**MEDIA RELEASE**

**City of Belmont supports the 24th Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards!**

The City of Belmont has committed to supporting the Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards since their inception in 1994.

The Awards provide recognition and encouragement for small business achievements and will be open for small businesses, individuals and organisations in Belmont and from across Western Australia from the 27th of April until 5pm, 26th of September, 2017.

The City of Belmont will support the Best New Business Award. To be eligible to enter this award category, businesses must be located within the City of Belmont and the new business should have been in operation for less than 2 years.

Mayor Phil Marks, City of Belmont said, “We are thrilled to be supporting these unique awards in Western Australia. The City of Belmont is passionate about supporting local businesses, and these awards highlight the hard working new businesses in our local area.”

The Awards are co-ordinated by the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. (Belmont BEC) which is a not-for-profit community based organisation that was established, in 1994, to assist in the growth and development of small business.

Belmont BEC CEO and Founder of the Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards Carol Hanlon said “The Awards are open to small businesses both within the Belmont area and across the state with 26 categories available for entrants to consider. This is the 24th year we have held our Small Business Awards and it is exciting to see the awards grow each year to provide recognition to those striving for business excellence and acknowledging community achievements”

Potential entrants will be able to access a wide range of support in preparing their submission that includes Free Award Entry Kits, Workshops, Webinars and access to Award Mentors who can assist with tips in preparing award submissions to impress the judging panel.

Winners of this year’s 24th Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards 2017’will be announced at the ‘Night of Stars’ event that will take place in the Ballroom of the Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre on Wednesday, October 25th, 6pm - 8.30pm.

For more information on how to enter the awards and other categories, please contact awards@belmontbec.com or phone: (08) 9479 3777 or visit [www.belmontbec.com/awards](http://www.belmontbec.com/awards)

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