

## **Press Release:**

# **ALBERNI VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNOUNCE 2016 COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE AWARDS FINALISTS**

**For Immediate Release:**

Port Alberni BC. – The Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2016 Community Excellence Awards planned for Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Italian Hall.

The Chamber of Commerce' annual event has grown exponentially over the past four years with attendance in 2013 at less than 90 people then growing to sell-outs in each of 2014, 2015 and 2016 with this year's attendance confirmed at 240 people. The Emcee for the 2016 ceremony is Mr. Bruce Williams of CTV Vancouver Island and we are pleased to confirm that Mr. Gord Johns MP – Courtenay/Alberni will be a guest speaker.

### **Finalists are:**

- **Volunteer of the Year:** The Attic, The Alberni Valley Bulldogs, Meals on Wheels
- **Rising Star:** Char's Landing, Steampunk Café, Vancouver Island Limousine
- **Health and Wellness:** Alberni Fitness, Dr. Lund – Walk with your Doc, Alberni Valley Hospice Society & CBI Rehab in Motion
- **Business Investment:** Mahoe Properties Ltd., Pot Luck Ceramics, Huu-ay-aht First Nation
- **Social Media:** Young Professionals of the Alberni Valley, Alberni Thrive, Great Central Social Co.
- **Tourism and Hospitality:** Vancouver Island Soaring, West Coast Edge ATV, Blue Marlin Inn
- **Business Excellence:** Hertel Meats, DBA Silencing, Dave Koszegi Real Estate Corporation
- **Spirit of Music:** Sandy Bouleau, Pat Miller – Timbre! Choir
- **Customer Service:** Trends Hair Design, Clydesdale Automotive, Alberni District Co-op
- **Youth of the Year:** Theresa Gingras, Oliver Witham, Kayla Caddy
- **Welcoming Workplace:** The Starboard Grill, Breakers Marine, Boomerang's Café
- **Green:** Haven Living, Green Earth Woodworks, The PLACE

In addition to the above there will be three other awards announced that evening including the Chamber Award, Special Recognition, and Citizen of the Year. The Chamber Award will be given to a Finalist noted above and the Special Recognition & Citizen of the Year Awards will be announced at the event.

The Chamber of Commerce expresses its thanks to the many organizations in the community that contribute financially and otherwise to make this into a widely admired local event. We acknowledge our Title Sponsor for 2016 – CHERYL MACLEAN FINANCIAL for their ongoing support. For further information about the Chamber of Commerce please visit:

[www.albernichamber.ca](http://www.albernichamber.ca)