Media Release

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Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS NOMINEE CELEBRATION AND FINALISTS TO BE ANNOUNCED

PENTICTON, B.C. – The Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce will celebrate outstanding businesses, organizations, and community leaders from across the South Okanagan at its 39th Annual Business Excellence Awards Nominee Reception on Thursday, November 12, at Belich's AG Foods in Okanagan Falls.

The invitation-only event will bring nominees, sponsors, and volunteer judges together for an evening of recognition and celebration, culminating in the announcement of five finalists in each of the awards' 10 categories.

Presented by Doane Grant Thornton LLP, this year's Business Excellence Awards embrace the theme Rooted in Excellence, recognizing that business success is built through dedication, innovation, strong relationships, and a commitment to community. From emerging entrepreneurs to established businesses and not-for-profit organizations, the awards celebrate those making a meaningful difference throughout the region.

"At Doane Grant Thornton, we're committed to helping local businesses thrive," said Peter MacIntosh, Partner, Doane Grant Thornton LLP. "We see firsthand the leadership, dedication, and innovation that contribute to the success of the South Okanagan, which is why we're proud to support the Business Excellence Awards. Congratulations to this year's nominees on this well-deserved recognition and the positive impact they make across the region."

Hosted by Kyle and Mike Belich and the team at Belich's AG Foods, the reception will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., with support from Cannery Brewing, Heart of Wine Country, and Amuzing Fun Rentals.

"We're happy to welcome this year's nominees to Belich's AG Foods and bring everyone together in Okanagan Falls," said Kyle Belich, co-owner of Belich's AG Foods. "There are so many people doing great work in our communities. We're looking forward to celebrating with them and being part of the finalist announcements."

Finalists are selected through an independent evaluation process conducted by a volunteer committee of community leaders. Nominee submissions are assessed against established award criteria using a standardized scoring matrix. Following the reception, judges will meet with the five finalists in each category between November 16 and 30 to help determine the ultimate award recipients.

The celebration will culminate at the 39th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala, Rooted in Excellence, on Saturday, January 30, 2027, at the Penticton Trade & Convention Centre, where the winners in all 10 categories will be revealed.

The Chamber extends its congratulations to every nominee and thanks the volunteer judges, sponsors, and community partners whose contributions make these awards possible.

For the complete list of nominees, award information, and to purchase early bird gala tickets, visit https://awards.penticton.org

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For more information, contact:

Michael Magnusson, Executive Director
Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce
mmagnusson@penticton.org

The Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce is a dynamic, trusted and respected business authority representing approximately 500 local business and non-profit members that drive economic and social growth and improvement on behalf of, and in support of our members and the community.