

Gibsons Recycling finalist in SYA

SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS



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CHRISTINE WOOD/STAFF WRITER

Gibsons Recycling Depot has advanced to the finals in this year's Successful You Awards (SYA) and they hope to bring home the win in the Best Green Business category later this month.

"We're a small town entity and we're up against some very significant big city companies. I just can't believe that we're even in the finals to tell you the truth. Our perspective now is we're the little engine that could and we'll just go put our best foot forward," said owner Buddy Boyd.

Gibsons Recycling Depot will be competing against three Vancouver based companies and one from Pemberton on Feb. 15 in the Best Green Business category.

All finalists will have to present a 10-minute business pitch to a panel of industry experts and successful entrepreneurs to be considered for the award.

Boyd said he's already working on that pitch.

"I'm actually structuring it right now so it's kind of really fresh. It's really coming up with the answers to the questions that they've asked us already and that's 'how did you get started? Who have been your supporters and why did you do this?' So basically we're going to go right back to 2003 when we first started and talk about how we got to here and why we do what we do," Boyd said. "We're environmentalists first and we're community minded second and the third part of the equation for us is the business end of it really."

Winners of this year's SYA will be announced at an awards ceremony in the Crystal Pavilion Ballroom at the Pan Pacific Vancouver on Feb. 28.

Finalists will be joined by Global BC news anchor Aaron McArthur as MC and former Olympian and Canucks star Trevor Linden as the keynote speaker.

To find out more about Gibsons Recycling go to www.gibsonsrecycling.ca.

<http://www.coastreporter.net/article/20120209/SECHELT0101/302099994/-1/sechelt/gibsons-recycling-finalist-in-sya>

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Coast companies make award finals

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CHRISTINE WOOD/STAFF WRITER

Two Sunshine Coast companies are going to the finals in this year's ninth annual Successful You Awards (SYA).

Small Business BC holds the awards ceremony yearly to honour B.C.'s outstanding small businesses.

This year, Brian and Corin Mullins, makers of Holy Crap cereal, are in the finals under "best community impact."

The Mullins won an SYA award last year for best business concept and weren't expecting to be up for an award again in 2011.

"It was a pleasant surprise. We weren't expecting anything like this," Corin said, noting a staff member applied for the award on their behalf.

The pair are pleased with the category they've been nominated in.

"That's what our business is all about in terms of the community impact that it's had," Brian said.

"What the Credit Union has said is that there's a Holy Crap effect in terms of it's positive for the Coast, positive for tourism, positive for taxes, positive for payroll, positive for growth."

In the "best green business" category, Gibsons Recycling Depot thinks they have a good shot at taking home the win this year.

"We've always felt that we are a model green business on the Coast," depot co-owner Barb Hetherington said. "Our model is based on social enterprise. We think about the environment and community before profit. We're not into this to line our pockets. We feel there is a real need for this kind of business."

Co-owner Buddy Boyd thinks the awards are a chance to bring positive attention to the Coast.

"This is a great opportunity for our community to be showcased in such a way that makes Gibsons the leader in resource recovery development anywhere in B.C. The community is the real benefactor," he said.

There are 10 finalists in each SYA category and the top five finalists in each category will be announced Jan. 30. The winners will be honoured on Feb. 28.



Christine Wood Photo

The staff at Gibsons Recycling are excited to be named as a finalist in the Best Green Business category for the Small Business BC Successful You Awards.



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