

2020 RBC CANADIAN WOMEN ENTREPRENEUR AWARD FINALISTS ANNOUNCED TODAY

TORONTO – Women of Influence announces the 2020 RBC Canadian Women Entrepreneur Awards finalists. In what has been an unprecedented year, the program once again elicited an incredible response with over 8,600 nominations from across the country. After an intensive judging review, 18 finalists were selected across six legacy award categories. An additional five recipients were chosen to receive the Ones to Watch Award, which recognizes entrepreneurs who have launched businesses that have made an incredible impact in fewer than three years.

This exceptional and diverse group of women were chosen for their accomplishments in a wide range of industries including healthcare services, engineering, beauty, technology, hospitality, law and beyond.

“We are honoured to celebrate the accomplishments of our 2020 award finalists,” says Alicia Skalin, Co-CEO, Women of Influence. “These entrepreneurs have displayed remarkable resilience over the course of the year, demonstrating exciting growth and innovation as they adapted their businesses to a new environment.”

The winners will be announced and celebrated at the 28th Annual Awards Gala, on Wednesday, November 18, where all attendees will be digitally transported into the first ever Virtual Awards Gala. This immersive and experiential experience, which will be live streamed around the world, will shine a spotlight on all the amazing Canadian women entrepreneurs. Keynote remarks will be shared by Demetra Streda, Vice President, Commercial Financial Services Strategy, RBC.

The RBC Canadian Women Entrepreneur Awards recognize female business owners from across Canada who make impressive and substantial contributions to the local, Canadian or global economy. Candidates share a strong entrepreneurial vision and a relentless passion in pursuing their dreams. These awards recognize businesswomen from three major regions across Canada: East, Central and West.

“The unwavering resilience, creativity and passion of Canadian entrepreneurs has, and continues to be the hallmark of our economic strength as a country and business community,” says Greg Grice, Executive Vice President, Business Financial Services, RBC. “Many of these businesses are led by inspiring women leaders who are important role models for the next generation of aspiring innovators and entrepreneurs. RBC is proud to work with Women of Influence to bring their stories to light, and celebrate their achievements and contributions to the Canadian business community through the 2020 RBC Canadian Women Entrepreneur Awards.”

All nominees are required to submit thorough applications, which are reviewed and judged by a panel of prominent business leaders and subject to a due diligence review performed by KPMG.



The 2020 Recipients of the Ones to Watch Award are:

Eno Eka, Eny Consulting Inc.
Jenn Harper, Cheekbone Beauty Cosmetics Inc.
Nadine Chalati, Chalati Lawyer Inc.
Rogayeh Tabrizi, Theory+Practice
Suzie Yorke, The Good Fat Co. Ltd.

The 2020 RBC Canadian Women Entrepreneur Award Finalists are:

Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub Micro-Business Award

West: Kyla Lee, Kyla Lee Law Corporation
Central: Connie Lo & Laura Burget, Three Ships
East: Nancy O'Halloran, BraveHeart First Aid

Start-Up Award

West: Ashley Freeborn, Smash + Tess
Central: Sahar Saidi, LUS Brands
East: Monique Fares, Signature Health

RBC Momentum Award

West: Desiree Bombenon, SureCall
Central: Kristi Herold, Sport & Social Group
East: Saba Chishti & Erin Kempt-Sutherland, Choice Health Centre

Social Change Award

West: Glori Meldrum, Little Warriors
Central: Eugenia Duodu Addy, Visions of Science Network for Learning
East: Sylvia Parris Drummond, Delmore "Buddy" Daye Learning Institute

Innovation Award

West: Nicole Neuman, Synergy Engineering Ltd.
Central: Sana Salam, Sodales Solutions Inc.
East: Soodeh Farokhi, C2RO

Excellence Award

West: Mandy Farmer, Accent Inns Inc.
West: Shahrzad Rafati, Broadband TV
Central: Marina Glogovac, CanadaHelps

The 2020 RBC Canadian Women Entrepreneur Awards are presented by Women of Influence. Award sponsors include RBC, Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub and our official Due Diligence partner, KPMG.



RBC CANADIAN WOMEN
ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS

PRESENTED BY:
**WOMEN OF
INFLUENCE**

About the RBC Canadian Women Entrepreneur Awards

The RBC Canadian Women Entrepreneur Awards are the pre-eminent national business awards recognizing the country's leading female entrepreneurs. The awards are an initiative of Women of Influence, an award-winning organization dedicated to advancing women globally.

About Women of Influence Worldwide Inc.

Women of Influence, now in its 26th year, is one of North America's leading organizations offering solutions for workplace gender equality and women's advancement. Through our global events, digital media, signature awards, and consulting, Women of Influence reaches a diverse community of professional women and men across Canada and internationally. Providing insights and inspiration, perspectives on key issues, and creating opportunities to connect — we are making change happen for women, today. Our signature programs include the Top 25 Women of Influence Awards and the RBC Canadian Women Entrepreneur Awards. For more information, please visit www.womenofinfluence.com

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