MEDIA RELEASE

Perth Airport are supporting the Volunteer and Indigenous Business of the Year Awards in the 2015 Belmont Small Business Awards

The 22nd annual Belmont Small Business Awards are well underway, and nominations and entries are open until 5pm Monday 22nd September 2015.

Perth Airport are sponsoring the Volunteer and Indigenous Business of the Year Awards in the 2015 Belmont Small Business Awards. This year's Belmont Small Business Awards include a total of 23 categories for entrants to consider such as Best New Business, Business Person of the Year, Enterprise of the Year, Spirit of Australia, Business Migrant of the Year, and Young Entrepreneur Award.

The Small Business awards are coordinated by the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre (Belmont BEC). Belmont BEC is a non profit community based organisation established, in 1994, to assist in the growth and development of small business. Over the years it has originated a large range of well known projects and programs for the benefit of its small business clients that have included Belmont Small Business Awards, Designedge Innovation Festival, Multicultural Business Support Services, WA Racing Industry Project and the Belmont BEC is also an industry specialist on creative industry, fashion and TCFL industries.

Fiona Lander, Executive General Manager of Corporate Affairs and Organisation Development at Perth Airport said, "Perth Airport recognises the invaluable contribution that volunteers, like their own Gold Coats, make to the community. The Gold Coat volunteers play an essential role in providing information about Perth Airport's redevelopment, assisting passengers and, importantly, creating a welcoming environment for all visitors to the airport. In addition, Perth Airport has proudly sponsored the Indigenous Business of the Year Award since 2008. We acknowledge the connection that the local Indigenous community has to the land on which the airport estate is located, and recognise these connections in many ways."

"I would like to congratulate last year's Volunteer of the Year Winner Bianca MacDonald and the Indigenous Business of the Year, Kart Koort Wiern. I encourage all businesses in Western Australia to see if they qualify for any of the 23 award categories. The Belmont Small Business Awards are free to enter, and the Belmont BEC can offer lots of assistance for small business entrants, including providing free online information sessions on How to prepare an Awards submission", Fiona said.

For more information on how to nominate a business (including your business clients or suppliers) for the 2015 Belmont Small Business Awards or for information on attending the awards ceremony in October call the Belmont BEC on (08) 9479 3777, email awards@belmontbec.com or visit the website http://www.belmontbec.com/awards

The "Night of Stars" event, where winners will be announced, is going be held on Thursday 22nd of October at the Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre in the Ballroom.

For further information please contact:

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<u>www.belmontbec.com</u> <u>www.mybusinessincubator.com</u> <u>www.bpwbusinessincubator.com</u>

<u>www.tcfwa.com</u> <u>www.tcfaustralia.com</u> <u>www.tcfglobal.com</u> <u>www.designedge.net.au</u>

<u>www.fashionincubators.com</u>