

Sustainable Tourism wins Supreme Westpac Northland Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards for 2009

Dive! Tutukaka won the Supreme 2009 Westpac Northland Business of the Year at the Business Excellence Awards on Friday Night over a host of other businesses including Retailers, Tourism and Technology & Innovation.

Dive! Tutukaka were entered in the Destination Northland Tourism and Northland Regional Council Sustainable Business categories (both of which they won) and also won the closely contested Westpac Supreme Business Award category.

Far North Fuel winner of the KKR Recruitment 2009 Best Small Business award were the runners-up in the supreme category showing that be situated in Northland is no handicap to competing with national companies situated in large cities.

Kate Malcolm and Jeroen Jongejans of Dive! Tutukaka have gained an international reputation as leaders in the dive and eco-tourism industry and are totally committed at a regional level to various conservation, ecological and tourism related initiatives.

Tony Collins from the Northland Chamber of Commerce said that the awards were a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the success of many Northland businesses. These enterprises were of varying size and often very different structure and scale. The one thing they all had in common was their passion for what they were doing and their commitment to succeed.

Other winners were:

- Business Coaching New Zealand Best Emerging Business – Nectar Café
- New Zealand Refining Company Excellence in Business – Kericell Nursery Ltd
- Scene Magazine Excellence in Retail – First Mobile/Crystal Communications Ltd

- Golden Bay Cement Excellence in Building / Construction – Robinson Asphalts 1992 Ltd
- Ulrich McNab Kilpatrick Excellence in Professional Service – Henderson Reeves
Connell Rishworth
- NorthTec Excellence in Technology & Innovation – Magnetism Solutions Ltd
- ACC Workplace Safety – Golden Bay Cement
- MoreFM Customer Choice – Bream Bay Butchery
- Massey University Judges Commendation – Vertical Playground

Also on the night, another Northlander was inducted into The Northern Advocate Business Hall of Fame. This year's inductee was Michael Hall whose address to the audience would have been an inspiration to all business owners striving for excellence.

Tony Collins said that in a departure from previous events, this year's Thirty3 Events Centre in Porowini Avenue which provided an excellent facility for functions of this size and nature. Nat Davis and Pip Barnier of Identity Developments Ltd did an amazing job organising the event and assisting make the evening the success that it was.

More Info

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