



## Finalists Announced for the 2018 Airdrie Business Awards

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**AIRDRIE, ALBERTA** – Finalists announced for the 2018 Airdrie Business Awards. Nominations were open from May 1 to July 31 and over 100 nominations were received. “The Airdrie Chamber of Commerce is proud of the work that our business community does, and we are thrilled that over 100 worthy businesses were nominated for one of six awards,” says Marie Lauer, Interim Executive Director of the Airdrie Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber took over the lead organization of the awards in 2018 and this year the committee added a new award, the Franchise Business Award. “We’ve added the Franchise Business Award to better reflect our business community, which consists of a large amount of franchises, many of which are independently owned and operated.”

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:

- Jennifer Benner, Benner Database Designs
- Sid Van Der Meer, Northwest Equipment Ltd (2014)
- Matt Carre, The Carre Group of Redline Real Estate
- Jacqui Jepson, The Pink Wand Cleaning Services Ltd.
- Megan Skarsen, Woodside Denture Centre

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:

- Damit Amit Ltd
- Dangle Show Hockey
- Fitzsimmons Brewing Company Ltd.
- Hayloft Restaurant
- Homegrown House and Pantry Inc.
- Lace & Locket Photography
- PhysioWorks Physiotherapy Ltd.
- Thrive Chiropractic and Wellness
- White Collar Boxing Company
- Wild Tails
- Your Local Ranch Ltd.

The **Employer Excellence 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 Family Eye Doctors
- Airdrie Puppy Pals
- Budget Blinds of Airdrie
- Fitzsimmons Brewing Company Ltd.
- West Airdrie Dental

The **Franchise Business Award** is awarded to a franchise business in Airdrie that is operating under a parent company that allows entrepreneurs to use their strategies, business model and name. The Franchise best reflects the outstanding spirit and success of our business community, has demonstrated significant achievement within the last three years and has contributed to community activities and professional associations. This year's finalists are:

- Dairy Queen
- Lathered Cleaning Company Inc.
- MaidPro Airdrie
- Noodlebox
- Oranj Fitness Airdrie

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 Registry
- Airdrie Shoe Repair
- Cam Clark Ford
- hairBenders Salon
- Horizon Taekwon-Do
- Techmation Electric & Controls Ltd.
- Woodside Golf Course

The **Business of the Year (formerly 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:

- Airdrie Eyecare Centre
- Airdrie Family Eye Doctors
- Airdrie Paint and Decor
- Airdrie Puppy Pals
- Elements Dance Co.
- Little Steps Preschool
- Star Bound Dance Company
- The Avenue Cakery & Bakeshoppe
- The I.T. Company
- Woodside Golf Course

The winners will be announced at the Airdrie Business Awards Gala on Thursday, October 18 at Bert Church Theatre. "We are really excited for this year's gala! We are celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the Airdrie Business Awards, and to honor that, we have a few surprises up our sleeves to make the evening memorable," says Lauer.

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.

**For more information:**

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