



# Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 2011

**KELOWNA, BC** – The recipients of the six 2011 Business Excellence Awards were announced October 17, 2011 at the Delta Grand Okanagan Resort & Conference Centre as the 17 finalists, their guests and community leaders celebrated 24 years of business excellence in Kelowna.

**Barry Meckler, President and CEO of Interior Savings**, was honoured as the 2011 Business Leader of the Year, the prestigious award sponsored by UBC Faculty of Management.

- Poppadoms Taste India! (Serge Dosanj) was the recipient of the **2011 Rising Star** award sponsored by FortisBC. This award is for companies that have been in business less than three years.  
**Finalists:** IT Services Kelowna, Vital Waters Inc.
- **Small Business Award (1 - 10 employees)** sponsored by Prospera Credit Union  
**Recipient:** Total Office Business Furnishings (Roy Collins & Carmen Sparg)  
• **Finalists:** All Occasions Party Rentals Inc., X.10.SION 207 Clothing Company/Surf Culture Clothing Co.
- **Mid-Size Business Award (11 - 30 employees)** sponsored by BDO Canada LLP  
**Recipient:** Barefoot Venus. (Cindy Danburger & Myra Murphy)  
• **Finalists:** Mara Lumber, Okanagan Staffing Services Inc.
- **Large Business Award (31+ employees)** sponsored by MacKay LLP  
• **Recipient:** O.K. Environmental Waste Systems Ltd., (Lance Shaw)  
**Finalists:** Spider Agile Technology, Waterplay Solutions Corp.
- **Community Impact Award** sponsored by Urban Systems  
**Recipient:** Big Brothers & Sisters of the Okanagan, (Lisa Hobson)  
• **Finalists:** Central Okanagan Child Development Association, Kelowna Gospel Mission, Okanagan Valley Pregnancy Care Centre