



# 2012 Best of the OKANAGAN readers' choice OkanaganLife



These results were tabulated from official ballots that were at least 50 per cent complete when submitted. There is neither editorial nor advertising influence on the results.

This is the 18th consecutive year that our readers have voted for their favourite business heroes in the North, Central and South Okanagan. Happy business people who receive the hottest award in the Valley know that *Okanagan Life* readers vote by way of official ballot. These quality businesses display the Best of the Okanagan award in their offices and retail stores for all to see.

In *Okanagan Life's* 24-year life we've worked hard to highlight courageous and innovative people whose efforts and dedication to our communities, towns and cities, make the Valley the wonder it is. This story is different because readers wrote it—we simply tallied the results and created the art and design that you see.

This issue is all about recognizing the great business ideas and effort that owners, managers and staff put forth to earn their Best of the Okanagan award. Being named the best is an honour and a privilege. Please celebrate the winners, patronize them and thank them for living up to the moniker—Best of the Okanagan! —Paul Byrne

## PROFESSIONAL

### Best Real Estate Company

#### North

- 1 Re/Max
- 2 Century 21
- 3 Sutton Lakefront Realty

#### Central

- 1 Re/Max
- 2 Royal LePage
- 3 Century 21

#### South

- 1 Royal LePage
- 2 Re/Max
- 3 Sutton Power 1 Realty

### Best Insurance Brokerage Firm

#### North

- 1 Capri Insurance
- 2 Baron Insurance Broker Group
- 3 A.E. Berry Insurance

#### Central

- 1 Capri Insurance
- 2 Western Financial Group
- 3 Southern Insurance

#### South

- 1 Capri Insurance
- 2 Johnson Meier Insurance
- 3 Westland Insurance

### Best Mortgage Company

#### North

- 1 Dominion Lending Centres
- 2 Prospera Credit Union
- 3 The Mortgage Centre

#### Central

- 1 TD Canada Trust
- 2 Royal Bank
- 3 Centum Casa Noble

#### South

- 1 Valley First
- 2 Invis
- 3 Scotiabank

### Best Credit Union or Bank—Personal

#### North

- 1 Prospera Credit Union
- 2 Royal Bank
- 3 Scotiabank

#### Central

- 1 Interior Savings Credit Union
- 2 Royal Bank
- 3 Prospera Credit Union

#### South

- 1 CIBC
- 2 Summerland Credit Union
- 3 Valley First Credit Union

### Best Credit Union or Bank—Business

#### North

- 1 Prospera Credit Union
- 2 Scotiabank
- 3 Royal Bank

#### Central

- 1 TD Canada Trust
- 2 Interior Savings Credit Union
- 3 Royal Bank

#### South

- 1 Summerland Credit Union
- 2 TD Canada Trust
- 3 Bank of Montreal

### Best Investment Firm

#### North

- 1 Canaccord Wealth Management
- 2 Fraser Financial
- 3 VantageOne

#### Central

- 1 RBC Dominion Securities
- 2 Edward Jones
- 3 Raymond James

#### South

- 1 Bank of Montreal
- 2 The Co-operators
- 3 Scotiabank

### Best Law Firm

#### North

- 1 Nixon Wenger LLP
- 2 Davidson Lawyers LLP
- 3 Allan Francis Pringle Lawyers LLP

#### Central

- 1 Pushor Mitchell LLP
- 2 Porter Ramsay LLP
- 3 Doak Shirreff LLP

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



**South**

- 1 Boyle & Co. Lawyers
- 2 Kampman Oliver  
Keene McAndrews
- 3 Bell Jacoe & Company

**Best Accounting Firm**

**North**

- 1 Agar Schneider Lett
- 2 KPMG
- 3 Sladen Moore

**Central**

- 1 MacKay LLP
- 2 Grant Thornton
- 3 Meyers Norris & Penny

**South**

- 1 White Kennedy
- 2 BDO
- 3 Kemp Harvey Kemp

**Best Private School**

**North**

- 1 Vernon Christian School
- 2 St. James School
- 3 Pleasant Valley  
Christian Academy

**Central**

- 1 Immaculata Catholic  
High School
- 2 Aberdeen Hall
- 3 Studio 9

**South**

- 1 Summerland  
Montessori School
- 2 Holy Cross School
- 3 Penticton Christian School

**Best Software  
Development /  
Web Design**

**North**

- 1 Bold Media Group
- 2 Servillian Technology
- 3 Sproing Creative

**Central**

- 1 Atomic 55
- 2 Navigator Multimedia
- 3 Spincaster Productions

**South**

- 1 Windward Software
- 2 Shadowfax Communications

**Best Computer Services**

**North**

- 1 JBJ Computers
- 2 Rent-A-Geek
- 3 Protocol Technologies

**Central**

- 1 Simply Computing
  - 2 Northern Computers
  - 3 London Drugs
- South**
- 1 Doc's Computers
  - 2 Bad Robot Summerland  
Electronics
  - 3 One Information  
Technology

**HEALTH CARE**

**Best Dentist**

**North**

- 1 Dr. Bernie Grages
- 2 Vernon Dental Centre
- 3 Cornerstone Dental

**Central**

- 1 Simply Amazing Smiles
- 2 Okanagan Smiles
- 3 Peachland Dental

**South**

- 1 Summerland Dental Centre
- 2 Smart Choice Dental  
Excellence
- 3 Penticton Dental Centre

**Best Optician**

**North**

- 1 Vernon Optometry
- 2 Discover Eye Care Clinic
- 3 Corner Optical

**Central**

- 1 Tutt Street Optical
- 2 iSight Optometry
- 3 Mission Creek Optometry

**South**

- 1 Waterfront Eyecare
- 2 Summerland Optometry
- 3 Penticton Optical

**Best Medical  
Walk-in Clinic**

**North**

- 1 North Okanagan Medical
- 2 Vernon Family  
Doctors Medical
- 3 Gartree Medical Clinic

**Central**

- 1 Mission Medical Clinic
- 2 Capri Medical Clinic
- 3 Lakeshore Medical

**South**

- 1 Apple Plaza Walkin
- 2 Rosedale Medical Centre
- 3 Peach City Medical

**Best Hearing Clinic**

**North**

- 1 Connect Hearing
- 2 Rockwell Audiology
- 3 Expert Hearing Solutions

**Central**

- 1 Okanagan Hearing Solutions
- 2 Connect Hearing
- 3 Hummingbird Hearing Aid

**South**

- 1 Beltone
- 2 Expert Hearing Solutions
- 3 Hummingbird Hearing Aid

**Best Massage and  
Physio Therapist**

**North**

- 1 Concept Physiotherapy  
Physical Therapy
- 2 Spine & Sports
- 3 Easthill Physiotherapy

**Central**

- 1 The Core Centre of Health
- 2 Affinity Family Wellness
- 3 Sun City Physiotherapy

**South**

- 1 Summerland Physiotherapy
- 2 Dale Charles Physiotherapy
- 3 Osoyoos Physiotherapy

**Best Chiropractor**

**North**

- 1 Arise Chiropractic
- 2 Vernon Active Health
- 3 White House Wellness

**Central**

- 1 The Core Centre of Health
- 2 Brix Family Chiropractic
- 3 Westbank Chiropractic

**South**

- 1 Dr. Adam Konanz
- 2 Dr. Ken Zagrodney
- 3 Summerland Family  
Chiropractic



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Best Place for Non-  
surgical Makeover**

**North**

- 1 North Okanagan  
Skin & Laser
- 2 Enhance Studio
- 3 Smooth Effects

**Central**

- 1 Lakeshore Vein  
& Aesthetics
- 2 De Pieri Clinic
- 3 DermMedica

**South**

- 1 Front Street Laser
- 2 Penticton Laser

**Best Naturopathic  
Physician**

**North**

- 1 Okanagan Natural Medicine
- 2 Balance Natural  
Health Clinic
- 3 De Monte Centre  
Natural Medicine

**Central**

- 1 The Core Centre of Health
- 2 Dr. Emily Pratt
- 3 Dr. Garrett Swetlikoff

**South**

- 1 Dr. Natalie Mazurin
- 2 Dr. Sherry Ure
- 3 Dr. Megan Kimberley

**Best Veterinary Service**

**North**

- 1 Vernon Veterinary Clinic
- 2 Creekside Animal Clinic
- 3 Central Animal Hospital

**Central**

- 1 Fairfield Animal Hospital
- 2 Mission Creek  
Animal Hospital
- 3 Okanagan Veterinary  
Hospital

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## readers'choice

### South

- 1 Anderson Veterinary Clinic
- 2 Lindsey Veterinary Hospital
- 3 Summerland Animal Clinic

## FASHION



### Best Women's Fashion Store

#### North

- 1 104 Grey Clothing
- 2 Reitmans
- 3 Pampered Perfection

#### Central

- 1 Blonde
- 2 The Bay
- 3 Bella Clothing Boutique

#### South

- 1 The Suburban Princess
- 2 Three Wishes
- 3 85th Street Boutique

### Best Men's Fashion Store

#### North

- 1 Milano Clothing
- 2 Marks Work Wearhouse
- 3 The Cowboys Choice

#### Central

- 1 Moores Clothing
- 2 MacDermotts Mens Wear
- 3 The Bay

#### South

- 1 Grant King Men's Wear
- 2 The Bay
- 3 Elliott Row

### Best Children's Clothing

#### North

- 1 Chicken Little
- 2 The Children's Place
- 3 The Cowboys Choice

#### Central

- 1 Carters I Oshkosh
- 2 Scallywags
- 3 Baby & Me

### South

- 1 Please Mum
- 2 The Bay
- 3 Angel Babies

### Best Fashion Accessories Store

#### North

- 1 Pink Bug
- 2 104 Grey
- 3 Blackbird Boutique

#### Central

- 1 Frakas
- 2 The Bay
- 3 Posh

#### South

- 1 The Suburban Princess
- 2 85th Street Boutique
- 3 Sass

### Best Place to Buy Footwear

#### North

- 1 Red Top Footwear
- 2 Vernon Shoes
- 3 Marc Footwear

#### Central

- 1 Downtown Shoes
- 2 Aldo
- 3 Hollywood Shoes

#### South

- 1 Fritz Shoes
- 2 Shoe Biz
- 3 The Suburban Princess

### Best Cosmetics Store

#### North

- 1 Shoppers Drug Mart
- 2 The Bay
- 3 Merle Norman

#### Central

- 1 Sephora
- 2 Shoppers Drug Mart
- 3 Mac Cosmetics

#### South

- 1 Shoppers Drug Mart
- 2 The Bay
- 3 London Drugs

### Best Jeweller

#### North

- 1 Gregory's Fine Jewellery
- 2 J.C. Bradley
- 3 HM Krause Jewellers

#### Central

- 1 JK Schmidt
- 2 La Roca Watch & Jewellery
- 3 Posh

#### South

- 1 Gold Dust Jewellers
- 2 Michael Hill
- 3 Delong Studio

## RETAIL SERVICES



### Best Place to Buy Gifts

#### North

- 1 Good Gracious
  - 2 Interior Gift Gallery
  - 3 Simply Baskets
- #### Central
- 1 Funktional
  - 2 Rafters
  - 3 Dragonfly and Amber Gallery

#### South

- 1 Willowbrook Lane
- 2 Random Thoughts
- 3 Terwilligers

### Best Florist

#### North

- 1 Vernon Flower Shop
- 2 27TH Street Flowers
- 3 Harris Flowers

#### Central

- 1 Creations by Mom & Me
- 2 Art Knapps
- 3 Bloomers Floral Designs & Gifts

#### South

- 1 Edgy Petals
- 2 Art Knapps
- 3 Carl's Flowers

### Best Book Store

#### North

- 1 Bookland
- 2 Coles
- 3 K&K Book Store

#### Central

- 1 Chapters
- 2 Mosaic Books
- 3 Bell Tower Books

#### South

- 1 The Bookshop
- 2 Hooked on Books
- 3 Chapters

### Best Cell Phone Store

- 1 Telus Mobility
- 2 Bell Mobility
- 3 Andres

#### Central

- 1 Telus Mobility
- 2 Bell Mobility
- 3 Andres

#### South

- 1 Telus Mobility
- 2 Bell Mobility
- 3 Andres

### Best Pet Supply Store

#### North

- 1 Healthy Spot
- 2 AJ's Pets & Things
- 3 Pet Planet

#### Central

- 1 Pet Smart
- 2 Petcetera
- 3 Total Pet

#### South

- 1 Total Pet
- 2 Critter Corner
- 3 Pet Pantry

### Best Children's Toys

#### North

- 1 Teeter Totter Toys
- 2 Vernon Teach and Learn
- 3 Chicken Little

#### Central

- 1 Toys"R"Us
- 2 Baby & Me
- 3 Loadza Toyz

#### South

- 1 Sirius Science and Nature
- 2 The Bay
- 3 Hooked on Books

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<sup>†</sup>Lease offer is available through Acura Financial Services Inc. on approved credit. 2013 ILX 5-speed automatic (model DE1F3DJ) leased at 1.9% APR for 36 months. Monthly payment is \$298 (includes \$1,945 freight & PDI), with \$2,800 (\$3,800 less \$1,000 Year-End Holiday Bonus) down payment. First monthly payment and \$0 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$13,528. Option to purchase at lease end for \$16,396.10 plus taxes. 60,000 kilometre allowance; charge of \$0.15/km for excess kilometres. \$1,000 year-end holiday bonus available on the 2013 Acura ILX and will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes and can be combined with special finance or lease offers. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. <sup>\*</sup>\$3,000 (\$2,000 manufacturer to dealer incentive plus \$1,000 Year-End Holiday Bonus) Acura cash purchase incentive is available on select new 2013 ILX models (DE1F5DJN/DE2E5DJN/DE1F7DKN). Acura cash purchase incentive will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease or finance offers. Retailer may lease for less. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers are only valid for BC residents at BC Acura retailers until November 30, 2012. See Harmony Acura for full details.



## readers'choice

### Best Place for Printing

#### North

- 1 Wayside Press
- 2 Electric Paper Co.
- 3 Printech Corp.

#### Central

- 1 Kelowna Insta Print
- 2 Rapid Printing
- 3 Print Three

#### South

- 1 Allegra
- 2 UPS Store
- 3 Kick Start Printing

## HOME & DECOR



### Best Custom Kitchen Vendor

#### North

- 1 Westwood Cabinets
- 2 Dream Easy Kitchens
- 3 Harris Cabinets

#### Central

- 1 Westwood Fine Cabinetry
- 2 Norelco Cabinets
- 3 Kekuli Bay Cabinetry

#### South

- 1 Ellis Creek Kitchens
- 2 Innovation Kitchens & Bath
- 3 Heritage Millwork

### Best Paint & Decorating Vendor

#### North

- 1 Benjamin Moore
- 2 Cloverdale Paints
- 3 General Paint

#### Central

- 1 Benjamin Moore
- 2 Home Depot
- 3 General Paint

#### South

- 1 Benjamin Moore
- 2 True Colours Paint
- 3 Rona

### Best Custom Window Coverings

#### North

- 1 AKA Room Services
- 2 Designers Gallery
- 3 Budget Blinds

#### Central

- 1 Advantage Blinds
- 2 Budget Blinds
- 3 Blinds Plus

#### South

- 1 Skyview Blinds & Closets
- 2 Budget Blinds
- 3 True Colours

### Best Flooring Store

#### North

- 1 Livingwood Floors
- 2 Nufloors
- 3 End of the Roll

#### Central

- 1 Nufloors
- 2 Flooring Canada
- 3 End of the Roll

#### South

- 1 Nufloors
- 2 End of the Roll
- 3 Sierra Flooring

### Best Furniture Store

#### North

- 1 City Furniture
- 2 Case Furniture
- 3 Beachcomber Home Leisure

#### Central

- 1 Marshall's Home Living
- 2 Ashley Home Furniture
- 3 Lazy Boy

#### South

- 1 Guerard's Furniture
- 2 Penny Lane
- 3 Kondolas Furniture

### Best Home Electronics Store

#### North

- 1 Future Shop
- 2 Andres Electronics
- 3 Parnell's TV & Appliance

#### Central

- 1 Best Buy
- 2 Future Shop
- 3 Visions

#### South

- 1 Andres Electronics
- 2 London Drugs
- 3 The Source

### Best Home Accessories

#### North

- 1 Good Gracious
- 2 Room Collection
- 3 Beachcomber Home Leisure

#### Central

- 1 Home Sense
- 2 Pier One Imports
- 3 Home Outfitters

#### South

- 1 Willowbrook Lane
- 2 Terwilliger's
- 3 Random Thoughts

### Best Art Store

#### North

- 1 Nadine's Fine Art
- 2 Picture Perfect
- 3 Earth Art Studio

#### Central

- 1 Picture Perfect
- 2 Tutt Street Gallery
- 3 Sopa Fine Arts

#### South

- 1 The Lloyd Gallery
- 2 Dragon's Den
- 3 Tumbleweed Gallery

### Best Garden Centre

#### North

- 1 Swan Lake Garden Centre
- 2 Art Knapp's Plantland
- 3 Blue Mountain Nursery

#### Central

- 1 Art Knapp's Plantland
- 2 Byland's Garden Centre
- 3 The Greenery

#### South

- 1 Art Knapp's Plantland
- 2 Giardino Garden of Penticton
- 3 Windmill Garden Centre

## BUILDING



### Best Residential Builder

#### North

- 1 Keith Construction
- 2 Braden Robertson Construction
- 3 Hildebrandt Homes

#### Central

- 1 Authentic Homes
- 2 Jazel Homes
- 3 Dilworth Homes
- 1 New Spaces Construction
- 2 McLean Construction
- 3 Black Hawk Contracting

### Best Commercial Builder

#### North

- 1 Hildebrandt Homes
- 2 Silverrock Land Corp.
- 3 Graham Construction

#### Central

- 1 Al Stober Construction
- 2 ANR Construction
- 3 Plan B Contractors
- 1 Greyback Construction
- 2 McLean Construction
- 3 Buccaneer Contracting

### Best Renovation Company

#### North

- 1 Keith Construction
- 2 Redgewell Construction
- 3 Yes Dear Handyman

#### Central

- 1 Stutters Disaster Kleanup
- 2 MS Budd Construction
- 3 Big Valley Homes & Renovations

#### South

- 1 New Spaces Construction
- 2 MB Home Improvements
- 3 S & M Construction

### Best Electrician

#### North

- 1 1&2 Electric
- 2 Arrowhead Electric
- 3 Litzenberger Electric

#### Central

- 1 Keldon Electric
- 2 Krueger Electric
- 3 Hotwire Electric

#### South

- 1 Eckert Electric
- 2 G. Little Electric
- 3 Martens Electric



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**Best Plumber**

**North**

- 1 Aberdeen Plumbing & Heating
- 2 Burton Plumbing & Heating
- 3 Franks Plumbing

**Central**

- 1 Wiener's Plumbing
- 2 Ace Plumbing
- 3 Vision Mechanical

**South**

- 1 Quality Plumbing
- 2 Mavco
- 3 Integrity Plumbing

**Best Roofer**

**North**

- 1 Laing Roofing
- 2 Armstrong Roofing
- 3 Primrose Roofing

**Central**

- 1 Madge Contracting
- 2 Vista Roofing
- 3 Tomtar Roofing

**South**

- 1 Beaver Home Improvement
- 2 Nielsen Roofing
- 3 Shamrock

**Best Landscape Designer**

**North**

- 1 Nokomis Landscaping
- 2 Inspira Landscaping
- 3 Pinnacle Landscaping

**Central**

- 1 Art Knapp Plantland
- 2 The Hampton Group
- 3 Zerra Landscaping

**South**

- 1 Emerald Landscaping
- 2 Greensleeves Lanscaping
- 3 Monkey Puzzle

**Best Hot Tub & Spa Dealer**

**North**

- 1 Beachcomber Home Leisure
- 2 Sundance Pool & Spa
- 3 Backyard Pleasures Pool & Spa

**Central**

- 1 The Wet Zone
- 2 Sunshine Pools & Spa
- 3 Arctic Spa

**South**

- 1 Classic Leisure Lifestyles
- 2 Decksides Pools & Spas
- 3 Summerland Home Spas

**Best Swimming Pool Dealer**

**North**

- 1 Imagine Pools & Waterscapes
- 2 Backyard Pleasures Pool & Spas
- 3 Sundance Pools and Spas

**Central**

- 1 Sunshine Pools & Spas
- 2 Valley Pool & Spa
- 3 The Hampton Group

**South**

- 1 Fun Water Pools
- 2 Classic Leisure Lifestyles
- 3 Decksides Pools & Spas

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Best Car Dealer**

**North**

- 1 Bannister GM
- 2 Watkins Motors
- 3 Bannister Honda

**Central**

- 1 Kelowna Ford/Lincoln
- 2 Harmony Honda/Acura
- 3 Kelowna Toyota

**South**

- 1 Penticton Toyota
- 2 Penticton Honda
- 3 Murray GM Penticton

**Best Truck Dealer**

**North**

- 1 Bannisters GMC
- 2 Vernon Toyota
- 3 Vernon Dodge

**Central**

- 1 Orchard Ford
- 2 Kelowna Ford/Lincoln
- 3 Okanagan Dodge

**South**

- 1 Parker's Chrysler
- 2 Murray GM Penticton
- 3 Skaha Ford

**Best RV Dealer**

**North**

- 1 Mike Rosman RV Sales
- 2 Gilmay RV
- 3 Vernon RV

**Central**

- 1 Country RV Centre
- 2 Voyager RV Centre
- 3 Western RV

**South**

- 1 Country RV
- 2 Midtown RV
- 3 Okanagan Travel Land (Summerland)

**Best Boat Dealer**

**North**

- 1 Valley Marine
- 2 Banner Recreation
- 3 Captain's Village

**Central**

- 1 Rayburns Marine World
- 2 Dockside Marine
- 3 Malibu Marine

**South**

- 1 Penticton Yamaha

**Best Motorcycle Dealer**

**North**

- 1 Vernon Motorsports
- 2 Seasons Motorsports
- 3 Banner Sea & Ski

**Central**

- 1 Kanes Harley Davidson
- 2 K creators
- 3 Valley Motorsport

**South**

- 1 Penticton Honda
- 2 Penticton Yamaha
- 3 South Okanagan Auto Cycle

**Best Car Audio Service Valleywide**

- 1 Andres Electronic Experts (Kelowna)
- 2 Visions Electronics (Kelowna)
- 3 Auto Sound Plus (Vernon)

**Best Auto Body Repair**

**North**

- 1 Fix Auto
- 2 Frank's Autobody
- 3 Manfred's Autobody

**Central**

- 1 Craftsman Collision
- 2 Boyd Autobody
- 3 Prestige Collision

**South**

- 1 Alder Street Autobody
- 2 Penticton Collision
- 3 Boyd Autobody

**Best Auto Maintenance**

**North**

- 1 Courtesy Motors
- 2 Kal Tire
- 3 Bannister GM

**Central**

- 1 Harmony Honda/Acura
- 2 Kal Tire
- 3 AutoPlace

**South**

- 1 Adrians Automotive
- 2 Midas
- 3 Larsen's Excel Tire

**Best Tire Dealer**

**North**

- 1 Kal Tire
- 2 Peters Tirecraft
- 3 Big O Tire

**Central**

- 1 Kal Tire
- 2 OK Tire
- 3 Cavell Excel Tire Centre

**South**

- 1 Adrians Automotive
- 2 Big O Tire
- 3 Larsen Tires

**Best Car Wash**

**North**

- 1 FoamShine
- 2 Silver Star Car Wash
- 3 Wise Guys Car Wash

**Central**

- 1 Skogie's Auto Wash
- 2 Bubbles Car Wash
- 3 Mission Super Wash

**South**

- 1 Wise Guys Car Wash
- 2 Super Wash
- 3 Pioneer Car Wash

**SERVICES**

**Best Hair Salon**

**North**

- 1 Reflections
- 2 O'Hairas Salon
- 3 Just For You Spa & Salon

**Central**

- 1 Total E'Clips
- 2 Plan B Headquarters
- 3 Loyal Hair Therapy

**South**

- 1 The Best Little Hair House
- 2 Heiress
- 3 T'Zers

**Best Day Spa**

**North**

- 1 Kur Spa
- 2 Just For You Spa & Salon
- 3 Merle Norman

**Central**

- 1 Beyond Wrapture
- 2 O Spa
- 3 Total E'Clips

**South**

- 1 Spa Tranquila
- 2 Melt Mineral Spa
- 3 Naramata Heritage Inn Spa

**Best Manicure / Pedicure**

**North**

- 1 Merle Norman
- 2 Emma's Nails
- 3 Just For You Spa & Salon

**Central**

- 1 O Spa
- 2 Spa Pure
- 3 Beyond Wrapture

**South**

- 1 Without A Doubt
- 2 The Good Life Osoyoos
- 3 Spa Tranquila

**Best Travel Agency**

**North**

- 1 Marlin Travel
- 2 UNIGLOBE Kalamalka Travel
- 3 Visions Travel

**Central**

- 1 Mission Park Travel
- 2 Flight Centre
- 3 Expedia Cruise Ship Centres

**South**

- 1 Bank's Travel
- 2 Expedia Cruise Ship Centres
- 3 Hartford Cruise & Travel

**Best Tour Guide**

**North**

- 1 MJO Tours
- 2 Roseanne Van Ee

**Central**

- 1 Monashee Adventure Tours
- 2 Bowies Marketing & Entertainment

**South**


- 3 Distinctly Kelowna Tours

**South**

- 1 Top Cat Tours
- 2 Unveil Shuttles
- 3 Grape Escapes Wine Tours



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### Best Photographer

#### North

- 1 Brenda Hala Photography
- 2 Red Door Photography
- 3 Krista Kay Photography

#### Central

- 1 Candid Apple Photography
- 2 Daniela Star Photography
- 3 Photography West

#### South

- 1 Stuart Bish Photography
- 2 Jodie Lemke Photography
- 3 Szabo Photography

### Best Dry Cleaner

#### North

- 1 Toppers Cleaners
- 2 Vernon Downtown Drycleaners
- 3 Centre Dry Cleaning

#### Central

- 1 Mission Dry Cleaners
- 2 Minnella Dry Cleaners
- 3 Eco-Clean Cleaning Centres

#### South

- 1 Classic Cleaners
- 2 Plaza Cleaners
- 3 Martin Cleaners



#### South

- 1 Penticton Golf Club
- 2 Nevada Bob's
- 3 Summerland Golf Club

## LEISURE / SPORTS

### Best Bike Shop

#### North

- 1 Olympia Cycle & Ski
- 2 Sun Country Cycle
- 3 Skyride Cycle

#### Central

- 1 Cyclepath
- 2 Kelowna Cycle
- 3 Fresh Air

#### South

- 1 The Bike Barn
- 2 Freedom Bike Shop
- 3 Double O Bikes & Sports

### Best Golf Shop

#### North

- 1 Strictly Golf
- 2 Spallumcheen Golf & Country Club
- 3 Vernon Golf & Country Club

#### Central

- 1 Golf Town
- 2 Nevada Bob's
- 3 The Harvest Golf Club

### Best Outdoor Sports Gear Store

#### North

- 1 Attridge
- 2 True Outdoors
- 3 Sun Valley Source for Sports

#### Central

- 1 Sport Chek
- 2 Fresh Air
- 3 AG Outdoor Superstore

#### South

- 1 Sport Chek
- 2 True Outdoors
- 3 Peach City Runners

### Best Ski Shop

#### North

- 1 Attridge
- 2 Stussi Sports
- 3 Olympia Cycle & Ski

#### Central

- 1 Fresh Air
- 2 Mojov Surf n' Snow
- 3 Cyclepath

#### South

- 1 Apex Ski Shop
- 2 Pentagon Boardshop
- 3 Sport Chek

### Best Snow Board Shop

#### North

- 1 Attridge
- 2 Stussi Sports
- 3 Silver Star Mountain Resort

#### Central

- 1 Island Snow
- 2 Deviate Board Shop
- 3 Freeride Boardshop

#### South

- 1 Freeride Boardshop
- 2 Pentagon Boardshop
- 3 Apex Ski Shop

### Best Fitness Club

#### North

- 1 Ladies World
- 2 Excel Fitness
- 3 Fitness West

#### Central

- 1 H2O Adventure & Fitness Centre
- 2 World Gym
- 3 GoodLife Fitness

#### South

- 1 The Gym Penticton
- 2 Crossfit South Okanagan
- 3 Bodies on Power

### Best Yoga / Pilates Studio

#### North

- 1 Bikram Yoga Vernon
- 2 Hayden Fitness
- 3 Inner Light Yoga Studio

#### Central

- 1 Moksha Yoga Kelowna
- 2 Inside Out Pilates
- 3 Oranj Fitness

#### South

- 1 AB: Solution Pilates & Fitness
- 2 Bodies on Power
- 3 Get Bent

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Best Radio Personality

#### North

- 1 Brian & Betty-105.7 Sun FM
- 2 Frank Martina-107.5 Kiss FM
- 3 April Lyn-105.7 Sun FM

#### Central

- 1 Kevin & Sonia-99.9 Sun FM
- 2 Andy & Tj-101.5 EZ Rock
- 3 Alya Ramadan-CBC Radio

#### South

- 1 Randy & Mare-97.1 Sun FM
- 2 Allan Gee-800 AM EZ Rock

### Best TV Personality Valleywide

- 1 Mike Roberts-CHBC
- 2 Rick Weber-CHBC
- 3 Doris Bregolis-CHBC

### Best Local Writer

#### North

- 1 John Lent
- 2 Kevin Mitchell
- 3 Kristin Froneman

#### Central

- 1 Laurie Carter
- 2 Darcy Nybo
- 3 Jack Whyte

#### South

- 1 Dawn Renaud
- 2 Rick Cogbill
- 3 Yasmin John-Thorpe

### Best Live Performing Arts Group

#### North

- 1 Caravan Farm Theatre
- 2 The Goods
- 3 Powerhouse Theatre

#### Central

- 1 Kelowna Actors Studio
- 2 Ballet Kelowna
- 3 Okanagan Symphony Orchestra

#### South

- 1 Many Hats Theatre Co.
- 2 Soundstage Productions

### Best Local Musician / Music Group

#### North

- 1 Andrew Allen
- 2 The Goods
- 3 Salmon Armenians

#### Central

- 1 Cod Gone Wild
- 2 The Young'uns
- 3 Fields of Green

#### South

- 1 Ari Neufeld
- 2 Michael Muscow
- 3 Kyle Anderson

### Best Annual Community Event

#### North

- 1 Sunshine Festival
- 2 Vernon Winter Carnival
- 3 Interior Provincial Exhibition

#### Central

- 1 Centre of Gravity
- 2 Canada Day-Festivals Kelowna
- 3 Downtown Kelowna Block Party

#### South

- 1 Peachfest
- 2 Summerland Festival of Lights
- 3 Fest-of-Ale

### Best Place for Family Fun

#### North

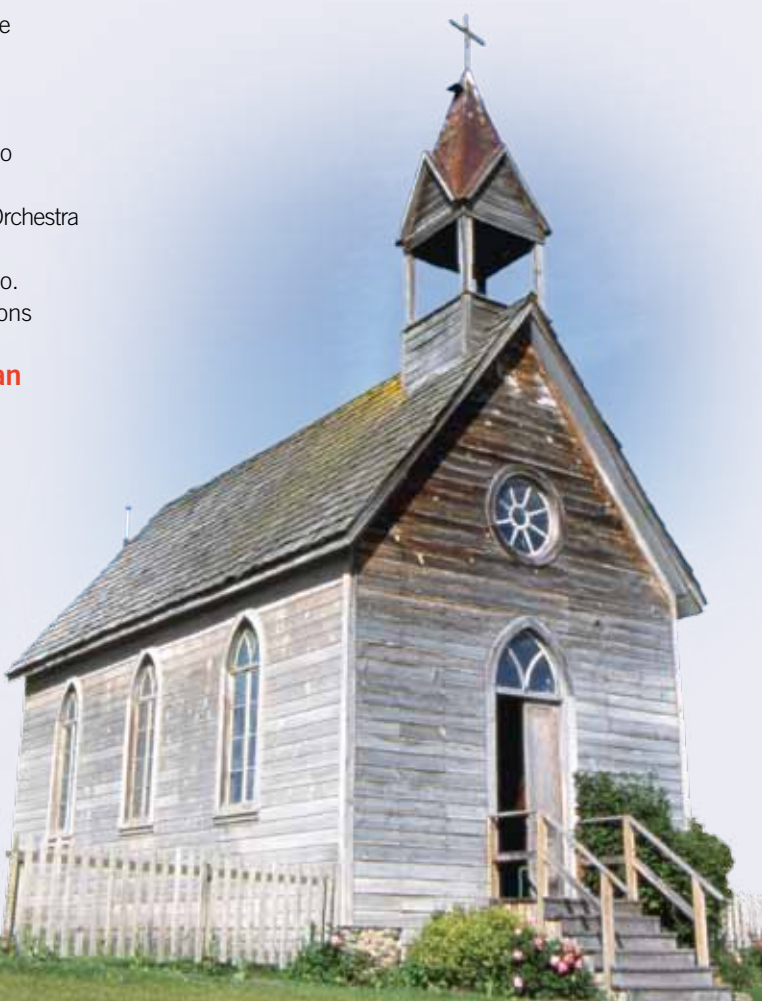
- 1 Davison Orchards
- 2 Atlantis Waterslides
- 3 Silver Star Mountain Resort

#### Central

- 1 Scandia
- 2 H2O Adventure & Fitness Centre
- 3 Energyplex

#### South

- 1 Loco Landing
- 2 Apex Mountain Resort
- 3 Kettle Valley Steam Railway



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After a 120' Pine Tree decided to take a nosedive recently on my workshop here in Grand Forks I had to have the resulting mess cleaned up and my workshop rebuilt. Stutters took care of the clean up in a timely manner and very quickly did an excellent job of removing all the debris and damaged contents. Therefore when the insurance company asked me if it would be acceptable to me if Stutters did the rebuild I had no hesitation on agreeing. The rebuild far exceeded my expectations, the service was friendly informative and I was included at all stages of the decision making. The lead carpenter Nick Hugh-Jones is a master of his trade the quality of the work that he did was exceptional and both he and the other carpenter with him Kiren Quinell were more than helpful, it was a pleasure having them around. I would recommend your company to anyone requiring similar work and those two individuals in particular. Thank you for a job well done. Paul Lewis

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**Stutters 30th Anniversary Disaster Kleanup**

SNOWBOARDING PHOTO CONTRIBUTED, O'KEEFE RANCH PHOT BY LAURIE CARTER



### Best Tourist Attraction

#### North

- 1 Davison Orchards
- 2 Silver Star Mountain Resort
- 3 Historic O'Keefe Ranch

#### Central

- 1 Myra Canyon KVR
- 2 Mission Hill Winery
- 3 Big White Ski Resort

#### South

- 1 Kettle Valley Steam Railway
- 2 Penticton Channel
- 3 S.S. Sicamous

### Best Nightclub

#### North

- 1 Monashee's Bar & Grill
- 2 Club 29/29
- 3 Sneakers Sports Bar

#### Central

- 1 Sapphire
- 2 Flashbacks
- 3 Rose's Waterfront Pub

#### South

- 1 The Mule
- 2 The Barking Parrot

### VALLEYWIDE DESTINATIONS



#### Best Place for Adrenaline Rush

- 1 Silver Star Bike Park
- 2 ZipZone (Peachland)
- 3 Oyama Zipline Adventures

#### Best Romantic Hideaway

- 1 Sparkling Hill Resort
- 2 Hotel Eldorado
- 3 Naramata Heritage Inn

#### Best Weekend Getaway

- 1 Sparkling Hill Resort
- 2 Spirit Ridge Resort
- 3 Lake Okanagan Resort

#### Best Family Resort

- 1 Silver Star Mountain Resort
- 2 Big White Ski Resort
- 3 Manteo Resort

#### Best Place to Get Married

- 1 Summerhill Pyramid Winery
- 2 Sparkling Hill Resort
- 3 Linden Gardens (Kaleden)

### Best Place to Taste Wines

- 1 Mission Hill Winery
- 2 Summerhill Pyramid Winery
- 3 Quails Gate Winery

#### Best Golf Course to Play

- 1 Predator Ridge Golf Resort
- 2 The Harvest Golf Club
- 3 Gallagher's Canyon Golf Club

#### Best Ski Hill

- 1 Silver Star Mountain Resort
- 2 Big White Ski Resort
- 3 Apex Mountain Resort

### CITY LOCATIONS



**North:** Salmon Arm / Sicamous / Enderby / Armstrong / Vernon

**Central:** Kelowna / West Kelowna / Lake Country / Peachland

**South:** Summerland / Penticton / Kaleden / Naramata / Okanagan Falls / Oliver / Osoyoos ■

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## Where do you go from here?

Without the assurance of relevant, reliable and independently examined financial information, it's difficult to make strategic decisions with confidence. That's where MNP can help. Darcy Haw has almost 20 years of experience delivering audit and assurance services to public and private sector organizations. Beyond just meeting your regulatory requirements, Darcy can help you evaluate and improve your risk management, internal controls, and governance processes and strengthen the overall operations of your organization.

Contact Darcy Haw, CA, Regional Assurance Leader, at 250.979.1737 or [darcy.haw@mnp.ca](mailto:darcy.haw@mnp.ca).

# OkanaganLife

We want to thank everyone who took the time to vote for Best of the Okanagan 2012. The response to our first online ballot was astounding. Winners of the draw will be contacted by email or phone.

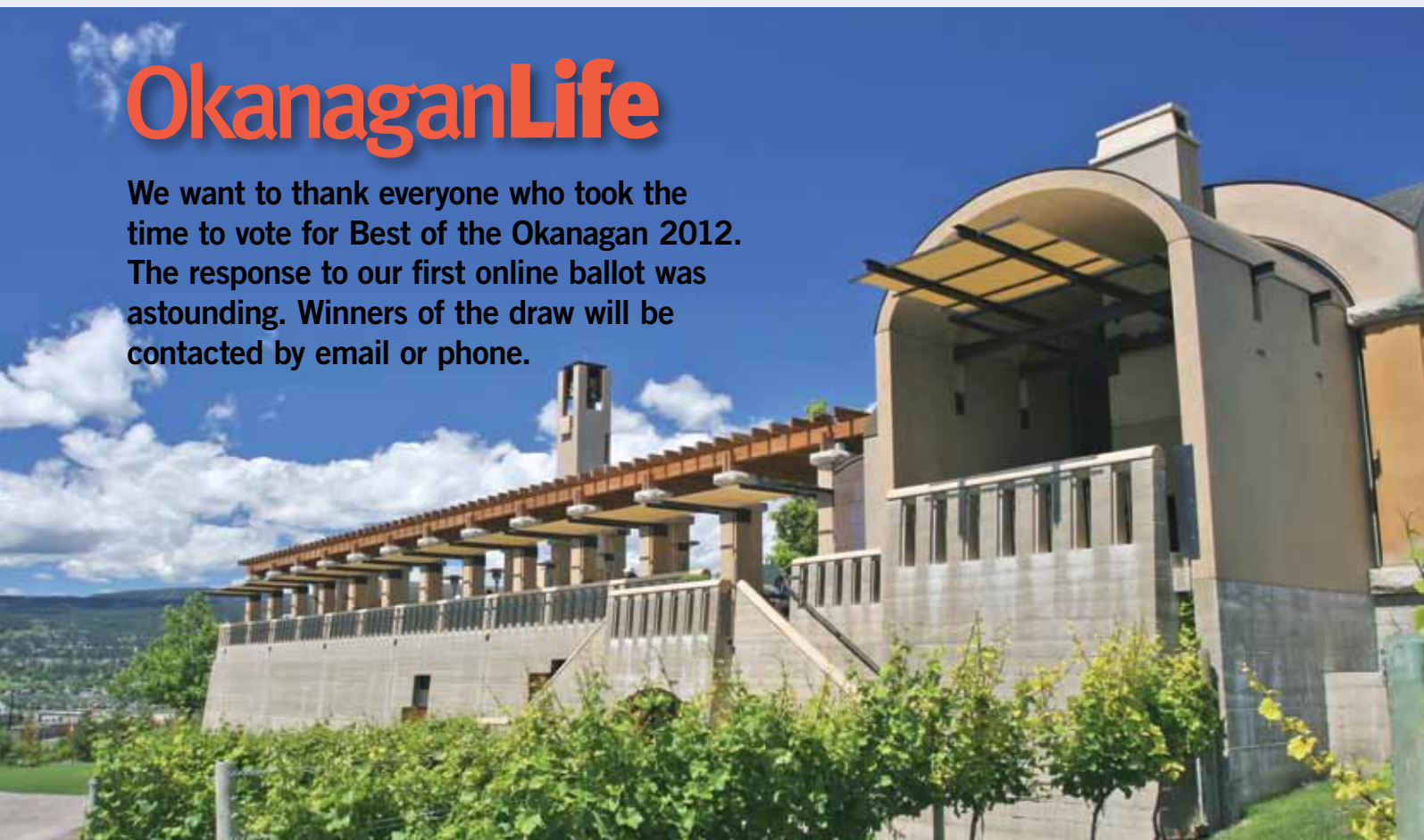


PHOTO CONTIBUTED