## Finalists announced for ABEX awards

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The list of finalists for the 2014 ABEX business excellence awards, to be held Nov. 1 at the Delta Regina Hotel, has been announced by the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce. "The judges faced a significant challenge in selecting who the top businesses were," said CEO Steve McLellan. "We received 85 nominations from businesses of every size, every market and every area."

In the community involvement category, finalists are: Fast Trucking, Carnduff; PAR Contracting, Weyburn; Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA), Saskatoon; Redhead Equipment, Regina, RH Electric, Yorkton, and Weigers Financial Benefits, Saskatoon.

The growth and expansion award finalists are: Bioriginal Food Science Corp., Saskatoon; High Octane Welding, Meadow Lake; NL Construction, Yorkton; North Ridge Development Corp., Saskatoon, and RH Electric, Yorkton.

Saskatoon swept the innovation category finalists, with Bioriginal Food Science Corp., Peachy Printer, Push Interactions, Quickthree Solutions and Xylem Inc. vying for top honours.

Dream Development and Farideh Marketing of Regina, Gold Eagle Lodge of North Battleford, North Prairie Developments, Saskatoon; and SE Trusted Online Directories, Saskatoon, are the contenders for the marketing award.

The new business venture award finalists are: McKenna Distribution Luxury Granite, Regina; Quickthree Solutions, Saskatoon; RCM Safety Services, Yorkton; Streamline Oilfield Services Ltd., Weyburn; and Triumph Construction, Saskatoon.

In the service category, the finalists are: Innovative Rehabilitation Consultants; North Prairie Developments, SIGA and North Ridge Development Corp., all of Saskatoon; and Yorkton Plumbing Heating, Yorkton. The young entrepreneur of the year award finalists are: Jessica Tetu of Just for You Day Spa Gift Studio, Regina and Saskatoon; Bridie Lunde of Little Red Market Café, Mortlach; Steve McKenna of McKenna Distribution, Regina; Timothy Martin of Mint Holdings, Regina; Joseph Dosch of Prairie Diesel Inc., Humboldt, and Elysia and Natasha Vandenhurk of Three Farmers Products, Saskatoon.

Blue Earth Environmental, Weyburn; Emterra, Regina; and Three Farmers Products, Saskatoon, will compete for the environment award, while Push Interactions Inc., Saskatoon, will receive the export award.

Voting for the new community cornerstone award is underway at www.abexcornerstone. com and will take place up to and including Nov. 1. Finalists are: Furnaceguys Home Heating Cooling, Saskatoon; George Home Hardware, Melfort; Madill's Drugs, Meadow Lake; Prairie Dog Drive-In, Carlyle and Ted Matheson Men's Wear, Prince Albert.

