

BMO Celebrating Women: BMO Recognizes Outstanding Women in Saskatoon Through National Program

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SASKATOON, May 19, 2017 /CNW/ - Four women were honoured at the fifth annual BMO Celebrating Women program in Saskatoon for their remarkable contribution to business and the community in one of three categories: Innovation and Global Growth, Community and Charitable Giving, and Expansion and Growth in Small Business. The program recognizes female leaders in local communities as part of BMO's commitment to drive the advancement of women.

At the Saskatoon event, the following honourees were recognized:

- **Community and Charitable Giving: Laura Scrivener.** Ms. Scrivener is the co-owner of Polar Refrigeration Service Ltd. A long-time peace activist, she's a founding board member for Children's International Summer Villages (CISV) Saskatoon Chapter and now an International Trustee for CISV Canada. She's helped unite over 2,000 young people to develop local and international friendships in camps organized by the chapter.
- **Expansion and Growth in Small Business: Kayla Camboia and Kimberley Camboia.** These sisters are co-owners of W Bridals ~ Curvy Couture, a bridal boutique in Saskatchewan that specializes in full-figured brides. It is the only store of its kind in Canada.
- **Expansion and Growth in Small Business: Natasha Martynes.** Ms. Martynes is the owner of Marz Plumbing Red Seal Plumber. She's a fully certified Red Seal Plumber and Cross Connection Control Specialist, passionate about encouraging youth to get involved in the industry and supporting women in trades. Natasha and her team support local organizations in Saskatchewan, such as the YWCA's Trade Journey.

"These women have shown incredible dedication to giving back to the community and growing their businesses," said Donna Francis, Regional Vice President, Personal Banking, Saskatoon and Rural North, BMO Bank of Montreal. "We're honoured to spotlight them through the BMO Celebrating Women initiative."

The BMO Celebrating Women program follows the bank's second Catalyst Award win for its industry-leading work to accelerate diversity and inclusion in its workplace and dedication to gender equality.

In addition, BMO has partnerships with organizations such as GroYourBiz, WBE Canada, Women Presidents' Organization, SheEO and Catalyst. It has also developed products that address the needs of its female clients, including the recent Women in Leadership Mutual Fund – the first impact investing mutual fund offered by a Canadian bank focused on gender diversity – and spearheaded studies around women entrepreneurs, such as *A Force to Reckon With: Women, Entrepreneurs & Risk* – an eye-opening report in partnership with Carleton University that debunked myths around the notion of women being risk averse.

For more information about BMO Celebrating Women, please visit: bmoforwomen.com and join the social conversation using #BMOforWomen.

About BMO Financial Group

Established in 1817, and currently marking its 200th year of operations, BMO Financial Group is a highly diversified financial services provider based in North America. With total assets of \$692 billion as of January 31, 2017, and more than 45,000 employees, BMO provides a broad range of personal and commercial banking, wealth management and investment banking products and services to more than 12 million customers and conducts business through three operating groups: Personal and Commercial Banking, Wealth Management and BMO Capital Markets.

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