

# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 26, 2006

**KELOWNA, BC** – The recipients of the six 2006 Business Excellence Awards were announced October 25 at the Coast Capri Hotel as the 18 finalists, their guests and community leaders celebrated 19 years of business excellence in Kelowna.

**Al Stober, President of Al Stober Construction Ltd.**, was honoured as **2006 Business Leader of the Year**, the prestigious award sponsored by Terasen Gas. Celebrating the success of the two-year-old business, **Tamarac Fresh Cut Foods Ltd.** (Tony DiMaria and Russ Husch) was the recipient of the **2006 Rising Star** award sponsored by the Okanagan School of Business at Okanagan College. A panel of judges selected four outstanding Kelowna area businesses as the 2006 recipients of the Category Awards.

- **CATEGORY 1 (1 – 6 employees)**  
**Winner:** Sherry's Grand Apparel (Sherry Shiskin)  
**Finalists:** Allan's Host 'N All Inc., Kelowna's Farmers Market
- **CATEGORY 2 (7 – 20 employees)** sponsored by BDO Dunwoody LLP  
**Winner:** Van-Kel Distributors Ltd. (Burnell family)  
**Finalists:** Luna Press, MacDermott's Mens Wear, Rocky Mountain Fitness Stores
- **CATEGORY 3 (21 – 40 employees)** sponsored by BMO Bank of Montreal  
**Winner:** SW Audiovisual (Cal McCarthy and Grant Mackney)  
**Finalists:** Reliant Web Hosting Inc., Somalife Consulting Ltd.
- **CATEGORY 4 (41+ employees)** sponsored by Economic Development Commission  
**Winner:** Andre's Audiotronic (Andre Blanleil)  
**Finalists:** Littco Enterprises Ltd., MacKay Chartered Accountants, Trak Canada