

## Honour recognizes happy workspaces

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The job title on Joanna Whalley's nametag is proof her employer wants its staff to enjoy their work.

As manager of people engagement for Westminster Savings Credit Union, Whalley's job is to find ways to keep employees on the job, attract new recruits and generally find ways to make workers happy while improving the organization's financial results.

"It's been a four-year journey, but we realized that to achieve our goals, we needed engaged employees," said Whalley, who accepted an award yesterday for the New Westminster-based credit union.

The organization was one of seven B.C. employers to receive **Psychologically** Healthy Workplace awards for their programs and policies.

The other winners were the B.C. Automobile Association, Vancouver International Airport Authority, WorkSafe BC, Vancouver Community College, Vancouver-based Executive Strategies and the Cariboo Chilcotin Child Development Centre Association in Williams Lake.

Whalley said her credit union offers flexible work schedules, job-sharing, paid time off to participate in charitable work and career-enhancement workshops.

Creating a **psychologically** healthy workplace takes time and commitment, but organizations that take on the job are rewarded with better employee performance, lower operating costs, higher profits and reduced staff turnover, said Jennifer Newman, a psychologist and chairwoman of the **Psychologically** Health Workplace Collaborative, which organized the award.



Les Bazso, The Province  
Westminster Savings Credit Union's Joanna Whalley (left) holds her 2007 Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award as colleagues Steven Balogh and Laurie Hallat show off their trophy for Branch of the Year.