



Immediate release

Thursday, February 10, 2005

The Corporation of the Municipality of West Nipissing wins TOP honours at the 2004 EDCO awards. The municipality received its award for developing their Business Attraction Marketing Initiative.

The Initiative was developed by Economic Partners Sudbury East / West Nipissing Community Futures Development Corporation, the Municipality of West Nipissing, created by Howard Longfellow of Crimson Creative Media (Sturgeon Falls) and funded by Industry Canada / FedNor.

The Ontario Economic Development Awards took place last evening at the Toronto Marriott Eaton Centre Hotel. The Corporation of the Municipality of West Nipissing took top honours in the Business Development Public Sector Profiles for their Business Attraction Marketing Initiative. The ceremony honours winners and honourable mentions for their efforts in promoting their communities for location and tourism opportunities.

"This year, over 230 entries were judged" stated 2004 EDCO President Norm Schleeahn, Ec.D. "The competition allows local communities to see just how they stack up against other municipalities when it comes to promoting location, investment & tourism opportunities"

Expert judges reviewed all of the entries that covered everything from promotional brochures to infrastructure development projects. There are judges from specialized areas of expertise assigned to judge specific categories. Marc Gagnon of the Municipality of West Nipissing was on hand to accept the award during the Annual Conference of the Economic Developers Council of Ontario. "It is always an honour to accept this award as the competition is very stiff" stated Marc Gagnon, Community Services Director for West Nipissing " This competition result demonstrates our effectiveness in our economic development efforts"

EDCO is the country's largest provincial economic development association that offers this program as well as professional development opportunities throughout the year. Membership is close to 600 that come from the private and public sector.

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