Leaving their mark and out-manoeuvring larger competitors: this year's 'Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers' are announced

TORONTO, April 2, 2024 – It's often the smaller employers that leave the biggest mark when it comes to creating better workplaces for Canadians – and it shouldn't come as a surprise that the nation's small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are more than holding their own against larger employers. That's the message from this year's Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers, announced this morning by Mediacorp Canada Inc., organizers of the annual Canada's Top 100 Employers project.

Limited to smaller enterprises with under 500 employees, Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers focuses on SMEs that are often resource-constrained, both in terms of finances and organizational capacity. However, they are nimble and have more dexterity: they adopt initiatives faster than large employers, in many cases based on



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employee feedback and being closer to front-line operations. In addition, SMEs are often more willing to try bold HR initiatives that are untested elsewhere.

"What's remarkable about the employers on this year's list is how quickly and effectively they've worked to create rewards and other programs developed from employee input," says Kristina Leung, managing editor of the Canada's Top 100 Employers project. "SMEs have enviable levels of customization, flexibility and speed-of-implementation that are difficult for larger employers to match."

"There's an interesting relationship we see between SMEs and larger employers," says Richard Yerema, executive editor at the Canada's Top 100 Employers project. "SMEs are often the trendsetters, taking risks on initiatives like enhanced paid time-off, flexible hours and hybrid work options long before these types of improvements are considered by larger employers. As employers of all sizes compete to attract and retain staff, the best SMEs take notice of what larger employers are offering employees, such as parental leave top-up, mental health programs, and even retirement assistance. Both groups of employers end up moving the dial to ensure that programs improve and benefit all their employees."

Now in its 11th 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. Editors at Mediacorp review employers on eight criteria, which have remained consistent since the project's inception: (1) 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. The editors publish detailed 'reasons for selection' for these criteria, providing transparency in the selection of winners and a catalogue of best practices for

employers and job-seekers alike. The competition is open to any enterprise in Canada that: (a) has less than 500 employees worldwide, including staff at affiliated companies; and (b) is a commercial, for-profit business, i.e. non-profit organizations aren't considered SMEs under the Statistics Canada definition.

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 19 regional and special-interest editorial competitions that reach millions of 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, used by millions of job-seekers annually to find new job postings and discover what the nation's best employers are offering.

The full list of *Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers* (2024) was announced today in a special magazine published by Mediacorp Canada Inc. Detailed 'reasons for selection' for each of this year's winners, as well as stories and photos of their initiatives, were released today by the editors and are accessible via the <u>competition homepage</u>.

Join the discussion about today's announcement on social media:

LinkedIn: https://bit.ly/3a11Fkf

Instagram & Facebook: @topemployers

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Hashtags: #topSME, #topemployers2024

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Further information:

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Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers 2024 Winners

Absorb Software Inc., Calgary AB Acuitas Therapeutics, Inc., Vancouver BC Alida Inc., Vancouver BC AME Group, Victoria BC Andgo Systems, Saskatoon SK Aspect Structural Engineers Canada Ltd., Vancouver BC Auvik Networks Inc., Waterloo ON Bandzoogle, Ottawa ON BCV Asset Management Inc., Winnipeg MB Belliveau Veinotte Inc., Bridgewater NS Binary Stream Software Inc., Burnaby BC Birchcliff Energy Ltd., Calgary AB Black & White Zebra Industries Inc., Vancouver BC BluEarth Renewables Inc., Calgary AB Bluedrop ISM Ltd., St. John's NL Boughton Law Corporation, Vancouver BC

Broadsign Canada Company, Montréal QC

C3 Solutions Inc., Montréal OC

Cardinal Capital Management Inc., Winnipeg MB

CBCL Limited, Halifax NS

Century Group Lands Corp., New Westminster BC

C.F. Crozier & Associates Inc. / CFCA, Collingwood ON

CHES Special Risk Inc., Toronto ON

Christie InnoMed Inc., Saint-Eustache QC

CoLab Software Inc., St. John's NL

Computer Room Services Corporation / CRSC, Ajax ON

CPCS Transcom Limited, Ottawa ON

Croesus Finansoft Inc., Laval QC

Crombie REIT, New Glasgow NS

Crowe BGK LLP, Westmount QC

Crown Property Management Inc., Toronto ON

Dash Hudson Inc., Halifax NS

Diamond Schmitt Architects Inc., Toronto ON

Dixon Mitchell Investment Counsel Inc., Vancouver BC

Drake Hotel Properties (DHP) Inc., Toronto ON

Duncan Craig LLP, Edmonton AB

Durward Jones Barkwell & Company LLP, St Catharines ON

Eclipsys Solutions Inc., Kanata ON

ExperiencePoint Inc., Toronto ON

Fengate Capital Management, Toronto ON

First Capital REIT, Toronto ON

Fowler Bauld & Mitchell Ltd. / FBM, Halifax NS

Fresche Solutions Inc., Montréal QC

Fresh Prep Foods Inc., Vancouver BC

Fuller Landau LLP, Toronto ON

Gould Industries Ltd., Montréal QC

Granite REIT, Toronto ON

Great Little Box Company Ltd., Richmond BC

Hatfield Consultants LLP, North Vancouver BC

Humania Assurance Inc., Saint-Hyacinthe QC

Integrated Sustainability Consultants Ltd., Calgary AB

InvestorCOM Inc., Brantford ON

ISA Cybersecurity Inc., Toronto ON

Johnston Group Inc., Winnipeg MB

Lakefield LLP, Saskatoon SK

Lawrie Insurance Group Inc., Hamilton ON

Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver BC

LBMX Inc., London ON

Litco Law, Calgary AB

Longboard Architectural Products Inc., Abbotsford BC

Loopio Inc., Toronto ON

LPI Mechanical Inc., Brampton ON

Mawer Investment Management Ltd., Calgary AB

MCAN Financial Group, Toronto ON

McDougall Gauley LLP, Saskatoon SK

MetOcean Telematics Ltd., Dartmouth NS

Metro Compactor Service Inc., Brampton ON

Mission Group Enterprises Ltd., Kelowna BC

Mistplay Inc., Montréal QC

Multiview Financial, Ottawa ON

Mysa Smart Thermostats, St. John's NL

Nelligan O'Brien Payne LLP, Ottawa ON

Nicola Wealth Management Ltd., Vancouver BC

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

NS Sports Media Pros Ltd. / Covers, Halifax NS

Nulogy Corporation, Toronto ON

Obsidian Energy Ltd., Calgary AB

Office Interiors, Dartmouth NS

Olympia Financial Group Inc., Calgary AB

Open Farm Inc., Toronto ON

Orangutech Inc., Ottawa ON

Osedea Inc., Montréal QC

Outshine, Halifax NS

Pacific Coastal Airlines Ltd., Richmond BC

PageFreezer Software Inc., Vancouver BC

Patlon Aircraft & Industries Ltd., Georgetown ON

Payworks Inc., Winnipeg MB

PBX Engineering Ltd., Vancouver BC

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

Petal Solutions Inc., Québec QC

Peterson Investments (Canada) Inc., Vancouver BC

Pink Triangle Press, Toronto ON

Podium Development Corp., Toronto ON

Prevue HR Systems Inc., Vancouver BC

ProCogia, Vancouver BC

ProServeIT Corporation, Oakville ON

PSB BOISJOLI LLP, Montréal OC

PUC Services Inc., Sault Ste. Marie ON

Pure Industrial, Toronto ON

Purpose Unlimited, Toronto ON

Redbrick Technologies Inc., Victoria BC

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

Riva International, Inc., Edmonton AB

Rodan Energy Solutions Inc., Mississauga ON

RTS Canada Inc., Richmond BC

R.V. Anderson Associates Limited, Toronto ON

Silvacom Group, The, Edmonton AB

SilverChef Rentals Inc., Vancouver BC

Smythe LLP, Vancouver BC

Sterling Capital Brokers Ltd., Toronto ON

Sutton Special Risk, Inc., Toronto ON

Tatham Engineering Limited, Collingwood ON

Thrive Health, West Vancouver BC

Translational Research In Oncology, Edmonton AB

Trialto Wine Group Ltd., Vancouver BC

Trico Homes Inc., Calgary AB

Trisura Guarantee Insurance Company, Toronto ON

UV Insurance, Drummondville QC

Ventana Construction Corporation, Burnaby BC

VERB Interactive Inc., Halifax NS

Vidir Solutions, Inc., Arborg MB

Wesgroup Equipment LP, Surrey BC

Weston Consulting Inc., Vaughan ON

Willson International Ltd., Mississauga ON

Yulu Public Relations Inc., Vancouver BC