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PRESIDENT AND CEO OF EDO JAPAN NAMED FINALIST FOR ERNST & YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR® AWARDS

Tom Donaldson selected as regional finalist for awards recognizing excellence in entrepreneurship

Calgary, Alberta (July 25, 2011) – Tom Donaldson, President and CEO of Edo Japan, has been chosen as an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2011 award finalist in Prairies region. The Calgary-based company, with 100 locations, is known for its fresh and healthy Teppan-style cooking and signature Teriyaki sauce. Edo Japan joins three other companies recognized in the hospitality and tourism category.

Donaldson joined Edo Japan in 1999 as President and CEO, and later purchased the business from the founders in 2006. He took the Edo Japan restaurant concept to a new level with the belief and conviction that fresh, healthy and quality ingredients offered in a fast, casual and contemporary environment would be a great alternative for consumers. Donaldson is known for his hands-on approach to the business, often visiting franchisees and dining at Edo Japan restaurants several times a week.

“Ernst & Young acknowledges some of the most influential businesses in Canada and it is an honour to be included on that list,” said Donaldson. “The Edo Japan corporate team and our dedicated franchisees have worked diligently to bring the company to where it is now, and I know this nomination would not be possible without their continued support.”

This year, Ernst & Young celebrates 18 years of honouring the nation’s most outstanding and inspirational entrepreneurs. Finalists were selected by a panel of independent judges who recognize excellence in leadership, financial success, vision and social responsibility. The winners for the Prairies region will be announced October 18 at a banquet held in Calgary, Alberta. The overall winner will continue on to represent their region at the national banquet held in Toronto on November 23.

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About Edo Japan

Established in 1979 in Calgary, Alberta, Edo Japan was designed to bring the freshness of hot Japanese Teppan-style cooking to suburban shopping centres and food courts across Canada. Offering the highest quality, freshly prepared food in the quick service restaurant industry, Edo Japan has quickly become a popular alternative with 100 locations across Canada, and serving more than seven million meals annually. For more information please visit www.edojapan.com.

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