

February 15, 2017

Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce Announces Community Awards Finalists and Recipients

The Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the results of its 2016 Community Awards presented at a special event held on **Wednesday, February 15th, 2017** at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre.

Each year the Chamber honors individuals and businesses for their contribution to the community. This celebration follows a nomination period during which Qualicum Beach residents and visitors are encouraged to nominate those they consider deserving of recognition.

This sold out event began at 5:30 with guests having beverages and perusing showcase display tables. Extreme Eatz supplied an excellent gourmet meal that highlighted crab cake appetizers, chicken parmesan, and was completed with assorted desserts with a "Forgotten Lover's Flair".

Dave Graham from 88.5 The Beach was the night's emcee and hosted a lively evening full of celebration and acknowledgement.

The keynote speaker is Matt Drake. Matt spent most of last year producing Hallmark's new flagship series, "Chesapeake Shores" here in Qualicum Beach! Starring Jesse Metcalfe, Treat Williams and Oscar Nominee Diane Ladd, Chesapeake Shores premiered on the Hallmark Channel to the highest ratings for a television series in the network's history. Back filming for Season Two, Matt talked about the series and highlights of the 2016 production year.

This year is special because community engagement in the nomination process was at an all-time high. With over 50 nominations, all categories were filled with potential recipients. The short-listed nominees and recipients for the 2016 Qualicum Beach Community Awards are:

Business of the Year

Sponsored by the Career Centre

Cruise Plus
Arbutus Dental Clinic

Recipient of the 2016 Business of the Year is Arbutus Dental Clinic

Volunteer of the Year

Sponsored by Society of Organized Services

Michelle Genereux
Eva Hilborn
John McLenahan

Recipient of the 2016 Volunteer of the Year is: Eva Hilborn

Outstanding Customer Service

Sponsored by Pharmasave #182

Emily Dunsmore – The Source

Anthony Cummings – Lefty's Fresh Foods

Greg Payne- New Found Comfort Renovation and Repair

John Beaver – Pharmasave #182

Recipient of the 2016 Excellent Customer Service Award is: John Beaver

New Business of the Year

Sponsored by Katherine Wilk - Royal LePage - Parksville Qualicum Beach Realty

Alcove

Coombs Signs

Olive This and More

Recipient of the 2016 New Business of the Year is: Alcove

Newsmaker of the Year

Sponsored by Parksville Qualicum Beach News

Chesapeake Shores

Berwick Retirement Communities

Recipient of the 2016 Newsmaker of the Year is: Chesapeake Shores

Citizen of the Year

Sponsored by Qualicum Foods

Graham Beard

Michael Addiscott

Recipient of the 2016 Citizen of the Year is: Graham Beard

Also presented was the Coastal Community Credit Union **Lifetime Achievement Award** to Diane Kellas lately of ReMAX First Realty in Parksville.

The Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the volunteers who helped to make this evening a success and the support of our generous sponsors: Parksville Qualicum Beach News, Society of Organized Services, Katherine Wilk from Royal LePage - Parksville Qualicum Beach Realty, Qualicum Foods, Pharmasave #182 Qualicum Beach, the Career Centre, and Coastal Community Credit Union.