

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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### **MEDP Announces 2022-2023 Award Winners and Releases Annual Report**

(McMinnville, Oregon) — McMinnville Economic Development Partnership (MEDP) recently marked a significant milestone with the release of its ['22-'23 Annual Report](#), coinciding with the prestigious MEDP Annual Awards Event - "Celebrating McMinnnovation." Since its inception in 2007, MEDP has been dedicated to acknowledging exceptional companies and individuals contributing to the local economy's growth through best business practices, workforce development, a positive company outlook, and unwavering commitment to the McMinnville community.

The Awards Event, held on October 5th in McMinnville, Oregon, served as a platform to recognize outstanding achievements in various categories, including McMinnville Maker, Kelly McDonald Business Leader, Board of Directors Partner, Startup, Workforce Partnership, Innovator, and the Economic Vitality Distinguished Service Award.

#### **McMinnville Maker of the Year Award**

The McMinnville Maker of the Year Award honors a company or individual in the city's traded sector businesses and industries that has made a beneficial impact on the community while demonstrating creativity and ingenuity. [APT - Applied Physics Technologies](#) received the 2023 McMinnville Maker Award. Founded in 1995 at the Linfield Research Institute, APT invested \$2.5M in upgrades, including a clean room at their facility in McMinnville's Industrial District. The investment is projected to double their 2022 revenue and workforce by 2027, contributing significantly to Oregon's economy. APT actively engages with the community through donations and participation in committees like the Chamber of Commerce's Government Affairs Council.

#### **Kelly McDonald Business Leader of the Year Award**

Named in honor of founding MEDP board member Kelly McDonald, the Kelly McDonald Business Leader of the Year Award recognizes individuals who embody great leadership, innovation, and a commitment to McMinnville's economic vitality. This year's recipient is Pat Crowley of [Chapul Farms](#). Crowley, a dedicated entrepreneur, focuses on sustainability and regenerative processes through the Chapul Innovation Center. Having raised \$2.5M in investment capital, Crowley supports community initiatives and volunteers on the Board of Directors for [Tainable Regenerative Agriculture Laboratories](#).

#### **Board of Directors Outstanding Partner of the Year Award**

The 2023 Board of Directors Outstanding Partner of the Year Award goes to Arthur Chaput, Regional Development Officer at [Business Oregon](#). Recognized for his exceptional work and dedication, Chaput goes beyond connecting businesses to Business Oregon programs. His efforts have resulted in

McMinnville businesses receiving substantial funding for various projects, amounting to \$1.7M in Business Oregon investment in FY 22-23.

### **Startup of the Year Award**

[Cutting Edge Metals](#), founded by Lori Robertson in July 2022, received the Startup of the Year Award. This precision CNC machining company, located in McMinnville's local incubator space, has already achieved ITAR certification and AS9100/ISO9001 Certification. The Robertsons actively engage with the community, supporting workforce development initiatives and participating in programs like Career Bound Spring 2023. In addition, advocates for creation of a Pacific NW Aerospace Alliance chapter in Oregon and supporting fellow entrepreneurs and startups through the Launch Mid Valley McMinnville programming.

### **McMinnville Innovator Award**

[Solid Carbon](#) was honored with the McMinnville Innovator Award for providing biogenic carbon-based materials for structural concrete. Recognized for their carbon sequestering solution, Solid Carbon received a \$241K High Impact Opportunity Project Grant through Business Oregon. With plans to expand in McMinnville, Solid Carbon is set to grow its team and contribute to innovative research and development.

### **Workforce Partnership of the Year Award**

[McMinnville Water & Light](#) and [McMinnville High School](#) received the Workforce Partnership of the Year Award for their collaborative efforts in providing real-world paid work experience to students. This initiative, creating three [mobile water filtration trailers](#), exemplifies the commitment to workforce development and aligns with MEDP's efforts to increase opportunities with local businesses for work/study, internships, pre-apprenticeships, and certifications.

### **McMinnville Economic Vitality Distinguished Service Award**

Dave Haugeberg was honored with the McMinnville Economic Vitality Distinguished Service Award for his remarkable 37 years of dedicated service in supporting positive community growth. Haugeberg has played a key role in bringing over \$300M to the region for transportation infrastructure and development, contributing significantly to McMinnville's prosperity.

### **McMinnville Industrial Promotions, 70 Years of Service**

The event also brought special recognition to [McMinnville Industrial Promotions](#) (MIP), one of MEDP's founding partners. Established in 1953, the MIP volunteer board continues to support economic vitality in McMinnville, contributing to intentional growth in the Industrial District and future Innovation Campus.

John Dietz, General Manager of McMinnville Water and Light and President of the MEDP Board of Directors said, "*We take great pride in recognizing the accomplishments of our community's businesses, industries, and the individuals who play a vital role in fostering social and economic prosperity. The*

*MEDP Board and staff consider it an honor to partner with these exceptional organizations and individuals, whose impactful contributions make a meaningful difference in McMinnville."*

Special thanks were extended to McMinnville MADE, [Solid Form Fabrication](#), and Deven Paolo for designing and creating the beautiful metal award plaques presented to each winner during the MEDP 2023 Annual Awards Event - Celebrating McMinnovation.

In addition to individual awards, executive director Patty Herzog presented [MEDP's 2022-2023 Annual Report](#) to stakeholders. Highlights include the substantial impact achieved by the MEDP staff of two and the board of directors, with over \$3M in funding brought to community businesses and another \$3M plus still in process.

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**About MEDP:** *MEDP was created in 2006 by McMinnville Industrial Promotions, McMinnville Water & Light, the City of McMinnville, and the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce to support traded sector business and industry. We are a public/private entity supported by our [Investor Circle](#). To learn more about the McMinnville Economic Development Partnership, visit [www.McMinnvilleBusiness.com](http://www.McMinnvilleBusiness.com).*