

MEDIA RELEASE

Eight Finalists in the running for Young Business Achievement Awards

A record 31 nominations for the prestigious Young Business Achievement Awards has been whittled down to a final eight contenders, whom will be presented at a Young Chamber networking event Tuesday 24 May 2011, from 5.30pm at The Brewery.

The 2011 Awards are run by the Young Chamber of Commerce, a committee of the Townsville Chamber.

Chair of the Young Chamber Mr Chris Bowden said the Awards recognised the excellence of local young professionals, with one winner in each of the categories of 'business' and 'corporate employee'.

Mr Bowden said the Young Chamber approached the Awards differently this year, asking nominees to describe their aspirations, their dream job or business, and their plans to achieve their dream.

"We received a phenomenal response which highlighted the entrepreneurial talents of nominees, as well as their practical skills in delivering a plan, no matter how bold or ambitious," Mr Bowden said.

"It is vital that our region celebrate the talents and skills of our young professionals and promote the opportunities for them to develop their careers locally."

The finalists for the Business Person of the Year are:

- Cassandra Cazzulino, Out of the Blue Events
- Meredith Daly, Eagle Boys Ayr, Aitkenvale and Fairfield Waters
- Natalie Flecker, Yongala Lodge
- Peter Jepson, Jepson Media

The finalists for the Corporate Employee of the Year are:

- Kiel Shuttleworth, Port of Townsville
- Larissa Nielsen, Quest Apartments
- Nadia Jones, Sunferries
- Tara Hodgson, Herron Todd White

President of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr John Carey will lead the selection panel.

"The Awards are a showcase of the future leaders of Townsville. Our city is full of young professional talent and the Chamber is committed to supporting them in their journey towards success," Mr Carey said.

Winners will be announced at the Awards gala event, Friday 10 June, 7pm at Jupiters' Pavillon. To RSVP, visit www.townsvillechamber.com.au or call 4771 2729.

Media: Marie-Claude Brown, Townsville Chamber of Commerce, (07) 4771 2729 or 044 789 5525