Agility and flexibility, from the pandemic to today's labour market challenges: this year's 'Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers' are announced

TORONTO, April 5, 2022 – Fleet of foot and nimble, the nation's smaller employers adapted quickly to the pandemic and today are using the same agility to overcome the challenges of a tightening labour market. The best of these initiatives were recognized today, as *Canada's Top Small and Medium Employers* (2022) were announced by Mediacorp Canada Inc., organizers of the annual Canada's Top 100 Employers competition.

"Small and medium employers have the advantage of adaptability," says Kristina Leung, Senior Editor at Mediacorp. "They are independent and have always served as a 'laboratory' for the kinds of best practices we eventually see at larger employers. As new ways of working emerge, such as the growing interest in hybrid work arrangements, smaller employers have the flexibility to experiment and come up with solutions that work for everyone."



"Early in the pandemic, smaller employers were able to respond to employees' needs quickly and with agility," says Anthony Meehan, Publisher at Mediacorp. "Today, the new realities for employers include labour shortages across almost every sector, which has been made more acute by other employers offering remote work from further afield. Once again, small and medium employers are responding with agility by adopting many of the benefits previously seen only at larger, more established organizations."

Notable initiatives singled out at this year's winners include:

- Along with moving all employees to work-from-home arrangements early in the pandemic, Kitchener, Ont.-based <u>WalterFedy</u> let employees take home needed tech and furniture along with introducing a special program to provide interest-free loans (up to \$1,000) for home office improvements.
- Toronto-based chat software firm <u>Ada Support</u> provides employees with a health spending account of up to \$2,000, allowing them to top up coverage to suit their personal needs, plus a separate wellness spending account of \$1,000 per year, which employees can spend as they see fit (e.g. fitness, books and app subscriptions).
- Early in the pandemic, Edmonton-based software firm <u>Silvacom</u> helped employees work from home by covering the cost of home-office equipment and expenses, while increasing employees' flex spending account to help cover other costs.

- Although it has only 27 employees, St. John's-based health data firm <u>Sequence</u> <u>Bioinformatics</u> provides parental leave top-up for new mothers, fathers and adoptive parents to 65 per cent of salary for up to 52 weeks.
- Vancouver-based software security firm <u>GeoComply Solutions</u> starts new employees with four weeks of paid vacation allowance, while more experienced hires receive five weeks or more when they start at the company.
- <u>Jacob Bros Construction</u>, based in Surrey, BC., encourages employees to get involved helping charities the company supports in the Lower Mainland, especially programs that support youth and underprivileged children, as well as local nonprofits that aim to alleviate homelessness.

Now in its 9th year, Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers is an editorial competition that recognizes the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that offer the nation's best workplaces and forward-thinking human resources policies. Employers are evaluated by the editors at Canada's Top 100 Employers using the same criteria as the Top 100 competition: (1) Physical Workplace; (2) Work Atmosphere & Social; (3) Health, Financial & Family Benefits; (4) Vacation & Time Off; (5) Employee Communications; (6) Performance Management; (7) Training & Skills Development; and (8) Community Involvement. Employers are compared to other organizations in their industry to determine which offers the most progressive and forward-thinking programs. The annual competition is open to any employer with its head office or principal place of business in Canada. Employers must have less than 500 employees worldwide, including employees at affiliated companies, and be a commercial, for-profit business.

Founded in 1992, Mediacorp Canada Inc. is the nation's largest publisher of employment periodicals. Since 1999, the Toronto-based publisher has managed the <u>Canada's Top 100</u> <u>Employers</u> project, which includes 18 regional and special-interest editorial competitions that reach over 15 million Canadians annually through a variety of magazine and newspaper partners, including The Globe and Mail. Mediacorp also operates <u>Eluta.ca</u>, one of Canada's largest job search engines, which reaches millions of job-seekers annually and features editorial reviews from the Canada's Top 100 Employers project.

The full list of *Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers* for 2022 was announced today in a special magazine co-published with The Globe and Mail. Detailed reasons for selection for each of the winners were released by the editors today and are accessible via the competition homepage: <a href="https://www.canadastop100.com/sme/">https://www.canadastop100.com/sme/</a>

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## Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers 2022 Winners

Ada Support Inc., Toronto ON

AET Group Inc., Kitchener ON

Alida Inc., Vancouver BC

Artis REIT, Winnipeg MB

Atrema Technologies Inc,. Calgary AB

BAM Strategy, Montréal QC

Bandzoogle, Nepean ON

Beedie, Burnaby BC

Binary Stream Software Inc., Burnaby BC

Birchcliff Energy Ltd., Calgary AB

BluEarth Renewables Inc., Calgary AB

Bluedrop ISM, St. John's NL

Briteweb Ltd., Vancouver BC

Broadsign Canada Company, Montréal QC

Carebook Technologies Inc., Montréal QC

CBCL Limited, Halifax NS

CHES Special Risk Inc., Toronto ON

CoLab Software Inc., St. John's NL

Copperleaf Technologies Inc., Vancouver BC

Croesus Finansoft, Laval QC

Crombie REIT, New Glasgow NS

Crown Property Management Inc., Toronto ON

Diamond Schmitt Architects Inc., Toronto ON

Drone Delivery Canada Corporation, Woodbridge ON

Duncan Craig LLP, Edmonton AB

Durward Jones Barkwell & Company LLP, St. Catharines ON

Eclipsys Solutions Inc., Kanata ON

eSentire Inc., Waterloo ON

ExperiencePoint Inc., Toronto ON

FBM Architecture | Interior Design, Halifax NS

Financeit Canada Inc., Toronto ON

First Capital REIT, Toronto ON

FISPAN Services Inc., Vancouver BC

Flaman Sales Ltd., Saskatoon SK

Fresche Solutions Inc., Montréal QC

Freshbooks, Toronto ON

Fresh Prep Foods Inc., Vancouver BC

Fuller Landau LLP, Toronto ON

Fundserv Inc., Toronto ON

Genoa Design International Ltd., Mount Pearl NL

GeoComply Solutions Inc., Vancouver BC

Gould Industries Ltd., Anjou QC

Great Little Box Company, The, Richmond BC

Groundswell Cloud Solutions Inc., Vancouver BC

GSoft, Montréal QC

Hatfield Consultants LLP, North Vancouver BC

Hudson Pacific Properties, Vancouver BC

Humania Assurance Inc., Saint-Hyacinthe QC

Integrated Sustainability, Calgary AB

InvestorCOM Inc., Brantford ON

iQmetrix, Vancouver BC

ISA Cybersecurity Inc., Etobicoke ON

Jacob Bros Construction Inc., Surrey BC

Johnston Group Inc., Winnipeg MB

Keirton Inc., Surrey BC

Keystone Environmental Ltd., Burnaby BC

LANDRY et associés, Montréal QC

Lane Technologies Inc., Toronto ON

Larochelle Groupe Conseil Inc., Montréal QC

LBMX Inc., London ON

Litco Law, Calgary AB

Logient, Montréal QC

Loopio Inc., Toronto ON

LPI Mechanical Inc., Brampton ON

LuminUltra Technologies Ltd., Fredericton NB

MacroHealth Canada, Vancouver BC

McDougall Gauley LLP, Saskatoon SK

MetOcean Telematics Ltd., Dartmouth NS

Mission Group Enterprises Ltd., Kelowna BC

Nakisa Inc., Montréal QC

Nicola Wealth Management Ltd., Vancouver BC

Noseworthy Chapman Chartered Professional Accountants, St. John's NL

Olympia Financial Group Inc., Calgary AB

PDFTron Systems, Inc., Vancouver BC

Perley-Robertson, Hill & McDougall LLP / s.r.l., Ottawa ON

Points, Toronto ON

PrairieCoast Equipment, Mission BC

Prevue HR Systems Inc., Vancouver BC

Promation, Oakville ON

PSB BOISJOLI LLP, Mont-Royal QC

RecycleSmart Solutions Inc., Richmond BC

Redbrick Technologies Inc., Victoria BC

Rewind, Orléans ON

R.F. Binnie & Associates Ltd., Burnaby BC

Richter LLP, Montréal QC

Righteous Gelato Ltd., Calgary AB

Rogers Insurance Ltd., Calgary AB

RTDS Technologies Inc., Winnipeg MB

R.V. Anderson Associates Limited, Toronto ON

Sensei Labs Inc., Toronto ON

Sequence Bioinformatics Inc., St. John's NL

Silvacom Ltd., Edmonton AB

SilverChef Rentals Inc., Vancouver BC

Sionna Investment Managers Inc., Toronto ON

SkyWatch Space Applications Inc., Kitchener ON

Smart & Biggar, Ottawa ON

Startec, Calgary AB

SysGen Solutions Group Ltd., Calgary AB

System1 Canada ULC, Guelph ON

Tehama Inc., Ottawa ON

Theratechnologies Inc., Montréal QC

theScore, Toronto ON

Thinkific Labs Inc., Vancouver BC

TrackTik Software Inc., Montréal QC
Translational Research In Oncology, Edmonton AB
Trisura Guarantee Insurance Company, Toronto ON
Uberflip, Toronto ON
Uken Inc., Toronto ON
Vena Solutions Inc., Toronto ON
VERB Interactive Inc., Halifax NS
Visier Inc., Vancouver BC
Voonyx Inc., Québec QC
WalterFedy Inc., Kitchener ON
Wesgroup Equipment LP, Surrey BC
Zymeworks Inc., Vancouver BC