

Kathy Barnett Memorial Scholarship Announced

Scholarship announced to help young high school women in Junior Achievement Program pursue business studies

A new \$2,000 scholarship was announced in Whistler May 8th to help young women in Grade 11 or 12 who are either a current participant or a recent graduate of Junior Achievement Business Education Program.

The Kathy Barnett Memorial Scholarship honours Whistler businesswoman, Kathy Barnett, whose death earlier this year came as a blow to Whistler, the business community and to women business owners across the province.

Kathy, who was the co-founder and publisher of Pique Newsmagazine in Whistler, was also vice-chair of Womens Enterprise Centre, and had served on its board since 2002. Kathy was very dedicated to helping women achieve success in business.

"Kathy's good humour, quiet wisdom, love of life and strong commitment to making a difference was experienced by all who came into contact with her," said Womens Enterprise Centre Board Chair and friend, Catherine Osler.

In addition, Kathy gave back to her community and the province by supporting the Community Foundation of Whistler, Tourism Whistler, Whistler Chamber of Commerce and the BC Small Business Roundtable.

It's fitting that this scholarship in Kathy's honour be announced at the 4th annual Women of Whistler conference. Women of Whistler, founded in 1996, is a women's business network which Kathy had supported since its inception.

Women's Enterprise Centre has asked Junior Achievement of British Columbia (JABC) to administer the Kathy Barnett Memorial Scholarship on its behalf. The \$2,000 scholarship is available for young women in Grade 11 or 12 who are either a current participant or a recent graduate of a Junior Achievement Business Education Program. It will assist her in pursuing business studies at an accredited Canadian post-secondary institution.

Says Jan Bell-Irving, President of JABC, "Junior Achievement is pleased to partner with Women's Enterprise Centre on this scholarship. We believe in the power and potential of today's youth. Our programs offer students the opportunity to acquire valuable business acumen, develop leadership qualities, and discover new career possibilities. With these kinds of skills and tools, our youth will be better prepared to face the challenges ahead with confidence in themselves and in their abilities."

Deadline for scholarship applications is Friday May 23, 2008. Applications and complete details about the scholarship are available at www.jabc.org or www.womensenterprise.ca/youth.

Laurel Douglas, CEO of Women's Enterprise Centre, reports "Kathy's family has let us know that they are touched by this recognition of her contribution to women entrepreneurs and small business in BC. I'd like to encourage all young women in Grades 11 and 12 who are involved with Junior Achievement to apply for this scholarship. With baby boomers retiring, it's important that we encourage youth to become involved in Junior Achievement and learn about entrepreneurship."

Women's Enterprise Centre is the go-to place for BC women business owners for business loans, skills training, business advisory services, resources, publications and referrals. Call us at 1.800.643.7014 or email info@womensenterprise.ca from anywhere in BC.