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CELEBRATING BERMUDA'S ENTREPRENEURS AT THE 9TH ANNUAL BEDC BUSINESS AWARDS

Hamilton, Bermuda 26 March 2026 – Eleven businesses and one trailblazing individual were recognised for their contribution to Bermuda's economy at the 9th Annual BEDC Business Awards, held on Saturday, March 21st at the Grotto Bay Beach Resort. The evening drew entrepreneurs, partners, supporters, and friends from across Bermuda's business community for a night of well-deserved recognition and celebration.

The Honorable Jason Hayward, JP., MP., Minister of Economy and Labour, said, "This evening is about recognising the entrepreneurs who continue to build, adapt, and serve, even through difficult seasons. Their effort, vision, and persistence strengthen Bermuda's economy, support their communities, and set an example for others to follow."

Maryem Biadillah, Acting Director of the Economic Development Department, added, "The Economic Development Department is proud to maintain its support for e-entrepreneurship year after year by sponsoring the Innovation & Tech Award. Once again, we saw the BEDC Business Awards showcase the ingenuity and resilience that define our business community and were particularly impressed by the sophisticated ways entrepreneurs leverage digital solutions to tackle real-world challenges. Their work is having a direct impact on everyday life right here on our shores and we celebrate them for that."

2026 BEDC Business Awards Winners

- Business of the Year: Bananas Party – Designs and executes weddings and events for local and international clientele.
- Start-up of the Year: Feet First Podiatry – Delivers exceptional foot and ankle care to patients of all ages.
- Entrepreneur of the Year: Swan Pyrotechnics – Bermuda's only fireworks and special effects company.
- Vendor of the Year: Strange Bird – Bermudian sensory skincare brand that simplifies routines and solves skincare problems.
- Most Enterprising Young Entrepreneur: Metal & String – Specialises in skill toys, handcrafted yo-yos, and products for young people.
- Family Business of the Year: Noah's Ark – Family-run pet supply business with over 25 years serving Bermuda's pets and their owners.
- Economic Empowerment Zone Business of the Year: SoulFood Express – Popular takeout spot known for authentic comfort food in North Hamilton.
- Customer Service Award: Cedar Tree Vets – Mobile concierge veterinary services designed to reduce animal stress.



• Innovation & Tech Award (*sponsored by the Economic Development Department*): Navigate – Bermuda's drone light service delivering large-scale aerial displays.

- People's Choice Award: Temptations Café – Known for all-day breakfast, homemade desserts, and specialty coffees.
- BEDC Client of the Year: BluKids – A Hamilton-based clothing store offering stylish and affordable children's fashion.
- Lifetime Achievement Tech Award (*sponsored by Independent Consulting Solutions*): R. Sheridan Smith

Lee Simmons, Chairman of the Board at BEDC, said, "Behind every business in this room is a person who makes the decision to build something. Someone who shows up when it is hard, adapts when they have to, and keeps going. That is not ordinary."

BEDC thanks the Economic Development Department for its continued support and sponsorship of the BEDC Business Awards, including its contribution to the Innovation & Tech Award. Additional thanks go to Pitt & Co. for sponsoring the welcome drink and contributing to the evening's wine service, and to Independent Consulting Solutions for sponsoring the Lifetime Achievement Tech Award, introduced as a special addition this year.

Now in its ninth year, the BEDC Business Awards continues to recognise the small and medium-sized businesses driving Bermuda's economy. BEDC remains committed to supporting local business growth and creating pathways for long-term success.

For more information about the BEDC, visit www.bedc.bm, email info@bedc.bm, or call 292-5570.

About BEDC

Bermuda Economic Development Corporation (BEDC) is Bermuda's premier source of free confidential business advice for entrepreneurs. The mission is to serve Bermuda's local business community with the highest degree of professionalism by providing, authoritative business advice, counsel, economic development and financial support. Bermuda Business Starts Here! For more information, visit www.bedc.bm.

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