



1361 Robson Street • Vancouver BC • V6E1C6  
t(604)687-6631 • f(604)687-5724 • www.ethno.org

**Media Contact:** John Halani    T: 604.834.3742    E: jhalani@telus.net

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## **GALA EVENT TO HONOUR EIGHT NEW-CANADIAN ENTREPRENEURS**

Several business persons in the Lower Mainland and Victoria will receive awards at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual BC New-Canadian Entrepreneur Awards on Wednesday May 7, 2008. The awards recognize the achievements of successful entrepreneurs who were born outside of Canada, and who have been operating a business in Canada for at least three years. The gala event also acknowledges the multi-cultural contribution of business to the BC economy. Each year outstanding entrepreneurs are selected for business achievement, leadership, innovation and community involvement. The 2007 finalists are:

<b>Business Categories</b>	<b>2007 Finalists</b>	<b>Businesses/Location</b>
RETAIL	Lap Wu	Pharmasave - Surrey
	Gurdial (Gordy) Dodd	Dodd's Furniture Ltd. - Victoria
TECHNOLOGY	S.U. Moon	Foreseeson Technology Inc. - Richmond
MANUFACTURING	Fatima & Licurgo Albuquerque	Canada Stone Inc. - Burnaby
EXPORT	Jonathan Gill	Odyssey International Exports (2004) Ltd – New Westminster
WHOLESALE	Alok Kansar & Krishnan Sharma	Hari Stones Ltd - Surrey
	Mike Jang	Olympic Distributors - Burnaby
SERVICE	Ted Bishop	Bear Studios Ltd. - Vancouver

The celebration takes place at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Vancouver starting with a VIP reception at 5:00 pm, followed by dinner and the awards presentation where the winners will have a chance to share their personal success stories. Last year a gathering of more than 300, including business people, government officials, media representatives and community leaders, enjoyed the evening's festivities. An even larger crowd is expected this year.

The BC New-Canadian Entrepreneurs Awards is presented by the Ethno Business Council of BC (EBC) in partnership with the Great-West Life Assurance Company. The EBC was founded in 1988. One of its main functions is encourage and support entrepreneurs who are New-Canadians and immigrants to British Columbia in the establishment and development of their businesses.

For more information on the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual BC Canadian Entrepreneur Awards (including bios of the winners) or the Ethno Business Council of BC please contact John Halani @ 604.834.3742, [jhalani@telus.net](mailto:jhalani@telus.net) or visit <http://www.ethno.org>.