



## WEST END BIZ PRESENTS STAR AWARDS AT AGM

### MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release – Wednesday, November 16, 2011**

**Winnipeg, MB** – The West End BIZ held its Annual General Meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup> at the University of Winnipeg's Richardson College for the Environment.

A 'Community Star Award' was presented to The University of Winnipeg for their passion and commitment to the West End community and support of BIZ initiatives. "Reaching out and connecting with their neighbours, making campus a part of the community and the dynamic impact in capital investment the University of Winnipeg has made to the area deserves recognition," says BIZ Executive Director, Gloria Cardwell-Hoepfner.

A 'Lifetime Star Award' was presented to Independent Jewellers for outstanding commitment to the area, community support and becoming a Winnipeg icon. In business for over 75 years, they are known for service, quality and knowledge. "The reputation they have created for themselves is enviable," says BIZ Board Chair, Shane Storie.

The 'Rising Star Award' went to Awesome Co., one of Manitoba's fastest growing companies. Their unique designs and creative marketing ideas have them just about everywhere. Owner Ravi Ramberran says, "The West End BIZ has truly been a wonderful asset to our business, the people have been nothing short of awesome to us. I would like to thank everyone at the BIZ for their sincere efforts, time and energy and strongly encourage similar organizations to use the West End BIZ as a benchmark for their success in community enhancement."

The BIZ also released its 2011 annual report, presented next year's programming and elected the 2012 board of management.

Elected to the 2012 BIZ Management Board are:

Jeremy Epp – Independent Jewellers  
Stacey Erlendson – Federated Insurance  
Wayne Gelfant – McNaught Motors  
Gerry Harms – Winnipeg Building & Decorating  
George Ingram – Ingram Consulting  
Melanie Matheson – Rolling Rhino Communications  
Gord Partridge – Spectrum Health Centre  
Dieter Scheffer – Frank Motors  
Gary Stevenson – Norampac Winnipeg  
Shane Storie – SRS Signs & Service  
John Unger – John's The Hair Designers  
Rennie Zegalski – CB Richard Ellis

The West End Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone (West End BIZ) is a non-profit organization committed to working with business and area stakeholders to enhance and promote Winnipeg's West End.

- 30 -

For further information or to arrange interviews, please call Gloria Cardwell-Hoepfner, Executive Director, West End BIZ at 954-7900 or 290-WEST (9378).

Think you know Winnipeg's West End? Look again!  
*Winnipeg's West End - All we need is you!*