Luckey, Stellar Heli Skiing, Meadow Creek

5. Innovation

the business should demonstrate the provision of innovative technology, products or services or fill a unique niche

- Kevin & Heather Galloway, Across The Board Creations, Creston

6. New Business of the Year

the business must be within the first 2 years of operation

- Mike Klassen, Mike's Handyman Services, Salmo

7. Continuing Success

the business must have been in operation a minimum of 2 years

- Liz Cohoe, Lillie & Cohoe, Nelson
- Tim LeRoy, Doug's Disposal, Castlegar

Please contact Lisa Cannady at 352-1933 X105 for detailed information and pictures.