



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Deb Dawson-Dunn named 2009 Women Entrepreneur of the Year – Emerging Business!

Winnipeg, May 21, 2009 – Deb Dawson-Dunn, Owner of Get It Dunn, won the Emerging Business award at this year's Manitoba Woman Entrepreneur of the Year Award gala, hosted by Women Business Owners of Manitoba at The Fairmont Winnipeg on May 21st.

Deb is the proud owner of Get It Dunn which has been in business since December 2005. In her words, Deb wants to “create a joyful world by inspiring and equipping women to reconnect to their own sense of Joy”. Starting out as a Certified Laughter Yoga Leader and keynote speaker, she enrolled in 18 months of courses to become a Personal Leadership Coach who focuses on working with women who want to follow their heart and “play a bigger game”.

Get It Dunn got a huge boost in 2008 when Deb bought an established coaching practice and opened an office in downtown Winnipeg. After three years, she has turned a fledgling business into an increasingly profitable one. Most importantly, Deb Dawson-Dunn is definitely creating a more joyful world.

Winners were also announced in the following categories:

- Excellence in Service: Kim Bellmont, Trapeze Learning
- Contribution to Community: Coree Francisco, Girlone Interactive
- Home Enterprise: Barbara Chabai, BC Creative House Inc.
- International Trade: Carol Manlow, Country Connections
- Impact on Local Economy: Cindy Kinkead, Eriksdale Inn
- Emerging Business: Deb Dawson-Dunn, Get It Dunn
- Lifetime Achievement: Barbara Chapman, Bra Lady Inc.

Overall Excellence Award: Cindy Kinkead, Eriksdale Inn

"We congratulate all the winners and pay tribute to each and every woman who was a finalist in this challenging process," said Yvonne Thompson, President of WBOM and Principal Consultant at Change Innovators Inc. "Charting your own course by owning your own business brings both challenges and rewards. The Woman Entrepreneur of the Year gala puts the spotlight on Manitoba women who are embracing those challenges head-on and who are reaping the rewards of the risks they take every day."

The gala, MC'd by Maralee Caruso, CTV News Anchor, was well attended, with more than 350 people in attendance.

Women represent a growing economic force in Canada:

- Women entrepreneurs are one of the fastest growing segments of the Canadian economy: 4 out of 5 businesses are started by women; between 1991 and 2001, women's self-employment increased by 43%.
- The 821,000+ women entrepreneurs in Canada annually contribute in excess of \$18 billion to the economy.
- The number of women-owned businesses that focus on manufacturing, construction, transportation and communications is growing rapidly

The Winnipeg Chapter of Women Business Owners of Manitoba is a non-profit, independent organization that addresses the unique needs of the woman entrepreneur. Its mission is to support and inspire excellence, learning and growth in business. It provides a networking and support system unique to the needs of women business owners and strives to nurture and support its members' personal and professional growth.

It is this commitment to excellence that leads the organization to continue hosting the awards each year and to celebrating women entrepreneurs in Manitoba.

WBOM was created in 1986 in response to needs of women business owners. Since then, membership has grown steadily. In 1998, the Winnipeg Chapter of WBO was formed.