Publisher’s Message

Over the past 16 years, Influential Women of Northern Ontario has profiled and honoured incredible women who have contributed to economic wealth and growth in the northern region. They are small business owners, young entrepreneurs, public sector employees and managers in many businesses. These IW Alumni represent various communities and cities in the North – from Sioux Lookout, to Elliot Lake, to Kapuskasing, to Kenora and the five major cities in between. What all the IW Alumni share is the tenacity, energy and fortitude to seek success for themselves, their employees and their communities. We are celebrating our 16th year, which calls for a new look! We have introduced new categories which will stand out in a modernized way. The quality of these award categories reflects on the nominations we receive annually. They are all outstanding contributors to our region and inspiring role models for our future leaders. The Executive of the Year Award will be presented to a woman who has sustained a secure position within an established company. The entrepreneur of the year will be presented to a woman who owns her own business and has contributed to her community.

The Influential Women of Northern Ontario Awards will be presented to women in Northern Ontario who are either entrepreneurs, up and coming leaders or established leaders in executive positions within one of the three categories: Executive of the Year Award, Entrepreneur of the Year, and Young Entrepreneur of the Year. Six women, three from Northeastern Ontario and three from Northwestern Ontario, will be honoured at two celebratory luncheons, one which will be held in Thunder Bay on June 3, 2013 and the other in Sudbury on June 6, 2013.

The “Aspiring Achiever Scholarship” was introduced in 2009 and was a huge success. This scholarship will be awarded to one Grade 12 student from Northern Ontario who meets the criteria outlined in the nomination form. We want to encourage future generations of women in business and public sector positions to continue to build our communities, and what better way than to initiate a scholarship component to our program. The Scholarship winner will join the IW Award winners for 2013 and will be honoured along with them at the IW Awards ceremony. We anticipate a tremendous response to the 16th annual celebration, where we will once again profile and honour women in the region, who continue to build economic wealth and opportunity for us all. Nominate an Influential Woman and attend one or both of our celebratory luncheons. You are sure to be inspired!

Patricia Mills
Publisher, Northern Ontario Business
Eligibility

To be eligible for these awards, the nominee must:

• Hold a position with any company or organization across all sectors
• She must be in her position for a minimum of three years
• She must go above and beyond the role of her career and contribute to her community
• The nominee must live and work within the region of Northern Ontario

Categories

Executive of the Year Award

The award is presented to a woman who is a successful executive within an established organization. To qualify, the following questions must be answered:

• How has the nominee positively influenced her workplace and industry?
• How has she contributed to economic wealth, job creation and growth?
• How has she overcome professional obstacles to achieve her goals?
• How has she exhibited extraordinary leadership?
• In what ways has she initiated change through innovation?
• How has she gone beyond her career to enrich her community?

Entrepreneur of the Year Award

This award is presented to a woman who has overcome obstacles (either personal, financial etc) to obtain the position she is in now. She owns a business, manages a business or is co-owner of a business that has a successful and notable track record for a minimum of 3 years. To qualify, the following questions must be answered:

• How has she positively influenced her workplace, industry and community?
• How has she contributed to economic wealth, job creation and growth?
• What has she done to overcome professional obstacles to achieve company goals?
• How has she exhibited extraordinary leadership?
• Describe the nominee’s community involvement outside of her work mandate.

Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award

The award is presented to a woman between the age of 19-40 years as of February 22, 2013. She owns a business, manages a business or is co-owner of a business that has a successful and notable track record for a minimum of 3 years. To qualify, the following questions must be answered:

• How has she shown determination in her role as an entrepreneur?
• How has she overcome professional obstacles to achieve her goals?
• How has she exhibited extraordinary leadership (i.e. entrepreneurial spirit, risk-taking, and employee relations?)
• How has she gone beyond her career to enrich her community?

For nominations to qualify they must include:

• Completed nomination form
• Answer to questions found under category
• Copy of the nominee’s resume
• Minimum of 2 letters of reference in support of the nominee (nominator excluded)
• Email or fax submission

Selection Process

• Northeast nominations are judged by two judges from the Northwest
• Northwest nominations are judged by two judges from the Northeast
• The judges are solely responsible for the review, evaluation and selection of award winners
• The judges selections are final and are not subject to review
• All winners will be notified in writing prior to the events
• Award winners will be profiled in a souvenir magazine that will be distributed with the June issue of Northern Ontario Business and posted on www.influentialwomen.ca

To be included in the judging process, nominations must include:

• Completed nomination form
• Answers to the questions for the appropriate award category
• Copy of nominee’s resume
• Two letters of reference in support of the nominee
• Email submission to Kimberley@nob.on.ca or fax 705.671.0878
2013 **Nomination Form**

Do you know someone who meets the eligibility criteria? If so, please complete the following information and send it to the address below before February 22, 2013.

Please check the appropriate award category:

- [X] Entrepreneur of the Year
- [ ] Young Entrepreneur of the Year
- [ ] Executive of the Year

Nominating is easy...Use the following checklist to ensure your nomination is completed in full!

- [X] Fill in this nomination form.
- [X] Provide a copy of the nominee’s resumé.
- [X] Collect two letters of recommendation in support of the nominee.
- [X] Answers the questions asked in the appropriate Award category.

Nominations must be received by February 22, 2013 to be eligible.

**Nominate online at:** www.influentialwomen.ca

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### Laura Hilton

**NAME OF NOMINEE**

**COMPANY**

**PHONE NUMBER**

**CELLULAR**

**EMAIL ADDRESS**

**MAILING ADDRESS**

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**NAME OF NOMINATOR**

**COMPANY**

**PHONE NUMBER**

**CELLULAR**

**EMAIL ADDRESS**

**MAILING ADDRESS**

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**Executive of the Year**

**Entrepreneur of the Year**

**Young Entrepreneur of the Year**

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**Patricia Mills, Publisher**

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Email: pmills@nob.on.ca

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Sample Entrepreneur of the Year Questions:

(*note names and places stated in this summary are fictitious)

1. How has the nominee positively influenced her workplace, industry and community?

Laura has positively influenced her workplace and industry in so many ways. She is heavily involved with the Chamber of Commerce and many other organizations focused on building strong businesses throughout the community.

- She supports local businesses and entrepreneurs.
- Has provided presentations to women starting local businesses at several Colleges and Universities across the North.
- She’s an advocate for women’s rights, helping countless female workers and managers achieve goals.
- Promotes the requirement for education, mentoring, training and safety for her employees.
- Donates to Alzheimer’s Community, Local Junior Hockey players, High School Basketball teams, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Ontario Provincial Police Foundation and many others throughout the community.

She has also sponsored and supported various mining events throughout northern Ontario, such as

- Mining your way in the North
- Mining Days
- Northern Ontario’s Prospectors Association

2. How has she contributed to economic wealth, job creation and growth?

Laura tries to ensure that all training and hiring is done locally, in order to positively affect the community where ever possible. She also tries to sponsor local events as much as possible. She has introduced unemployed and underemployed workers to the mining and mineral exploration industry.

She currently employs 105 people and is looking to expand in 2014.

3. What has she done to overcome professional obstacles to achieve her goals?

Laura is one of the only women in the world that is the owner of a successful drilling company. It wasn’t easy for her to get to where she is today, but she has risen to the top. She has done this while raising 2 children as a single mother and taking care of her own Mother living with Alzheimer’s.
4. How has she exhibited extraordinary leadership?

- She has formed bonds with native communities
- She is a supporter of community college and university programs in the mining industry in efforts to get more women involved in mining programs
- She has a crew of 100 employers in the field and 5 office staff that she manages with leadership, appreciation and respect.
- She has implemented employee appreciation days. Dedicating one day a month to her employees.
- She has become the voice of the mining industry to local politicians in the Northern Region.
- She goes out of her way to help the local government to understand the conflicts of the mining industry and how the mining industry in the north can benefit the economy.
- Laura is an inspiration for other women who wish to own and operate future mining companies.
- She always ensures that her equipment is well maintained and crews follow strict safety regulations.
- She is an advocate for women’s rights in the mining industry.

5. Describe the nominee’s community involvement outside of her work mandate.

- She has gone far beyond her day to day duties as a business owner by getting local government involved in the mining industry and helping them understand how the industry benefits the local economy.
- Laura is also a huge supporter of local education programs to help students become involved in the mining industry. She does her best to hire local employees.
- She has also generously donated to and sponsored many events and charities, such as Alzheimer’s Society, Northern Ontario Prospectors Association, Canadian Cancer Society and many more.
- Laura volunteers with the Heart and Stroke Foundation.
- Sits on Board of Governors for University of Northern Ontario
- Volunteer for Women in Mining. Mentors post-secondary students to support their pursuit of a career in the Canadian mining sector.
- Sits on the Committee for Cities Earth Care program
- Volunteer for the Alzheimer Society
Sample Entrepreneur of the Year Resume
(*note names and places stated in this summary are fictitious)

Laura Hilton

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[Phone]</th>
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<tr>
<td>Street Address, City, ON, Postal Code</td>
<td>[Website]</td>
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**Profile**

Laura Hilton is one of Northern Ontario’s most successful business women in the mining industry. Owner of XYZ Drilling Company, she has built her company from the ground up and is bound and determined to lead the way for women of the future in the mining industry. She is a huge supporter of the community, a leadership figure to all those around her. She manages her staff with a strong, caring force and has an optimistic outlook on life that shines through to her staff and clients.

**Professional Accomplishments**

Mining/Drilling Industry
- Successfully created and continues to maintain XYZ Drilling Company
- One of the only women in North America to own a mining company
- Major contributor to Northern Ontario’s Economy

**Work History**

[2006 to present]
Owner, XYZ Drilling Company, XXXX, ON
- Oversee day to day operations
- Maintenance, staffing, marketing
- Public Relations, contract negotiations and bidding

2003 - 2005
Operations Manager, AAA Company, XXXX, ON,
- Mine Site Co-ordinator
- Update and maintain company contracts
- Public Relations and Marketing

1995 - 2005
General Manager, BBB Company, XXXX, ON

1983 - 1995
Executive Assistant, ABC Company, XXXX, ON
- Accounts receivable and payable
- Payroll
- File maintenance
- Customer Relations
- Ordered supplies

**Education**

University Degree in Business
University of Northern Ontario
City, ON
May 1, 1982

**References**

[References are available upon request.]
February 1, 2013

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to support the nomination of Laura Hilton for the Influential Women Awards Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Laura is owner and CEO of XYZ Drilling Company. Through her leadership of this company Laura has an enormous impact on the mineral exploration industry in Northern Ontario. Her efforts in the mining industry are changing the regional economy.

Laura’s own management style has been one of her secrets to her success. She cares for her employees, treating them with dignity and respect. She also cares a great deal for her customers, ensuring their program suits their specific needs.

In addition to her busy work schedule, Laura finds time to give back to the community. The workshops that she offers to Community Colleges and Universities are helping young women in the community gain the knowledge and determination to enter into the mining industry.

Laura is an exceptionally Influential Woman in Northern Ontario. I can’t think of anyone that deserves this award more than her.

Sincerely,
February 1, 2013

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter of recommendation in support of Laura Hilton’s nomination for the Influential Women Awards in the Entrepreneur of the Year Category.

Laura Hilton, President of XYZ Drilling Company, since 2006, has built one of Northern Ontario’s largest drill companies. In this male dominated business of mineral exploration she has personally evolved as a business leader, with maintained equipment and well-supervised drilling crews.

She has encouraged many companies to get involved in the Cities Chamber of Commerce Activities and has helped to create plans for businesses to work together in the community. Laura has also worked effectively with our Mayor and City Councillors to ensure they are able to promote her industry.

Laura and her company have significantly contributed financially through their support of local companies throughout Northern Ontario. She has also stepped up to address social issues that impact business, right down to the individual employee level. She understands the importance of supporting local business, and the opportunities in the area. Everyone that knows Laura respects her and supports the numerous things she does for both business and social causes in the community.

She promotes her industry, her company and her employees whenever possible. I have watched her company grow and I am delighted at how far it has come.

Sincerely,