

IGA named business of the year

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Winners of business excellence awards pose at the awards banquet Nov.18. From the left: (Front) Melissa Tripp, Carrie Tyson, Karly Wager, Georgia Cyr, Eva Nanson, Paula Howley, Laurie Vance, Linda Feuerhelm and Larry Pylypuik. (Middle) Kim Darwin, Gina Stockwell and Erich Schwartz, (Back) Bill Stockwell, Evan Young, Jason Dugal, Andy Koberwitz, Peter Rive and Derek Bland. Photo submitted

Thirteen local businesses were honoured at a gala dinner for the Sechelt Chamber of Commerce's Business Excellence Awards on Nov. 18 at the Sunshine Coast Golf and Country Club.

The Coast-wide awards recognized businesses, entrepreneurs and organizations for their success and contribution to the local economy and our community. Matt Morris of 91.7 Coast FM acted as Master of Ceremonies, presenting winners with plaques carved from cedar by local artist Dean Hunt.

The Business of the Year award went to IGA. Bob and Susan Hoy, owners of the Gibsons and Wilson Creek stores, posted on Facebook that they are "ecstatic and honored to be chosen." They thanked the Sechelt Chamber, the people who nominated them for the award, and their staff and customers. "We will continue to work as hard as ever bringing you the best in grocery retail."

The other winners were:

Sustainability Leader:
Gibsons Recycling Depot

Customer Service:

Fossellos/Eva Nanson

Rising Star: Pacific Ferries

Technology & Innovation:

Central Coast Concrete

Home Based Business:

Head Start/Paula Howley

Manufacturing/Industrial Excellence: Coastal Craft

Tourism & Hospitality

Excellence: Coast Gravity Park

Trades Services Excellence: West Coast Log Homes

Young Entrepreneur of

the Year: Blissful Yoga/Georgia Cyr

Non-Profit:

Habitat For Humanity

Professional Services

Excellence:

Coastal Weddings & Events

Community Impact:

Duane Burnett

Nominations for the awards were open to the public. The winners were chosen by a panel of seven judges from Gibsons, Sechelt and Pender Harbour. Major sponsors of the awards were Sunshine Coast Credit Union and Lehigh Material.

Donna McMahon

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