

SelfEMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Where successful entrepreneurs begin

entrepreneurs

WINTER 2006/07

The SE Program Wins National And International Awards And Keeps Gaining Recognition

It's been a great year for the Self Employment program at Douglas College. Earlier this year we won the Program Excellence Award from the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) and now we are the winners of an international Innovative Practice in Business and Industry award from the Learning Resources Network (LERN).

LERN is an international association dedicated to lifelong learning programming, offering information and resources to providers

of lifelong learning programs. The award was presented in Baltimore at the end of November to Valerie Lockyer and Carolyn Cooper-McOuatt.

In addition, we have also been nominated for a Business of Excellence award from the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce in the Innovative Spirit category. The award ceremony will take place on January 26 at the Red Robinson Show Theatre in Coquitlam.

Congratulations To Our Visions Of Excellence Award Winners



Grant Laidley, Sarah Aldea, Karen Vannier, Lee-Anne Regan, Kristin Schumacher, Elizabeth Meneses, Luiza Zlatovic, Dr. Eva Merriam, Martin Liu missing from the photo

On October 25th we celebrated our 10th Year of the Visions of Excellence ~ Entrepreneur of the Year Awards. There were 350 people in attendance who celebrated our graduates business success and accomplishments. We honored 22 people, representing 22 businesses, from 19

different intakes who have dared to be remarkable.

It was also a chance for everyone to mix and mingle, enjoy some great food and win some cash and prizes.

Read more about this year's winners inside!

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❖❖❖ **Have you checked your Business Directory Listing?**
Is it up to date? Please review it to ensure that all of your information is correct.

DOUGLAS COLLEGE SELF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM *entrepreneurs*

Congratulations To The Visions Of Excellence 2006 Award Winners



Sarah Aldea of Dragon Mobile Legal Solutions Coquitlam
604 939 7961
dragonmobile@hotmail.com



Lee-Anne Regan of Laughing Matters Burnaby
604 420 7703
laragan@rpsinc.ca
www.rpsinc.ca



that was easy.™

Staples Business Depot Home Based Business Award

Dragon Mobile Legal Solutions provides customized, mobile, affordable legal services in the areas of business, company and corporate law, civil litigation and immigration law. Other services include drafting and preparation of Wills, child maintenance, spouse support and fair division of family assets.

STEINMAN PREVOLOS
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Steinman Prevolos Consulting Award

Laughing Matters brings passion, play and a humorous touch to corporate training and team building. They ignite imaginations by providing customized material that is relevant & responsive to the current needs & critical challenges of your organization. Their workshops are fun and interactive.



Martin Liu of Westwills International Trading Inc. Coquitlam
604 936 5302
westwills@shaw.ca



Elizabeth Meneses of Fun 'n Comfy Products Inc. New Westminster
604 519 0991
funncomfy@shaw.ca



Executive Hotels and Resorts Service Award

Westwills International Trading Inc. imports grinding Disc and Cutting wheels to serve the Canadian and American markets. We also import fibre discs, welding and work gloves, and welding wire. In the past six months, Westwills has set up a service chain from warehouse, distributor to welding fabricators all over greater Vancouver. Serving customers are from Richmond to Langley to Port Coquitlam and Mission; its products are gaining many manufacturers as loyal customers.



Westminster Savings Credit Union Manufacturing Award

Fun 'n Comfy Products Inc. manufactures innovative travel comfort products. Fun 'n Comfy products are currently being sold at the Vancouver and Edmonton airports. Incorporating fun, style and comfort into each product is key to Fun 'n Comfy's success. The product line includes the Neck Travel Pillow, Car Seat Pillows, Car Pillows and Travel Blankets. These items are ideal for travel due to their comfort and make ideal gifts because of their unique design and features.

For More Information On Our Sponsors, Turn To Page Four



Kristin Schumacher of Kitty Kompany Professional Pet Sitting Services New Westminster
604 521 1202
kristin@kittykompany.com
www.kittykompany.com



Coast Capital Savings Service Award

Kitty Kompany provides premium pet care services, private daily dog walking and house sitting services. They cater to all pet owners who are traveling or have to work long hours and cannot be home with their pets. Kitty Kompany is also equipped to handle difficult medical cases such as diabetes and sub q fluids.

DOUGLAS COLLEGE SELF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM *entrepreneurs*

Congratulations To All Of The Nominees & Good Luck Next Year!



Douglas College Entrepreneur Of The Year Award
Kristin Schumacher of Kitty Kompany Professional Pet Sitting Services
New Westminster
604 521 1202
kristin@kittykompany.com
www.kittykompany.com



Grant Laidley of
The Rising Bun Bakery
Langley
604 539 9929
bakerman@uniserve.com



Karen Vannier of
Spuddy's Pet Market Inc.
Maple Ridge
604 466 8136
spudnik@shaw.ca
www.spuddypetmarket.ca



**City of Coquitlam Retail Award
(Tie 2 winners)**

The Rising Bun provides fresh-baked, high quality British fare specializing in three main product lines namely Artisan Bread, British Meat Pies, Sweets and Desserts and more recently, a soup-and-sandwich market too, based on customer requests.



City of Coquitlam Retail Award

Spuddy's Pet Market is a 6,000 sq.ft. Retail pet store located in Maple Ridge. "Spuddy's", as it has come to be known, is a fun store which caters to the serious pet owner, including services such as a Canine Café, fashion shows, special events, theme parties, grooming salon and much more.



Luiza Zlatovic of
ARHITRAV Design
and Construction
New Westminster
604 540 9194
design-build@arhitrav.com
www.arhitrav.com



Dr. Eva Merriam of
Make it Happen Counseling
Coquitlam
778 998 2240
emerriam@shaw.ca



**The Now Newspaper
Construction Award**

ARHITRAV Design & Construction provides reliable architectural design, consulting and drafting services combined with construction management and supervision. Focusing on single and two family residential and medium size commercial projects, the company combines its expertise with customer-specific ideas and needs to create optimized living / working space.



Alliance Printing Perseverance Award

Make It Happen Counseling is a professional counseling service provided at several locations in the Lower Mainland. Services include professional counseling, case management, workshops and conference speaker, information and referral.

VISIONS OF EXCELLENCE SPONSORS

We want to thank each of the Award Sponsors for their contribution to the Awards Evening



that was easy:

**Home Based
Business
Category Sponsor**

The company was founded in Toronto in 1991 and is Canada's largest supplier of office supplies, business machines, office furniture and business services for small business and home office customers. The company is an everyday low price retailer. The chain operates in all provinces across Canada under the banners Staples Business Depot and Bureau En Gross. Employing over 11,500 people, they serve their customers through more than 240 office superstores, catalogue and commerce.

The company is committed to making shopping easy by offering their customers three ways to shop – on line – by catalogue – and in store.

604 465 3429 – Maple Ridge www.staples.ca

STEINMAN PREVOLOS
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Consulting Category Sponsor

Steinman Prevolos is a law firm specializing in commercial litigation and employment law and is located in Vancouver's central business and financial district. The law firm's practice includes acting as counsel to clients involved in all manner of business disputes, including contract disputes, negligence and misrepresentation cases, shareholder and partnership disputes, fraud claims, banking litigation, insurance claims, commercial tenancy disputes, and employment cases.

Mr. Neal Steinman, is also a member of the Douglas College Board of Directors.

604 692 2525 www.steinmanlaw.ca


**Construction
Category Sponsor**

The Now Newspaper has proudly served Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Anmore & Belcarra since 1984. That's 22 years of faithfully providing local news and information to their customers every Wednesday & Saturday. The Now's commitment to their community is the key reason they believe so strongly in the Self Employment Program.

604 942 4192

www.thenownews.com



alliance
PRINTING

**Perseverance
Category Sponsor**

Alliance Printing has been in business for twelve years. They strive to move with the speed of technology. The result of this is providing the best possible services available in today's marketplace. Under one roof they have the highest quality in full color digital printing, black & white copying/printing, full color poster printing, offset printing, pre-press and complete bindery services, a unique print shop in many ways!

604 552 7999

www.allianceprinting.com


**Manufacturing
Category Sponsor**

As one of Canada's largest credit unions, Westminster Savings Credit Union is dedicated to providing full financial services to the residents of Lower Mainland; B.C. Westminster Savings Credit Union has \$1.4 billion in assets and 10 retail branches along with a Commercial Services division.

The credit union also operates the second largest credit union Foundation in the Country as a part of Westminster Savings' commitment to the economic and social development to its communities.

604 528 3803

www.wscu.com


Service Category Sponsor

Coast Capital Savings is Canada's second largest credit union with \$7.2 billion in assets, 300,000 members and 46 branches across the Lower Mainland, Fraser Valley and Vancouver Island. The credit union was the first full-service financial institution to introduce free chequing in Canada. Coast Capital Savings is one of Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies and was the recipient of the 2004 Imagine Award for being the best corporate citizen in Canada's financial services industry.

604 941 8183 www.coastcapitalsavings.com


**Entrepreneur
of the Year
Category Sponsor**

The Training Group at Douglas College specializes in designing and delivering customized training and programs in:

- Job Search & Career Development
- Self Employment & Business Development
- Industry & Business Training
- Part-time Programs & Community Education

Founded in 1992, The Training Group serves over 3,300 participants each year with career and workplace training solutions. Our innovative programs have received local, national and international awards, and we continue to create new training initiatives responsive to community needs.

604 777 6150

www.douglascollege.ca/traininggroup


**Global
Category Sponsor**

An elegant, four star hotel, the Executive Plaza Coquitlam offers personalized, attentive service in a luxurious environment. 140 beautifully appointed rooms and deluxe suites blend a unique boutique feel with an upscale atmosphere. Enjoy our signature 15 minute Executive massage in our spa, complimentary for overnight guests. Daily national newspapers are delivered to your room. The Executive Plaza Hotel Coquitlam's well-appointed accommodations include Deluxe Rooms, Corporate Club Rooms and Luxury Suites.

Phone: 1.888.433.3932 | 604.936.9399 | Fax: 604.937.4577

www.executivehotels.net/coquitlam

Central Reservations: 1.888.388.3932

For Best Available Rates and Packages Click

www.executivehotels.net/escape


Retail Category Sponsor

Coquitlam is fast becoming the Lower Mainland's number one location for lifestyle and business. The City's open and accessible government enables all members of the community – business and residents – to prosper and grow in a safe and clean environment. "Coquitlam is home to the New R&RTM – where Retail and Recreation come together to attract visitors and residents alike." The City is known as a retail destination.

604 927 3000

www.coquitlam.ca

entrepreneur

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Published by:

The Self Employment Program

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Funded by Service Canada and offered through The Training Group at Douglas College. We provide practical training, advice and income support for eligible participants. Our program has provided assistance through training to over 2000 new business start-ups.