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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Woman Entrepreneur Declared Finalist in Provincial Awards

Winnipeg, MB – The Women Business Owners of Manitoba (WBOM) are proud to announce, Kathy McIsaac of A2K Fitworks has been declared among 20 Finalists in the 2009 Woman Entrepreneur of the Year Awards! This annual gala event puts the spotlight on the successes and achievements of women entrepreneurs in Manitoba. The dinner, to be MC'd by Marilee Caruso of CTV, will take place at the Fairmont Winnipeg on Thursday, May 21st. The finalists' names are public, however the winners are not revealed until the evening itself.

This year's 20 finalists come from across the province, and represent businesses as diverse as an animal hospital in Winnipeg, a learning centre in Brandon, a food drive-in from Treherne and of course, A2K Fitworks in Waverly Heights, Winnipeg.

A2K Fitworks prides itself on offering a unique fitness studio to the community, providing a niche in the fitness industry with its warm, friendly homey atmosphere. Attention to customer service and satisfaction is a must at A2K with its innovative teaching skills and small class sizes. A friendly fun place to get fit!

"Manitoba is rich with women entrepreneurs whose stories are inspiring," said Yvonne Thompson, President of WBOM and Principal Consultant at Change Innovators Inc. "Anyone in business knows how tough it can be to keep that entrepreneurial spirit alive when the bills are mounting and the challenges exceed the triumphs – but when you believe in your business, in the vision you're realizing, your passion fuels your strength to carry on. The Woman Entrepreneur of the Year Award is an exceptional evening of celebration and fun that recognizes outstanding achievements by women in business in our province."

Women represent a growing economic force in Canada:

- Women entrepreneurs are one of the fastest growing segments of the Canadian economy: 4 out of 5 businesses are started by women; between 1991 and 2001, women's self-employment increased by 43%.
- The 821,000+ women entrepreneurs in Canada annually contribute in excess of \$18 billion to the economy.
- The number of women-owned businesses that focus on manufacturing, construction, transportation and communications is growing rapidly.

Tickets for the Woman Entrepreneur of the Year Award dinner are \$90 plus GST and are available online at www.wbom.ca or by calling 775-7981.

A full listing of finalists is available online at www.wbom.ca.

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