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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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