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### **Media Release: 2012 Westpac Northland Business Excellence Awards**

Westpac Northland Business Excellence Awards for 2012 took place at the Old Money Factory on Friday night. Entrant numbers exceeded last year's Awards with 50 Northland businesses competing in 7 business categories, 4 ancillary categories and an overall supreme winner.

Kamo Home & Village Charitable Trust was the Supreme 2012 Westpac Northland Business of the Year and also took out the Channel North Best Not for Profit Organisation Award Category.

The judges said...

*Kamo Home & Village Charitable Trust is the Northland Business Excellence winner for 2012 because it demonstrated excellence in all aspects of the Baldrige judging criteria. The Trust has adopted leading management tools and applied them consistently to achieve continuous improvement and best practice throughout the organisation. The Trust is congratulated on providing a highly valued range of products, and achieving excellent business management practices*

Tony Collins from the Northland Chamber of Commerce said that the awards were a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the success of many Northland businesses. These enterprises were of varying size and often very different in structure and scale. The one thing they all had in common was their passion for what they were doing and their commitment to succeed.

Other winners were

- REAL Landlord Insurance NZ - winner of the Konica Minolta Excellence in Business Owner Operator (1-3FTE) Category.

The judges said...

*This business is driven by a clearly passionate and focused leader, which is recognized as strength of the business. Added to this is a high level of industry knowledge and business management competence, with these skills and a developing business experience are being passed to the workforce.*

*This business has the sole rights to a unique product, with the operation being a simple delivery model, which has the ability to readily add on additional products and services.*

- Rent a Boat BOI Ltd - winner of the Henderson Reeves Connell Rishworth Excellence in Business Small Business Awards (4-9FTE) .

The judges said...

*Through the strong leadership of the business owners, the business has achieved growth in the past few years in a very difficult market sector. The use of good management principles have enabled them to react to a changing market, identify new opportunities and build their products and services around these opportunities.*

- Rudolphs Ltd - winner of the Golden Bay Cement Excellence in Business Medium Business Award (10-24FTE).

The judges said...

*Rudolphs exhibited excellence in all aspects of business management, with particular attention to operational systems and training programmes. The company operates in a technically challenging environment with high compliance requirements. Strong leadership from business owners has been instrumental in lifting performance in all aspects of the business while bringing their employees along at the same time.*

- Duke of Marlborough Hotel - winner of the Refining NZ Excellence in Business Large Business Award (25 plus FTE)

The judges said...

*The owners of The Duke demonstrated they apply good business practise to every area of their business. From the start they had their work cut out to plan and action the rebuild of the business to become profitable and respected again in a small Northland community. They have implemented systems, have a very good understanding of their target market and have good measurement and monitoring systems to react and change as the business requires it*

- WashBar Ltd - winner of the Business Coaching New Zealand Best Emerging Business Award.

The judges said...

*The judges were very impressed by the results being achieved by this rapidly growing business - which has obvious potential for significant growth - including export to Australia.*

*Jules and Pete have a bold vision to be the leading supplier of natural pet care products within 3 years - and have put together a comprehensive business plan to get them there.*

*Every aspect of the business is being well managed, including brand marketing, product development, financial management and sustainability.*

*We look forward to WashBar being another Northland success story*

- Kamo Home & Village Charitable Trust - winner of the Channel North Best Not-For-Profit Organisation Award.

The judges said...

*Kamo Home and Village is owned and operated by a Charitable Trust but also demonstrates excellence in all aspects of business management. The Trust has spent time on strategic planning to understand the changing needs of their market, backed these with comprehensive financial planning to create innovative expansion plans to meet future market needs without compromising their core values. They have robust operational systems and procedures, exceptional monitoring programmes, long term strategic and asset management plans to compete in the open market for clients*

- Kia Tupato - winner of the Northland Regional Council Sustainable Business Award.

The judges said...

*Kia Tupato is an outstanding example of a company that exhibits sustainability in terms of value-add to the economy and the community. At its core, are the values of a holistic Māori business which delivers on the four well-beings: social, cultural, economic and environmental. Kia Tupato make an unrivalled contribution to the progression of young people in Northland through training in skills that lead to better employment prospects and life management*

- Rudolphs Ltd - winner of the ACC Workplace Safety Award.

The judges said...

*Rudolph's is a well known family owned and operated business that was originally established 40 years ago in Ruakaka, Northland. In 2002 the 209 Lower Port Road Site was acquired and now serves as Rudolphs Main Office. In November 2007, Wayne and Caroline Erceg purchased the company outright. Rudolph's are specialists in the Abrasive Blasting and Coating Industry and have a policy of continuous improvement and are conscientiously striving to achieve excellence in Health and Safety and Quality Management systems.*

*Rudolph's impressed the judges with the evidence of engagement and commitment from management and staff towards a blanket approach to staff achieving both higher level health and safety and industry specific training*

- Megan Bowers Photographer - winner of the Creative Northland in Excellence in Arts Business

The judges said...

*Choosing the winner of the Arts Section of the Business awards was very difficult as all entrants demonstrated professionalism in their businesses, showed us the art sector is entrepreneurial and is producing quality. The winner of the sector is Megan Bowers Photography. This small business though in its infancy showed both business acumen and artistic ability. There was a unique quirky element to the concept that made it stand out from other enterprises in that an effort had been made to differentiate her product from other similar services. Megan also has used her talents as an artist to explore other avenues of expression but always with generation of income as part of the process.*

- Central Butchery took out the Northland INC Judges Commendation Award.

The judges said...

*The Central Butchery in Kawakawa stands out for its outstanding level of community involvement and a genuine “connection” with the town and its people.*

*Chevy and Dan believe from the heart that you don’t always have to run a business like a machine to get a great result – and they walk the talk when it comes to putting the local people first.*

*Everything they do is with the belief that good deeds multiply and that they can be a positive role model that others can learn from and imitate.*

*In their own words “We are people with big hearts and a drive to recreate the town. We truly believe in our community and their support”*

*The judges are convinced this inherent passion for Kawakawa will be a formula for extraordinary success in the future*

- Whangarei LIFE Education Trust was voted More FM Customer’s Choice Service Provider while Alpha Kids NZ More FM Customer’s Choice retail provider.

The Northern Advocate Business Hall of Fame inductee this year was Mike Simm in recognition of his contribution to Northland business.

For more information visit the awards website [www.northlandbusinessawards.co.nz](http://www.northlandbusinessawards.co.nz) or contact NZ Chambers of Commerce Northland.

**Contact:**

Tony Collins

ceo@northchamber.co.nz

027 444 1010

09 438 4771

## **Full list of Finalists & Winners 2012 (In order of announcement)**

### **Accident Compensation Corporation Workplace Safety Award**

#### **Finalists:**

Kamo Home & Village Charitable Trust  
Rudolphs Ltd  
Smith & Davies Ltd

#### **Winner:**

Rudolphs Ltd

### **Konica Minolta Excellence in Business – Owner Operator Award**

#### **Finalists:**

Fusion at Work  
REAL Landlord Insurance NZ

#### **Winner:**

REAL Landlord Insurance NZ

### **Henderson Reeves Connell Rishworth Excellence in Business – Small Business Award**

#### **Finalists:**

Mahoe Cheese  
Rent a Boat BOI Ltd

#### **Winner:**

Rent a Boat BOI Ltd

### **Channel North Best Not for Profit Organisation Award**

#### **Finalists:**

Dress For Success (Northland) Incorporated  
Kamo Home & Village Charitable Trust

#### **Winner:**

Kamo Home & Village Charitable Trust

Creative Northland Excellence in Arts Business Award

**Finalists:**

Dawn Dutton Photography  
Quarry Arts Centre  
Megan Bowers Photographer

**Winner:**

Megan Bowers Photographer

Golden Bay Cement Excellence in Business – Medium Business Award

**Finalists:**

Rudolphs Ltd  
Shiraz Indian Restaurant

**Winner:**

Rudolphs Ltd

Refining NZ Excellence in Business – Large Business Award

**Finalists:**

Duke of Marlborough Hotel  
Northpine Ltd  
Smith & Davies Ltd

**Winner:**

Duke of Marlborough Hotel

Business Coaching New Zealand Best Emerging Business Award

**Finalists:**

Red Pizzeria  
WashBar Ltd  
Wild Haggis

**Winner:**

WashBar Ltd

Northland Regional Council Sustainable Business Award

**Winner:**

Kia Tupato Ltd



Northland INC Judges Commendation Award

**Winner:**

Central Butchery (2011) Ltd

The Northern Advocate Business Hall of Fame Award

**Inductee:**

Mike Simm

More FM Customer Choice Award – Service

More FM Customer Choice Award – Retail

**Finalists (All):**

Alpha Kids NZ

Caffeine

Central Butchery (2011) Ltd

Dawn Dutton Photography

Marty's Golf Cafe

Red Pizzeria

Regency Pies

The Flower Shed

Variety #1

Whangarei Life Education Trust

**Service - Winner:**

Whangarei LIFE Education Trust

**Retail - Winner:**

Alpha Kids NZ

Westpac Northland Business Excellence Supreme Award

**Winner:**

Kamo Home & Village Charitable Trust