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PARENTS' CHOICE AWARDS



And the winners are . . .

The response to our Second Annual Calgary's Child Magazine's Parents' Choice Awards was phenomenal. We asked you to choose the Best in Calgary — those businesses that offered the best places to eat, shop and have fun as a family. Below are your choices . . . congratulations to all the winners.

Keep up the good work, Calgary families thank you.

BEST GROCERY STORE

Calgary Co-op: When you're a busy family, we know the little extras can mean a lot. Like having your groceries carried to your car, without needing to ask. Or free child care in our Kiddies Korral. Then there's our Fruit of the Week and Cookie Clubs — perks kids look forward to. Guided tours for Kindergarten students introduce them to the colors, tastes and smells of a grocery store, and our free Stampede breakfasts are fun for the whole family. And our many food drives and other community activities care for Calgary families who need a little extra help.

BEST ICE CREAM STORE

Dairy Queen: Dairy Queen is proud to accept the awards for Best Place to Buy Birthday Cakes and Best Ice Cream Store. The Dairy Queen operators of Calgary would like to thank all those who enjoy our products. It has been a pleasure to serve you and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

BEST BIRTHDAY CAKES

Dairy Queen: Dairy Queen is proud to accept the awards for Best Place to Buy Birthday Cakes and Best Ice Cream Store.
Honorable Mention: My Favorite Icecream Shoppe

BEST NATURAL FOODS STORE

Community Natural Foods: The staff at Community thank our valued customers for 20 years of support and feedback. We look forward to continuing to provide you with the highest quality natural products that promote a healthy lifestyle and a sustainable future for your children. Every dollar you spend on organic products is a vote cast for a healthier planet!

BEST FAST FOOD PLACE

McDonald's Restaurants: On July 12, 1968, Calgary's first McDonald's Restaurant opened at 507 - 23 Avenue NW. Every day since then we have done our best to impress every guest. Just like kids, we never tire of hearing people say they like us. So we're thrilled to have won the second annual Calgary's Child Magazine's Parents' Choice Award for Best Fast Food. McDonald's is serious about giving back to the communities in which we do business. Through Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Children's Charities, thousands of special Calgary children have had their quality of life improved. Thank you Calgary.

BEST PIZZA

Pizza Hut

BEST RESTAURANT FOR FAMILIES

Moxie's Restaurant: Moxie's Restaurants Inc. is an 11 year old, family, casual dining restaurant chain. Based out of Calgary, Moxie's has 26 locations across Canada and seven in Calgary. Moxie's foundation is built on the promise of delivering great food at a great price in an upbeat, friendly, comfortable atmosphere. Our guests are the center of our business and we guarantee that they will leave full, happy and satisfied. As our logo states, "We make food a big deal."

BEST KIDS' MENU

Moxie's Restaurant

Honorable Mention: McDonald's & Ricky's.

BEST RESTAURANT FOR PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

Earl's

Honorable Mention: Smugglers

BEST AIRLINE FOR FAMILIES

Canadian Airlines: Canadian Airlines has assembled a network of global partners that include the world's leading airlines. Together with American Airlines, British Airways, Japan Airlines and Qantas Airways, Canadian has a unique group of alliance partners which offer customers a choice of seamless travel across the five major continents. Together with these partners Canadian serves over 300 North American destinations and more than 500 worldwide, including over 80 flights per week between Canada and Asia, more than any other airline.

BEST HOTEL/MOTEL CHAIN

Best Western International: Best Western International, the world's largest lodging brand has

nearly 3,800 properties in 77 countries and territories. Among the services provided are the Family Plan program which offers special benefits for children and a policy that kids 12 and under stay free in the same room as a paying adult.

BEST LOCAL VACATION DESTINATION

Banff/Lake Louise: Thank you for choosing Banff/Lake Louise as the favorite Family Local Vacation Destination. As a World Heritage Site and Canada's first National Park, Banff National Park is ideal for a family getaway for a day or a week. The town of Banff and village of Lake Louise boasts historic sites, museums, world class ski resorts, spectacular scenery, adventurous outdoor activities and lots of great shopping, restaurants and a wide variety of accommodation. We hope to see you soon!

BEST OUT-OF-PROVINCE VACATION DESTINATION

Interior British Columbia

BEST PHARMACY

Shoppers Drug Mart - Healthwatch: Our goal, at Shoppers Drug Mart, is to make your pharmacy experience even easier. That's why our Healthwatch pharmacists are continuing to provide more in-store information and professional services to Calgarians. Shoppers Drug Mart's exclusive Healthwatch Services are designed to help you take better care of yourself — something we can all feel good about.

BEST LOCAL CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINER

Balloon Landing: Created and written by Lee and Sandy Paley, "Balloon Landing" is the TV Home they share with their lovable dog 'Do-Good,' a shy, pink parrot, Prudence, and the anthing but shy, 'Tex Critter,' the Flea. Featuring over 200 original Lee and Sandy Songs, their series airs on Calgary 7, YTV and the KidzTime in the U.S.
Honorable Mention: Buckshot

BEST LIVE THEATRE COMPANY

Storybook Theatre: We would like to thank our over 300 tireless and talented volunteers and theatre artists, our enthusiastic and loyal patrons, and the readers and publishers of Calgary's Child Magazine who took the time to acknowledge our contribution to the Calgary community. Please keep coming and we'll keep doing it right.
Honorable Mention: Loose Moose Theatre for Kids

BEST MOVIE THEATRE

Westhills Famous Players

Honorable Mention: Crowfoot Cineplex

BEST MUSEUM

Glenbow Museum: A visit to Glenbow is a lively journey into the heritage of the Canadian West! Step inside a real Blackfoot tipi; squeeze into a settler's tiny cabin. Discover awesome art, see knights in armour, and explore the colorful world of minerals and gemstones — all at the Glenbow Museum!

BEST PLAYGROUP

Parents & Children Together: PACT is a stimulating play/learning environment for preschool children (0 to 5 years) and parent discussion groups for parents of preschool children (weekday mornings or Saturday afternoons). For registration information, call 252-2211.

BEST COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

CCIS Family Program: The Family Program is one of the many programs offered through the Community and Educational Services Division at CCIS. We believe that all parents benefit from ongoing new ideas and support. In today's busy society, it is essential to offer a service that involves the local community. Phone 290-5757 to set up your workshop. You name it, we've got it.

BEST FAMILY-FRIENDLY EMPLOYER (TIE)

PanCanadian
Telus

BEST PRIVATE/CHARTER SCHOOL (TIE)

Global Learning Academy: Global Learning

keys for our private Baby Change rooms. Watch for Gymboree coming to Market Mall in 1998. For information call 288-5466. Market Mall is located on the corner of 32nd Avenue and Shaganappi Trail NW.
Honorable Mention: Southcentre Mall

BEST PLACE TO BUY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Staples The Office Superstore: Staples is honored to have been chosen as the "Best Place to Buy School Supplies" as voted by the Calgary's Child Magazine, Parents' Choice Awards. As Canada's largest office products and superstore chain, all our associates take pride in being able to offer our customers the benefits of everyday low prices and services in an atmosphere of enthusiastic customer care. We thank the parents of Calgary for your recognition! We are committed to providing all of our customers with the service, products and low prices that have resulted in us being given this distinguished award.

Honorable Mention: Walmart

BEST FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHER

Sears: We're happy to serve our Canadian community with over 100 stores, three convenient located in Calgary. It is our pleasure to accept this honor as "Best Family Photographer," according to the voters in the Calgary's Child Magazine Parents' Choice Awards. We are committed to capturing your family's best smiles with the highest quality photographer ever.

Honorable Mention: Walmart

BEST PET SHOP

Petland: Petland would like to thank Calgary's Child readers for supporting it as the city's best pet store for the second year in a row. Petland's commitment to responsible pet ownership and community service has resulted in Canada's first pet food bank. Since June of '97, over 7,000 financially disadvantaged pet owners have been assisted with pet-food and kitty litter.

BEST SHOE STORE

Town & Country Shoes
Honorable Mentions: Jochie & Bata

BEST CAR DEALERSHIP

Tower Chrysler Plymouth Ltd.:

Tower Chrysler Plymouth Ltd. has been serving their clients and the community in Calgary and Alberta for 27 years. In 1996 Ed Rewucki, President of Tower Chrysler, received the Maclean's Dealer of Excellence Award. He says, "Our objective and our goal is total customer satisfaction each and every day." You'll find warm and friendly people willing to assist you for your automotive needs, from new and used vehicle sales or leasing, to service, body repairs, parts and car rentals.

BEST KIDS' CLOTHING STORE

Gap for Kids

BEST KIDS' USED CLOTHING/CONSIGNMENT SHOP
Once Upon A Child: Once Upon A Child would like to take this opportunity to thank Calgary's Child Magazine and the patronage of Once Upon A Child customers. We felt this business opportunity was unique since it provided a time and money saving service for young families such as our own. Once again thank you all.
Honorable Mention: Lollipop

BEST VIDEO STORE

Blockbuster
Honorable Mention: Rogers Video

BEST ATTRACTION

Calgary Zoo: The Calgary Zoo is open every day of the year. We invite you to discover life on earth! Adventure through the Rocky mountains, come nose to trunk with an elephant or relax amongst the breathtaking gardens of the conservatory. Book the Zoo for your next event, meeting or special occasion.

BEST CALGARY SPORTS TEAM

Calgary Flames
Honorable Mention: Calgary Stampeders

BEST FESTIVAL

The Calgary International Children's Festival: The Calgary International Children's Festival brings performers from around the world to Calgary for one magic week of enlightening and engaging entertainment. Join us this year from May 18 to 23 for our 12th Festival. We are proud to be a winner of the Calgary's Child Parent's Choice Awards.

BEST KIDS' CAMP

YMCA: YMCA Day Camps are designed to help children of all ages and abilities, discover honesty, respect, acceptance, and responsibility in the the world around them, while having a great time.
Honorable Mention: City of Calgary, Parks & Recreation

BEST HALLOWEEN EVENT

Boo At The Zoo
Honorable Mention: Village Square Leisure Centre

BEST CHRISTMAS EVENT

Heritage Park's 12 Days of Christmas

Honorable Mention: Confederation Park Lion's Festival of Lights

BEST PLACE FOR PROGRAMS FOR PRESCHOOLERS (TIE)

Village Square Leisure Centre is the proud recipient of the Calgary's Child Magazine Parents' Choice Awards for the "Best Swimming Pool, Best Preschool Programs and for the 2nd consecutive year with honorable mentions in the categories "Best Kids Camps and Best Halloween Event and Best Fitness Centre." The management and staff invite you to discover for yourself the benefits of recreation at Village Square Leisure Centre.

Southland Leisure Centre is honored to be chosen by Calgary's Child Magazine readers in the 1997/1998 Parents' Choice Awards in the following categories: Best Swimming Pool, Best Fitness Facility for Families, and Best Programs for Preschool Children. Southland greatly appreciates the reader's support.

BEST PLACE TO HAVE A KIDS' PARTY

Bonkers Indoor Playground: Bonkers is the birthday party specialist. Your kids and friends are guaranteed a great time, and we do all the work. No food to prepare, no games to think up and best of all — nothing to clean up after the party. All you have to do is get the kids to Bonkers and take them home.
Honorable Mentions: McDonald's Restaurants & Parties at Home.

BEST PLACE TO ICE SKATE

Olympic Oval: In celebration of the Olympic Oval's 10th Anniversary, we would like to thank you, Calgary, for your continued support. By providing skate aids and helmets, we are committed to giving our users a safe, fun and exciting skating experience. Thank you Calgary.
Honorable Mention: Bowness Park Lagoon

BEST PLACE TO TOBOGGAN

Turtle Hill

BEST PLAYGROUND (INDOOR)

Bonkers Indoor Playground Inc.: Bonkers is a wildly imaginative and intriguing maze of bright and colorful tube ladders, cyclone chutes, rock climbs, beam walks and a whole ocean of balls, designed for your kids to explore.

BEST PLAYGROUND (OUTDOOR)

Riley Park

BEST SKI RESORT IN ALBERTA

Lake Louise: Lake Louise Ski Area would like to thank the parents of Calgary for voting them, Calgary's favorite ski hill. With a brand new daycare building and new day lodge, the family will be more comfortable than ever. As the Rockies only day-care licensed to take children as young as 18 days, Lake Louise truly has something to offer the whole family.
Honorable Mention: Sunshine Village

BEST SWIMMING POOL (TIE)

Village Square Leisure Centre

Southland Leisure Centre

BEST FAMILY FITNESS FACILITY (TIE)

YMCA: YMCA Calgary is dedicated to facilitating and promoting the spiritual, mental, physical and social development of individuals and to fostering a sense of responsibility within the community.
Honorable Mention: Village Square Leisure Centre

AND FINALLY . . .

BEST PLACE TO TAKE YOUR KIDS ON A CRUMMY DAY (TIE)

Calgary Public Library: A cornerstone of the Library's mandate is to engage the minds and stimulate the imaginations of youth. We have a diverse collection of books, music, videos and programs geared toward children. Our computer resources and award winning website ensure Calgary's youth has access to electronic information. The Library is a great place to go — rain or shine.

Devonian Gardens would like to thank all parents who voted Devonian Gardens as the 'Best Place for Kids on a Crummy Day.' Rain or shine, we encourage families to visit the gardens where kids can play at the newly renovated indoor playground or pick up a free Kids in the Garden Activity Book. Meanwhile, parents can take a well-deserved break in the peaceful gardens located on the 4th Level of Toronto Dominion Square at 317 - 7 Avenue SW.

