



## Finalists Announced for the 2017 Airdrie Business Awards

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**AIRDRIE, ALBERTA** – Finalists announced for the 2017 Airdrie Business Awards. Nominations were open from May 1 to July 31 and received a record-breaking number of nominations. “We received 147 nominations in the six categories,” says Lynn Kehoe, Awards Organizing Committee Member. The awards process has changed this year and the committee has added a new award, the Legacy Business Award. “We’ve also streamlined the process to make it more transparent and easier to understand. All nominations are now adjudicated by a third party,” says Kehoe. “We’ve also added the Legacy Award to help honour those businesses that have made Airdrie their home for over 15 years. We really wanted a long service award and are really excited about this year’s finalists.”

The **Airdrie Business Leader Award** is awarded to an individual whose business ethics and philosophies extend beyond the walls of their business and have a positive impact on the Airdrie community as a whole; an individual whose vision encompasses both the priorities of the community along with a high degree of business excellence. This year’s finalists are:

- Heather Crippen, CrossFit 403
- Devin Leinweber, Airdrie Alarm & Surveillance Inc.
- Elaine McKee, McKee Homes Ltd.

The **Emerging Business Award** is awarded to a small business (less than 50 employees) that has been in business for less than 3 years that demonstrates growth through creation of additional jobs, locations or customers, growth in revenue, demonstrates support of the Airdrie business community and offers products and services that meet a need in the community. This year’s finalists are:

- Airdrie Puppy Pals
- Ascension Float Centre Ltd.
- Bocc Home Inspections Ltd.
- Damit Amit Ltd.
- Elements Dance Co.
- Happy Paws Veterinary Clinic
- Hayloft Restaurant Airdrie
- Lace & Locket Photography
- Little Steps Preschool
- Oranj Fitness Airdrie
- SLB Staffing Bureau
- Thumbprint Craft Beer Market
- Wild Tails

The **Employer Excellence Award** (formerly Family Friendly Business Award) is awarded to a business that goes above and beyond for their employees and provides the best overall place to work. The company values their employees’ development and retention on the same level that it values productivity and business growth. It places high levels of importance on corporate culture and a happy and healthy work environment for their staff. This year’s finalists are:

- Airdrie Animal Health Centre
- Airdrie Eyecare Centre
- Airdrie Puppy Pals
- Davis Chevrolet GMC Buick Ltd.
- Evolve Surface Strategies Inc.
- Grace Family Dental

The **Environmental Stewardship Business Award** is awarded to a business that demonstrates commitment and is influential in the area of environmental sustainability through leadership and the integration of environmentally responsible practices into their corporate culture. This year’s finalists are:

- Ken Hoehn Wilderness Art
- Happy Paws Veterinary Clinic

The **Legacy Business Award** is awarded to a business that is independently owned and operated, has been in Airdrie for at least 15 years, has shown sustained growth and contributions to local employment. This business has invested in the community and sees community investment as a core part of the company's values. This first ever finalists for the Legacy Business Award are:

- Airdrie Animal Health Centre
- hairBenders
- McKee Homes Ltd.
- Vitreous Glass Inc.

The **Winning Edge Award** is awarded to a small business (less than 50 employees) that has been in business for at least 3 years, that best exhibits outstanding achievement in innovative practices, customer service, growth and actively participates in the community. This year's finalists are:

- Airdrielife/Frog Media Inc.
- Airdrie Animal Clinic
- Airdrie Family Eye Doctors
- Airdrie Springs Dental
- Cream Bath & Body
- Original Joe's
- Quest Orthodontics
- Star Baton and Dance Company Ltd.
- Switchback Creative
- Tri Fit Training

The winners will be announced at the Airdrie Business Awards Gala on Thursday, October 19 at Bert Church Theatre. "We are really excited for this year's gala! We have a few surprises up our sleeves to make the evening memorable," says Kehoe.

Tickets on sale now, visit [www.airdriebusinessawards.com](http://www.airdriebusinessawards.com).

The Airdrie Business Awards are made possible thanks to support from the ABRP, generous sponsorship from the local business community, and a group of talented and passionate volunteers.

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**For more information:**

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