



The Black Business Initiative Society's Hector Jacques Award of Business Excellence

The *Hector Jacques' Award of Business Excellence* is awarded biannually by the Board of Directors of the Black Business Initiative to recognize **demonstrated business excellence** of a company or individual within the Nova Scotia Black Business Community.

The vision of the Black Business Initiative is “*a dynamic and vibrant Black presence within the Nova Scotia Business Community.*” The Hector Jacques' Award of Business Excellence serves to strengthen this goal by recognizing the best in our Business community.

Who is Hector Jacques?

Hector Jacques is co-founder of Jacques Whitford, one of North America's largest firms of environmental engineers, scientists and consultants focused on solving environmental issues. He served as President and Chief Executive Officer from the firm's inception through more than 30 years of exceptional growth until 2003 when he became the Chair of its Board of Directors. In 2008, Jacques Whitford was sold to Stantec Consulting Limited. Hector Jacques remarkable career as a geotechnical engineer and entrepreneur has been an inspiration to people within and beyond the company he nurtured. Among his numerous distinctions, Hector has been awarded the Engineering Award for Distinctive Achievement (Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia), the Beaubien Award for Distinctive Achievement in the Practice of Engineering (Association of Consulting Engineers), the Canada 125 Anniversary Medal, the status of Fellow by both the Engineering Institute of Canada and the Canadian Academy of Engineering, membership in the Nova Scotia Business Hall of Fame, Atlantic Canada Entrepreneur of the year in 1997, the OTANS Petroleum Pioneer Award, three Honorary Doctorates and he is an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Hector has served on numerous regional, national and international boards, was the first chair of BBI's the Board of Director's and remains a strong supporter of the BBI.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Who is eligible?

Any established business (minimum 3 years in business) in Nova Scotia with at least 30% Black ownership that has demonstrated business excellence and support for the community. The award may also be made to an individual business owner.

What are the criteria for consideration?

I. Product or service

- Description of what makes the product or service of the nominated company outstanding
- Description of how the company shows customer service excellence
- Is the company a provincial, national or global player?
- How the business has made a noticeable impact in terms of job creation, leadership and community involvement

II. Financial performance

- Revenue growth over the past three years (as a percentage)
- Number of employees and employment growth in the company
- Projected growth of business

III. Workplace excellence

- Please briefly describe how the company management shows strong leadership skills
- Please briefly describe how the company's activities lead to economic development within the community

Who can nominate?

Anyone can nominate a business or an individual business owner, based on the nomination criteria.

The Board of Directors of the Black Business Initiative may also submit nominations for the award.

Please submit a description of the business you are nominating telling why your submission should be considered for the Hector Jacques' Award of Business Excellence. The application should include a comprehensive biography of the business referencing as much of the "nomination criteria" as is relevant.

Hector Jacques Award of Business Excellence Nomination Form

The following questions are based upon the criteria for consideration to highlight why the business being nominated should be considered for this award of excellence

Please briefly answer the questions that are relevant to the business or business owner(s).

Company/business person being nominated: _____

Contact Information: _____

Company/business person nominated by: _____

Contact Information _____

Application form completed by: _____

Product or service

(250-word limit in this section)

- 1. Provide a description of the business being nominated.**

- 2. What makes the product or service outstanding?**

- 3. What specific policies does the business have in place to ensure excellent customer service?**

- 4. Is the company a provincial, national or global player? Please explain.**

- 5. How has the business made a noticeable impact in Nova Scotia through job creation, leadership or community involvement?**

Financial performance

(250-word limit in this section)

6. Please show the company's revenue growth over the past three years (as a percentage).

Annual Growth in Revenue	----- Year 1	----- Year 2	----- Year 3
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7. Please state the number of employees in the company. What initiatives are in place to attract and retain employees?

8. Please outline the projected growth of the business to ensure the long term sustainability of the business

Workplace excellence

(250-word limit in this section)

9. Please describe the ways in which the management team has demonstrated strong leadership skills within the company/industry?

10. What specific activities has the business initiated leading to economic development and which point to its community involvement?

Please make any final comments about the business or the business owner(s)

All submissions must be made by 28th May, 2010 at 5pm:

- In writing to: Black Business Initiative, Centennial Building Suite 12011660 Hollis St. Halifax, NS B3J 1V7
- By Fax to: (902) 426-6692
- By email to: bbi@bbi.ns.ca