



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 3, 2010

YWCA WOMEN OF DISTINCTION GALA HONOURS EXCEPTIONAL WOMEN

Edmonton, Alberta – On Thursday, June 3 the YWCA of Edmonton hosted the 2010 Women of Distinction Awards at the Edmonton Expo Centre. Twelve women out of 56 nominees were awarded for their exceptional contributions and achievements across 12 categories, including Health & Medicine, Entrepreneur, Advocacy, Arts and Youth.

The awards recognize women for their initiatives, abilities and efforts that have made an exemplary achievement in their field, women who are outstanding role models because of their goals and the way they achieved these goals.

CATEGORY	RECIPIENT
Advocacy	Carrie Kohan
Arts, Culture & Heritage	Punita Chohan
Athletics, Recreation & Fitness	Jen Panteluk
Business, Management & The Professions	Darcey-Lynn Marc
Community Service	Nora Abou Absi
Education	Barb Reid
Entrepreneurs	Carol McBee
Health & Medicine	Dr. Wafaa Youssef
Inroads	Maureen Collins
Post Secondary Education	Anna De Luca
Turning Point	Marcella Wright
Youth: 18 & Under	Orysya Svystun
Lois E. Hole Award for Lifetime Achievement	Linda Hughes

“The YWCA Women of Distinction Awards acknowledge local women for their outstanding contributions to our city, and to motivate other women and men to follow in their foot steps,” says Stacey Johnson, Co-Chair for the YWCA Women of Distinction Awards Gala. “This is a night to honour women who have taken the time to make a difference in our community.”

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Nearly 800 guests were in attendance to witness the Academy-style event. The Awards Gala also featured local talent and entertainment, and a silent auction. Proceeds will help fund programs for women and families in need of support.

The YWCA of Edmonton's mission is to promote leadership, advocacy and support for women and their families to create strong, inclusive communities that value women's perspectives. To learn more about the programs and services offered through the YWCA of Edmonton, visit: www.ywcaofedmonton.org.

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