

MEDIA RELEASE

11 February 2015

Carol Hanlon Announced as Finalist in ACLW's 'Sustaining Women's Empowerment in Communities and Organisations' (SWECO) Awards

Western Australian Small Business advocate Carol Hanlon has been announced as a finalist in the 'Empowering women in a community or organisation in Australia' category of ACLW's 'Sustaining Women's Empowerment in Communities and Organisations' (SWECO) Awards.

Carol Hanlon as Founding Manager and Business Facilitator of the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. (Belmont BEC) and Founder, Manager & Mentor of Textile, Clothing, Footwear Resource Centre of WA Inc. (TCF Australia / TCF Global) has over the past 20 years provided low cost and 'no cost' training and mentoring projects to develop the business skills and business growth potential of more than 16,000+ women in new or existing small businesses in Western Australia and across all states and territories of Australia including regional & remote. Both organisations are not for profit (NFP) community associations.

Since the mid 1990's Carol Hanlon, Founding CEO of both Centres has been assisting women in business across Australia, via phone, email & face/face training and mentoring and since 2010 initiated online training services via webinars.

One particular program that Carol Hanlon developed for the Belmont BEC is the BPW Business Incubator Project. The BPW Business Incubator Women in Business Online Training & Mentoring Project – a two year project conducted across Australia during 2013-2014 has assisted over 750 women develop business skills and growth potential of their small businesses, this project was partly supported by the Australian Government.

The BPW Business Incubator Project has also been adopted as an APEC Pilot Project and partly supported by the Chinese Taipei Foundation for Women's Rights Promotion and Development has provided business support & training to women in 5 economies of China, Taipei, Republic of Korea, The Philippines, Chile and Australia.

As a result of these projects Carol Hanlon will be presenting at the NGO Parallel Forum during UN CSW59, New York in March 2015. The topic will be 'Empowering Women in Business through Online Training & Mentoring'.

Carol Hanlon said recently, "I am very passionate about assisting small businesses in Australia and internationally every day. Over the past 20 years I have received many thousands of letters and emails of support and the total number of clients we have supported via Belmont BEC & TCFWA totals over 26,000. I am honoured to be a finalist in these prestigious awards."

Of her future plans for Belmont BEC, TCFWA and her other projects dedicated to helping grow small business, Carol said, "My goal is to keep being innovative and through the development and support of our NFP small business organisations, our committees, mentors and staff continue to deliver online business training and mentoring to small businesses across Australia and globally with a focus on women in business enterprise development."

Winners will be announced at the SWECO Award Ceremony on 6 March 2015 at Parliament House Sydney. For more information on the awards please see www.leadershipforwomen.com.au

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Further Project Information| www.bpwbusinessincubator.com www.bpwbusinessincubator.com/apec



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