



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Sharon Kais, Kais Hire winner of Mentor Award in 28<sup>th</sup> Belmont & WA Small Business Awards**

Sharon Kais, Kais Hire was one of many Western Australian small businesses awarded in the 28th Belmont & WA Small Business Awards on the Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2021. The winners were showcased at the 'Night of Stars Event' in the ballroom of the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre with over 460 attending. MCs for the 'Night of Stars' evening included Belmont BEC Patron Louise Percy & Past Belmont BEC Board Member Hannah Beazley MLA.

The welcome address was delivered by City of Belmont Mayor Cr Phil Marks, VIP's and guests included; Minister for Emergency Services, Racing, Gaming, Small Business & Volunteering, Hon Reece Whitby MLA; Member for Victoria Park, Hannah Beazley MLA; Member for South Perth, Geoff Baker MLA; Her Honour Judge Natalie Whitby, Consul General India, Dantu Charandasi & Comm Consul of India, Naresh Sharma; Hon Consul Slovakia, Chair of Belmont BEC Paul Faix; Hon Consul of the Republic of Mauritius, Ian Whitaker; Hon Consul of the Philippines, Virma Symons; City of Belmont councillors Cr George Sekulla, Cr Margie Bass, Cr Bernie Ryan, Cr Jenny Davis, Cr Natalie Carter; City of Bayswater Deputy Mayor Catherine Ehrhardt; City of Cockburn Cr Chontelle Stone; Belmont BEC Inc. Patron Louise Percy; TCF WA Inc Chair Irving Lane; The Australian Asian Association of WA, President Marlene Burnaby; Combined Small Business Alliance of WA Inc. Chair Les Marshall; Business & Professional Women, WA State President Sandra Cook; BPW Belmont President Kathryn Yew; Afghan Young Leaders, Chair Maria Aziz; Racing & Wagering WA, David Hunter; AusIndustry WA, Brett Duane; Australian Indian Business Association, Chair Kamlesh Patel; WA Vietnam Business Council, President David Morgan; National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka, Kapila De Silva.

Entertainment was provided by performers Charndeeep Kaur & Nazrul Islam from Expedition The Musical Journey, Artist Sarasa Krishnan, Sarasso and Music Maestro Dr. Subramaniam, with Ken Hayward and Jordan Hayward presenting the Welcome to Country.

Kais Hire, located in Redcliffe, started with one grader in 2004 and has since grown to 53 machines and 75 staff. Founder and Director of Kais Hire, Sharon Kais, is an inspiration to aspiring woman in a male dominated industry and believes in giving back to the community and helping others where she can.

Winner of the Mentor Award, Sharon Kais supports the Women in Civil Mentoring Program, which began its pilot program this year, and matches 15 mentees looking for guidance and professional growth with mentors who are highly experienced in their industry. She has a drive to see the success of other women in the industry and is very active on the Women in Civil Committee.

The Mentor Award is supported by 1001 Business Tips from 101™. A current project by the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. & Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre of WA, the '1001 Business Tips by 101™ Cyber Security IT Experts' new eBook will assist small business owners with insight and tips to overcome the many challenges that they can face online. The eBook will feature expert tips from Cyber Security IT specialists and mentors from around the globe and is supported by the MY Business Incubator Cyber Security Training & Mentoring Project.

Carol Hanlon, Founding Manager of Belmont BEC Inc, and the Belmont & WA Small Business Awards said, "The awards provide a fantastic opportunity for small and growing enterprises from Belmont and across Western Australia to be recognised for their achievements."

Ms Hanlon said, "This is the 28th year we have held our Small Business Awards and it is exciting to see the awards grow each year to provide recognition to those in Western Australia striving for business excellence and acknowledging their achievements. We sincerely thank our Major Sponsor the City of Belmont for their long-term support and the valuable support from all our Category Sponsors which make this amazing small business event possible.



For further details on all winners of the 28th Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards 2021 visit [www.belmontbec.com/awards](http://www.belmontbec.com/awards)

**For further information please contact:**

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**City of Belmont**

The City of Belmont is a vibrant, modern City located just six kilometres from Perth CBD. The City is a thriving network of economic growth and development opportunities and is located in one of the most significant logistics hubs in the region. The City's most significant community infrastructure project Belmont Hub opened in 2020. This state-of-the-art facility with integrated services, continues to consolidate its position in the City centre. Belmont's prime location provides opportunities for economic and community development in our City and has attracted new families and businesses of varying sizes and across a range of industries. These communities have made Belmont their home to live, work and invest. [www.belmont.wa.gov.au](http://www.belmont.wa.gov.au)

**Belmont BEC | BEC Global** is a not-for-profit community organisation established in 1994, providing training and mentoring support services to over 27,000+ individuals in Australia to start or improve their small business and is a specialist in virtual business incubation. Belmont BEC has originated a large range of well-known projects and programs for the benefit of its small business clients that have included the annual Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards, Designedge Innovation Festival, MY Business Incubator Training & Mentoring Projects, TCF Resource Centre WA, Multicultural Business Support Services, WA Racing Industry Project, Belmont Clothes Library and the BPW Business Incubator Online Projects. [www.belmontbec.com](http://www.belmontbec.com) [www.mybusinessincubator.com.au](http://www.mybusinessincubator.com.au)  
[www.bpwbusinessincubator.com/empoweringwomen](http://www.bpwbusinessincubator.com/empoweringwomen)

**TCFWA | TCF Australia | TCF Global** is a not-for-profit community organisation established in 1998, assisting over 6,500+ designers and fashion industry small businesses with fashion business skill development, linkages in the global supply chain, International trade, and industry networks. [www.tcfwa.com](http://www.tcfwa.com) [www.tcfaustralia.com](http://www.tcfaustralia.com) [www.tcfglobal.com](http://www.tcfglobal.com) [www.myfashionincubator.com](http://www.myfashionincubator.com)  
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