

# BEST IN BUSINESS

*Hyundai dealer thrilled with 'large' award*

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
sbolan@yrmg.com

Last year, Stouffville Hyundai was up for best new business but lost out to Fishbone Bistro.

This year, the Hwy. 48 dealership was awarded large business of the year by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce.

The awards were handed out Monday night at the Royal Canadian Legion. The theme was "Boom-Town days of the Klondike".

"Just to be nominated is a testament to what we're doing here," said Pieter van der Griend, Stouffville Hyundai's dealer principal.

"I'm ecstatic for my team. I'm ecstatic for my dealership. It's nice to be acknowledged by the community as a leader. We're absolutely thrilled. It was unexpected," he said.

Hyundai was up against Bruce's Auto Service, Chas. Richards & Sons, McGregor Alsop and

Welcomehome Relocations. The small business of the year award, which is for companies with 10 employees or less, was given to Biz-Zone Internet Group of Gormley.

Fishbone Bistro was named new business of the year, while Justin Altmann, owner of Altmann Country Market, was named young entrepreneur of the year.

It was a tie for non-profit of the year between Springvale Baptist Church and the Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association.

Gillian Cawoosi of McGregor Alsop, a Stouffville-based engineering firm, was named employee of the year.

Announced earlier were the winners of the family legacy (Schell Lumber) and lifetime achievement (Jim Thomas) awards.

For more photographs from the event, go to [yorkregion.com](http://yorkregion.com)



Brenda Masson and Rick Callaghan of Whistle Radio dressed the part to host the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce business awards at the legion Monday.

*Photography by Steve Somerville*



Sun-Tribune columnist Jim Thomas gives his acceptance speech as Mayor Wayne Emmer-son looks on. The event had a gold-rush theme.



Stouffville Hyundai's Pieter van der Griend accepted the big business of the year award from Karen Cashin and Edward Nelles of the chamber of commerce.



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