

Ontario Finalists Announced For Canada's Leading Business Awards

For Immediate Release

The 13th annual Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® awards name finalists

(Toronto, July 6, 2006)—Forty-nine top entrepreneurs who have demonstrated leadership, drive and innovation have been chosen from an impressive list of nominees as Ontario finalists in the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year 2006 awards.

"The vision of Ontario's entrepreneurs drives our provincial economy and in so doing strengthens Canada's place in the global market," says Joe Telebar, national and Ontario director of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year awards program. "The individuals who exemplify a commitment to excellence in growing their businesses and cultivating their success deserve to be celebrated. Their leadership shapes the social and economic landscape of Ontario, and we're thrilled to encourage their continued success," he says.

Canada's most prestigious business awards program is now in its 13th year. The program considers nominees in a number of business categories before selecting finalists. Those finalists for Entrepreneur Of The Year 2006, Ontario region are:

BUSINESS-TO-CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Glenn Brown, Ken Valur

Bento Nouveau (Take-out sushi)
 Toronto, ON
www.bentonouveau.com

Dufflet Rosenberg

Dufflet Pastries (Bakery and retail cafes)
 Toronto, ON
www.dufflet.com

David Patchell-Evans

GoodLife Fitness Clubs (Health and fitness clubs)
 London, ON
www.goodlifefitness.com

Teresa Cascioli

Lakeport Brewing Income Fund (Beer manufacturer)
 Hamilton, ON
www.lakeportbrewing.ca

On October 19, 2006, a finalist in each business category will be presented with a regional category award during a gala celebration, with one category recipient then being awarded the title Entrepreneur Of The Year for Ontario. The Ontario award recipient goes on to compete with top entrepreneurs from the Pacific, Prairies, Quebec and Atlantic regions for the coveted national honour of Entrepreneur Of The Year, to be announced November 2, 2006, in Ottawa. In June 2007, Canada's Entrepreneur Of The Year moves to the world stage, joining more than 35 country recipients participating in the international competition for the title of World Entrepreneur Of The Year.

The Entrepreneur Of The Year awards honour entrepreneurs who have demonstrated excellence and extraordinary success in areas such as innovation, risk taking, company development, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. Submissions are reviewed by an independent judging panel, which is composed of several distinguished Canadian business leaders and previous award recipients. The members of the Ontario panel for 2006 are: Michael Cohen, managing general partner, VenGrowth Private Equity Partners Inc.; John F. Eckert, managing partner, McLean Watson Capital Inc.; Steve Farlow, executive director Schlegel Centre for Entrepreneurship School of Business & Economics, Wilfrid Laurier University; John Rothschild, chairman and CEO, Prime Restaurant Holdings Inc.; Ken Wong, assoc. professor Business and Marketing Strategy, Queen's School of Business – Queen's University.

The Entrepreneur Of The Year program was founded by Ernst & Young to celebrate great entrepreneurs and heighten awareness of the economic impact of entrepreneurial ventures. The program is nationally sponsored by Global Television Network, *National Post*, *La Presse*, RDI and Roynat Capital. The Ontario sponsor is Goodman and Carr LLP. To learn more about the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year 2006 awards, visit www.eoy.ca.