

Contribution to city business recognised

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Lord Mayor Lisa Scaffidi has congratulated rising media executive Colm O'Brien on his success in the WA Business News 40under40 awards.

Mr O'Brien, the CEO of Aspermont Ltd, was nominated by the City of Perth for an award, which honours the achievements of the State's young entrepreneurs.

Mr O'Brien also received the City of Perth Award which specifically recognises a candidate's contribution to business in the city.

Ms Scaffidi said that Mr O'Brien was appointed CEO of Aspermont Ltd in 2005 and since then had guided the company through a period of rapid growth which had seen significant expansion in the range of industry news services it produced.

"The company has been in a transition from a small to medium enterprise and Mr O'Brien's experience in international banking, management consultancy and publishing is considered to have raised Aspermont's strategic and management capacity," Ms Scaffidi said.

"Aspermont is also a respected training ground for young journalists and performs a valuable role in informing the business community here and internationally about Western Australia's expertise in a range of industries.

"The City of Perth Award and the 40under40 awards in general are important in that they recognise and encourage business people with the potential to play a major part in the city's future and its economy. That is apparent from the list of those who have won awards in the past."

Past winners of the City of Perth Award include:

2002: David Wartzki, the Managing Director of a Perth-based souvenir chain, Australian Reflections. David owns and manages four stores in the city.

2003: Suzan Pervan, founding partner in Gooding Pervan Chartered Accountants, based in the city.

2004: Selina Duncalf, Chief Operating Officer, Bankwest. Selina joined Bankwest as a human resource consultant at the age of 28 and within two years was appointed to the senior executive team as Chief Operating Officer.

2005: Anne Maree Ferguson, Managing Director of the Perth Convention Bureau.

2006: Edward Rigg, Group Managing Director of investment bank Argonaut Ltd, which focuses on companies in the oil and gas, mining, agribusiness and contracting sectors.

2007: Marcus Canning, Director / Chief Executive Officer of Artrage Inc, a contemporary cultural organisation.

2008: Aimee Johns, a Northbridge-based business operator and driving force behind the William Street Collective which promotes Northbridge's growing creative industry businesses.

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