

Laurel Douglas, CEO of Women's Enterprise Centre wins Silver Medal

On September 20, 2009, the Economic Development Association of BC (EDABC) presented the 2009 MNP Meyers Norris Penny Economic Development Awards at BC's Economic Development Conference in Vancouver. The awards recognize individuals and groups that produce outstanding work in economic development that have made a difference in their local communities in BC.

This year, the Silver Medal for Economic Developer of the Year went to Laurel Douglas, CEO of Women's Enterprise Centre. Her leadership has inspired and motivated many women business owners to achieve success and she has been recognized provincially and internationally. She was presented with the "Order of Entrepreneurship" in 2008 to acknowledge her personal and professional contributions to the responsible development of Small Business BC.

Douglas says, "It's an honour to be recognized for the work Women's Enterprise Centre does in BC. We have an incredible team of dedicated staff who really care about the business success of our clients."

Since its inception in 1995, the \$26 million in direct and leveraged financing provided by Women's Enterprise Centre has generated over \$520 million in economic activity in BC. Approximately 75% of businesses which have received financing from Women's Enterprise Centre are still in business after 5 years, compared to the average of only 35% of small businesses in BC.

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 inquiry@womensenterprise.ca from anywhere in BC.