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**For Immediate Release**

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**Calgary Entrepreneur Receives Awards for Business Success and Community Leadership**

**Calgary** – Shannon Bowen-Smed is on a roll, picking up a trio of awards in the past few weeks. The President and CEO of BOWEN Workforce Solutions was recently honoured for her exceptional business leadership, as well as her generous community work by the following organizations:

**PROFIT W100** – Shannon Bowen-Smed is #40 on the top 100 list that ranks Canada's Top Women Entrepreneurs on a composite score based on the size, growth rate and profitability of their businesses. The PROFIT W100 is Canada's largest annual celebration of entrepreneurial achievement by women.

**Women of Influence** – As Calgary's Local Hero award winner, Shannon will be formally recognized for her inspirational leadership, business achievements and community engagement at the Women of Influence luncheon on November 25, 2010 in Calgary.

**Top 50 Mompreneurs** – This national award recognizes outstanding mompreneurs who are dedicated to raising their families while growing their businesses. Shannon was an award winner in the community service category for her generosity and leadership in giving back to women and children in need in the community.

"I feel very honoured to be selected for these prestigious awards and included with such incredible and inspiring women. My professional success is the direct result of the great team I have at BOWEN. My true passion is to help make a difference in our community and the world. The acknowledgement that we are affecting positive change some small way is especially meaningful," says Shannon.

Since joining the company in 1984 at the age of 19, Shannon has held many different roles before becoming President and CEO in 1996. Shannon has successfully diversified BOWEN's business lines, achieving an increase in corporate revenue from \$6.7 million to over \$35 million in the last ten years. Today, BOWEN is considered an industry-leading workforce solutions company.

Shannon's mission is to enrich lives reaches far beyond the world of business and into our community. As the co-founder of the Scott Smed Foundation, she has been instrumental in raising over \$615,000 in the last ten years to support both the Calgary Region Pregnancy and Infant Loss Program, the United Way of Calgary and area, and two babies' homes in Uganda. Additional community involvement includes her current role as Chair of the Adult Immigrant Initiative for the United Way and she sits on SAIT's corporate advisory board.

Shannon is married to Peter Smed and has two beautiful daughters: Elacy and Kira.

**Media Enquiries**

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