

Media Release

Kaikohe, Wednesday 8 September 2004



Tallest tall poppies to have their day in the sun

On Saturday October 2, Mid and Far North business community representatives will gather to honour the Northland region's 2004 Tall Poppy Business Award winners.

This year Top Energy sponsored the Awards on a region-wide basis for the first time, in conjunction with 5 local Business Associations; Kaitaia, Kaikohe, Kerikeri, Paihia and Kawakawa.

Top Energy Chairman, Jack Poutsma said, "As a progressive company involved in electricity distribution, contracting, call centre services and power generation, Top Energy itself is a Tall Poppy - so we understand the effort, commitment and dedication required to run an excellent business. These Awards are a way to support and celebrate successful business and encourage their continued growth and development. This year, we're delighted to sponsor the Tall Poppy Business Awards across the whole region for the first time."

During July/August, category and merit award winners from the 5 districts had been selected and honoured at local functions held by the various Business Associations. The district category winners then all went forward to the regional competition, where 'Best in Category' and a Supreme Award winner were chosen.

In the District competition, category winners included:
RETAIL – Kaikohe Mitre 10 and Placemakers Kerikeri. CUSTOMER SERVICE - Archibald Motors, Kaitaia; TW Grant Insurance Brokers Ltd, Kaikohe and KCCFM Bay of Islands.
TOURISM & HOSPITALITY – Ancient Kauri Kingdom Ltd, Kaitaia and Sommerfields Lodge, Kerikeri. TECHNOLOGY / INNOVATION – Waste Works Ltd, Kaikohe; NZ Environmental Ltd, Kerikeri and the Kawakawa Community Trust.

Merit Awards were also handed out to Kiwi Magic 2000 and Anne of Craicor from Kaitaia; Beadle Taylor Ltd, Video Ezy and Kia Tupato Ltd in Kaikohe and Makana Confections, Unichem Pharmacy, Culinary Institute of NZ and the Northland Printing Company Ltd from Kerikeri.

Regional competition winners will be announced at a Gala Dinner, to be held at the Copthorne, Paihia, this Saturday week, 2 October 2004. Michele Cox, author of a new motivational book 'Growing Tall Poppies (Excellence in Top New Zealanders)' New Zealand women's soccer representative, Sport Auckland and YMCA board member and ASB Bank Senior Sponsorship Manager, is to be the special guest speaker.

Category winners will be presented with Award Certificates and, to help them further develop their business, consulting or professional services to the value of \$1,000. The over-all winner will also be presented with the 2004 Tall Poppy Supreme Award Trophy.

Unallocated tickets for the event are limited to 70 only. Tickets cost \$50 per head, including GST and are available on a 'first come' basis. Contact Michele Bones, Top Energy, Ph: 0-9 401 5603 immediately to avoid disappointment. END.

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