

News Release



For Immediate Release
February 12th, 2007

ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET, THE OABE IS COMING TO TOWN

OAKVILLE, ON – The Oakville Chamber of Commerce, in association with The Rotary Club of Oakville West, is pleased to host a reception to recognize the nominees for The Oakville Awards for Business Excellence (OABE) on Thursday, February 15th.

The Oakville Awards for Business Excellence is dedicated to recognizing exemplary models of excellence and community service in five categories. The annual program is now entering its 12th year. The OABE nominees will find out the winners at a prestigious Gala Dinner and Award ceremony. The Gala Award Dinner event will be held Thursday April 12, 2007 at the Oakville Conference and Banquet Centre.

This Year's Categories for the Awards are:

- **Entrepreneur of the Year:**
 - This award recognizes an individual who has introduced a new, different or unique business concept where the element of risk is significant and where a track record of success is clearly evident.
- **Manufacturer of the Year:**
 - This award recognizes a business involved in any of the design, fabrication, manufacturing, assembling, or wholesale distribution of goods.
- **Retailer of the Year:**
 - This award recognizes a retail business.
- **Service Provider of the Year:**
 - This award recognizes a business which provides service in areas such as legal, financial, automotive maintenance, personal care and other professional services.
- **Tourism/Hospitality Provider of the Year:**
 - This award recognizes businesses which provide services related to the tourism and hospitality sectors. The service areas include but are not limited to ... hotels, restaurants, catering, bars, sport facilities, entertainment complexes, destination or attraction operators.

Over the last 11 years the OABE has generated over \$240,000 in youth support and student awards while honouring over 150 exceptional entrepreneurs and businesses in our town. For more information please visit www.oabe.ca.

The reception which will be held from 5:30-7:30pm is generously sponsored by BriChem Sales Ltd and the Holiday Inn Oakville-Centre.

For additional information contact:

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BACKGROUND:

The Oakville Chamber of Commerce is the voice of the Oakville business community. We provide member benefits which include advocacy, corporate benefits, networking opportunities, business development and educational forums. Our mission is to foster a healthy economic environment for Oakville.

A not-for-profit organization, the Oakville Chamber of Commerce was established in 1954. The Chamber has grown to over 1000 member businesses representing over 37,000 employees. The Chamber is one of the largest associations of any kind in the Town of Oakville.

The Rotary Club of Oakville West is a diverse group of characters that pull together to make a difference to the community and to the world. Established in 1947 has accomplished so much, including:

- Water for humanity
- Oakville Awards for Business Excellence
- Camp Enterprise
- Scholarships and Bursaries Oakville Highschool Students
- Oakville Youth Development Centre