

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Page 1

### **Local Champion Awarded**

Carol Hanlon, Manager Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre (TCFWA) Belmont Business Enterprise Centre and Belmont Small Business Centre (Belmont BEC/SBC) has won the coveted City of Perth Convention Scholarship for 2008/2009 which is worth \$10,000.

The City of Perth Convention Scholarship is designed to assist the winner, from a not-for-profit organization, in their personal and professional development, either through attendance at a relevant international conference or undertaking further study in their field of chosen study or endeavour.

The scholarship is funded by the City of Perth and is an initiative of the Perth Convention Bureau. It aims to nurture 'local champions' who are keen to attract conferences to Western Australia.

Ms Hanlon said, "The scholarship will enable me to travel to Atlanta at the end of the year to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Fashion Incubator in Atlanta in the USA, and my dream is to then bring the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Fashion Incubator Conference to Perth in 2011!"

Carol Hanlon is the founding Manager, Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc (est. 1994), and also Founder & Manager of Textile Clothing, Footwear Resource Centre Inc (1998), which both directly facilitate WA small business development and growth. Carol's past projects include convening national conferences, leading delegations / group exhibitions at national / international fashion events, establishing the designedge fashion incubator, staging a trade expo, and project managing annual innovation festivals.

Carol has received many accolades during her service at the Belmont BEC/SBC including:

- Best National BEC Manager in Australia 2004, 2008
- Nominee WA Citizen of the Year (2006) – Industry & Commerce Category
- City of Perth – Top 100 WA Champions (2007) – Industry Category

Carol Hanlon is a true local champion.

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#### **About Belmont BEC/SBC/TCFWA:**

Since its inception, the Belmont BEC has established an extensive range of community projects and programs. These include the Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre Inc. (TCFWA), Belmont Small Business Awards, WA Racing Industry Development Project, Designedge Innovation Festival, Multicultural Business Support Services, Designedge Fashion Incubator, Belmont Clothes Library, and Business Workshops for Youth. Other centre activities include the establishment of a range of specialist business workshops, many with a focus on creative industry business development programs with indigenous and culturally diverse groups.