



Philanthropy Awards Committee  
AFP Washington Chapter  
2150 N. 107<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 205  
Seattle, WA 98133-9009

RE: 2014 National Philanthropy Day Awards Nomination, Small Business Category

May 27, 2014

Dear Philanthropy Awards Committee members,

Recreation Northwest is delighted to nominate Boundary Bay Brewery & Bistro for the Outstanding Philanthropic Small Business Philanthropy Day award. Beyond its reputation as Washington State's "Best Brew Pub," Boundary Bay Brewery & Bistro is deeply rooted in our community and serves as an exceptional model of local values and philanthropic spirit.

Every year, owner Ed Bennett and General Manager Janet Lightner sponsor myriad community events and donate staff time, food and beverage, floor space, wall space and garden space to over 100 organizations representing diverse community interests, including human services, animal welfare, environmental education and community building. Examples of Boundary Bay's outstanding community support in the past year include raising over \$70,000 for local teens and adults with developmental disabilities, providing storage for a local food gleaning program, hosting (and often helping to develop) dozens of fundraising events for community organizations, organizing an annual Earth Day Sustainability Fair featuring local resources, and implementing sustainable practices in their own business—setting an example for others to follow.

Our organization's relationship with Boundary Bay began through our signature event, Bellingham Traverse, a multi-sport relay race that starts and finishes at Boundary Bay. Since the event's inception in 2002, Ed and Janet have worked directly with me to host an event that demonstrates our shared ideals in building community. As our partners, they allow us to leverage their space for promoting and hosting our race and after-party. For many years, they have brewed a special Traverse Ale, available in Boundary's taproom. To help promote our statewide race series—and with considerable investment—they will be distributing a new Traverse Red IPA on tap and in cans around Puget Sound.

For the past 11 years, Adam Lent, Boundary Bay Brewery Facility Engineer, has volunteered as the Traverse safety and logistics manager. His years of dedication and development direction led him to become Recreation Northwest's founding president. This was encouraged and supported by his employers, Ed and Janet, who each serve on community committees and boards, providing a positive example for their employees.

In addition to Boundary Bay management and staff serving on various boards, many of the fundraising events held at the brewery grew out of the staff's personal interests. Ed and Janet encourage a culture of giving and support dozens of local non-profits, such as the Max Higbee Center, Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association and Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center, by donating brewery space and staff time, while paying their employees to work the events.

We are so proud to have Boundary Bay Brewery & Bistro in our community, and would love the opportunity to recognize Ed and Janet for their fantastic philanthropic support. Please contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,



Todd Elsworth, Executive Director  
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**Co-Nominating Organizations Include:**

Kulshan Community Land Trust  
Bellingham Food Bank  
Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center  
ReUse Works  
Bellingham St. Patrick's Day Parade  
Make.Shift  
Sustainable Connections  
Whatcom Volunteer Center  
Max Higbee Center  
Ski to Sea/Whatcom Events  
Whatcom Humane Society  
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association  
Pickford Film Center  
Bellingham Bay Marathon  
Downtown Bellingham Partnership/Downtown Sounds  
Smart Trips/Everybody Bike  
Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services of Whatcom County