

PSYCHOLOGICALLY HEALTHY WORKPLACE COLLABORATIVE

Affiliated with the British Columbia Psychological Association



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2007 Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award Winners Named

Psychologically healthy workplaces lead to healthy bottom lines, says organizer

June 7, 2007, Vancouver, BC – The Psychologically Healthy Workplace Collaborative today honoured seven organizations from across the province for policies, programs and practices that contribute to psychological health in their workplaces.

The winners, from Williams Lake to New Westminster to Vancouver, were announced at a Vancouver Board of Trade luncheon.

“All of the 14 nominees we had were truly the Olympians of progressive workforces throughout B.C., so it was extremely difficult to select winners from among them,” said Dr. Jennifer Newman, Registered Psychologist and Chair of the Psychologically Healthy Workplace Collaborative, which organized the award. “However, the winners stand out for their resourceful, thoughtful and creative efforts to promote psychologically healthy organizations.”

The 2007 winners are:

- **British Columbia Automobile Association** – Sponsor/Applicant: Large For Profit, Employee Growth and Development

- Tied (Sponsor/Applicant: Large Not-for-Profit):
- **Vancouver International Airport Authority (YVR)** – Sponsor/Applicant: Large Not-for-Profit, Work-Family-Life-Balance
- **WorkSafeBC** – Sponsor/Applicant Large Not-For-Profit, Health and Safety

- **Vancouver Community College** – Large Not-for-Profit, Employee Recognition

- **Westminster Savings Credit Union** – Large For Profit, Work-Family-Life Balance

- **Executive Strategies** – Small For Profit, Employee Involvement

➤ **Cariboo Chilcotin Child Development Centre Association** – Small Not-for-Profit, Employee Growth & Development

Dr. Newman said focusing on psychologically healthy workplaces is not only ethical for an organization, it also plays a role in creating and maintaining a strong bottom line. Turnover, absenteeism and sick leave are lower in healthy workplaces, and that is important as so many industries currently struggle to find qualified workers, she said.

The Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award was founded by the American Psychological Association in 1999 and brought to Canada in 2004. British Columbia was the first province to offer this award in Canada. Today, 51 states provinces and territories across Canada and the United States participate in the award.

Past BC winners include Vancouver City Savings Credit Union, Vancouver International Airport Authority, Petro-Canada Burrard Products Terminal, Ainsworth Lumber Company and Forward House Community Society.

The award is open to all B.C. companies that address one of five criteria for a psychologically healthy workplace: Employee Involvement, Work-Family-Life Balance, Employee Recognition, Employee Growth & Development, and Health & Safety.

This year's awards are sponsored by the British Columbia Psychological Association, the Canadian Psychological Association, Healthcare Benefit Trust, WorkSafeBC, British Columbia Automobile Association, Vancouver International Airport Authority, American Psychological Association, and Industrial Alliance Pacific Insurance & Financial Services.

BC Human Resources Association, Bruyneel & Co. Chartered Accountants, Health, Work and Wellness, Minuteman Press-Burrard Street, UPS Yaletown (209) have made generous donations.

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