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[For Immediate Release]

2018 HONG KONG LGBT+ INCLUSION AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Hong Kong, 16 May 2018 – Community Business, a leading not-for-profit organisation advancing responsible and inclusive business practices in Asia, revealed the winners of its [2018 Hong Kong LGBT+ Inclusion Awards](#) last night. The results were announced at a fundraising Gala Dinner held at Hotel ICON, in commemoration of the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia (IDAHOT).

This year, Community Business chose to highlight the theme of intersectionality in the LGBT+ Gala [opening video](#). As a part of the #Time4ChangeHK campaign, the video illustrates that as human beings we are all unique, no matter our sexual orientation or gender identity and that this should not define how society treats or perceives us as individuals. By inviting leading LGBT+ champions from Hong Kong's business and wider communities, Community Business hopes to encourage people to be bold and courageous in standing up for LGBT+ inclusion and equality within their organisations and beyond. All are encouraged to share the video widely and spread its message of inclusion and acceptance.

Established in 2014, the Hong Kong LGBT+ Inclusion Awards are the first annual awards honouring and celebrating LGBT+ inclusion in Hong Kong. In 2018, to broaden the appeal and encourage nominations by new entrants, Community Business introduced several new award categories, bringing the total this year to 12. The award nominations were assessed based on the extent to which they are strategic, proactive, impactful and sustainable. In the past years, being either a finalist or a winner of the LGBT+ Inclusion Awards has provided both organisations and individuals with an important platform to promote and amplify their meaningful efforts in driving LGBT+ inclusion. This year, over 100 nominations were received for all 12 awards.

Among the new categories included in the awards for 2018 was the LGBT+ Public Champion Award. This award aims to recognise a public figure who has used their influence to promote LGBT+ inclusion in Hong Kong during the period January 2016 to December 2017. Organisations or individuals submitted nominations for this award during the public nomination period from November 2017 to 15 February 2018. No nominations were made directly by Community Business. The five submissions were reviewed by Community Business to ensure they met the criteria of being a public figure who has used their influence to promote LGBT+ inclusion in Hong Kong. The winner was selected by online public vote during the period 13 March to 13 April 2018, and over 1,200 votes were received.

2018 Hong Kong LGBT+ Inclusion Award Winners

No.	Award	Winner
1	LGBT+ Network Award <i>Sponsored by J.P. Morgan</i>	HSBC Pride HK HSBC
2	LGBT+ Newcomer Award <i>Sponsored by HSBC</i>	Thomson Reuters
3	Transgender Inclusion Award	Henry Tse
4	Lesbian Inclusion Award	Celine Tan HSBC
5	LGBT+ Mentoring Award <i>Sponsored by KPMG</i>	Goldman Sachs
6	LGBT+ Marketing Campaign Award <i>Sponsored by Citibank</i>	Rainbow Lions HSBC

7	LGBT+ Inclusion Champion Award <i>Sponsored by Morgan Stanley</i>	Henry Li Eversheds Sutherland
8	LGBT+ Ally Award <i>Sponsored by Goldman Sachs</i>	Su-Ling Voon Morgan Stanley
9	LGBT+ Executive Sponsor Award (Joint Winner) <i>Sponsored by Telstra</i>	Stewart Chippindale Linklaters
		Wanda Tung Nomura International (Hong Kong) Limited
10	LGBT+ Community Impact Award (Joint Winner) <i>Sponsored by Goldman Sachs</i>	GDotTV
		Pink Season
11	LGBT+ Advocacy Award <i>Sponsored by Manulife</i>	Peter Reading Equal Opportunities Commission
12	LGBT+ Public Champion Award <i>Sponsored by Hotel ICON</i>	Dr. Brenda R. Alegre

Full details of all the 2018 finalists can be found [here](#).

To assist with the selection of the final winner for each award, Community Business convened a [judging panel](#) comprising of an external judge, a senior executive from the award sponsor, and two judges from Community Business.

“We applaud the award winners for the outstanding work that they are doing for Hong Kong,” said **Fern Ngai, Chief Executive Officer of Community Business**. “Each of the 12 awards acknowledges an important part of the overall effort which collectively makes Hong Kong a more inclusive city, both in the workplace and in the wider community. We congratulate all finalists who are truly the pioneers, the innovators and the change makers. I can say that on behalf of my fellow judges that we were inspired and impressed by their work and firm commitment to LGBT+ inclusion. Yet there is much more work to be done. It’s time for change and Hong Kong needs each of every one of us to continue to show leadership and dedication to this cause, inspiring more companies, organisations and individuals to follow.”

– End –

About Community Business

Community Business is a not-for-profit organisation (Hong Kong Charity Number 91/6560) whose mission is to lead, inspire and support businesses to have a positive impact on people and communities. A recognised leader in advancing responsible and inclusive business practices in Asia, Community Business facilitates networks, conducts research and events, leads programmes and campaigns and provides training and consultancy. Our focus on responsible business is aligned to 5 mission-led themes:

- Building responsible leadership
- Investing in local communities
- Tackling workplace inequality
- Ensuring employee wellbeing
- Promoting social inclusion

Within the tackling workplace inequality theme, Community Business’ ‘Creating Inclusive Workplace for LGBT+ Employees’ Campaign, launched in 2008, has been a long-term, sustained effort designed to

encourage and support companies to put LGBT+ inclusion firmly on their corporate agenda. The campaign aims to:

- Raise awareness of LGBT+ inclusion as a business issue
- Increase understanding of LGBT+ issues from an Asian perspective
- Encourage and support companies to create inclusive workplaces for their LGBT+ employees in Asia
- Advocate for positive change in wider society

Founded in 2003 and based in Hong Kong with a presence in India and the United Kingdom, Community Business works with companies of all sizes and from diverse industries across Asia, harnessing the power of business to drive social change. For more information, please visit www.communitybusiness.org.

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