

Surrey Board of Trade presents Surrey Child and Family Friendly Workplace Award to Surrey business: Obsidian Property Management Ltd.

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Surrey Board of Trade



The presentation of the 4th Annual Surrey Board of Trade Surrey Child and Family Friendly Workplace Awards, sponsored by the BC Human Resources Management Association, took place on Wednesday, June 17th at the 51st Surrey Board of Trade Chair's Dinner and Annual General Meeting. The winner was 'Obsidian Property Management'.

As part of the Surrey Board of Trade's Leadership Surrey Program which began four years ago –we are pleased to showcase a business that has created workplaces that support their employees in both their work and child/family responsibilities.

At Obsidian Property Management, the work-life balance of employees is a founding principle, and as such, takes priority. Strata managers are often asked to work long hours in the office, and then attend client meetings in the evening, they are often on call for client emergencies, and must be able to respond immediately. Because of this, Obsidian was founded on the philosophy that a successful work-life balance leads to success in business.

At Obsidian, every employee is supplied with a remote desktop login, allowing them to access files from anywhere when necessary, and phone/email systems are tied into employees' smartphones. As the work-life balance is so important at Obsidian, a simple policy was put in place that states: if an employee is getting work done, meeting goals, and the clients are happy, time-off/sick leave is unlimited. This policy, among many others, is what has made the team at Obsidian Property Management work hard to succeed, and to continue to grow the company to its full potential.

In the future, Obsidian will be working towards development of a group benefit program, training and education allowances for employees, licensing cost reimbursement, cell phone allowances, and transit programs.

“Workplaces are changing. Employees from all sectors are quick to list the changes they are experiencing in their workplaces: Globalization, technological advances, rise of non-standard employment/work hours, increased workload, greater learning pressures,” said Anita Huberman. “This is why the Surrey Board of Trade continues to showcase a Surrey business each year that shines above the rest of the applicants in our assessment of how the business manages flexibility in the workplace, supportive supervisors/managers, a culture that is family-friendly, alternative work arrangements and a recognition of child and elder care issues.”

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