

CALGARY AWARDS 2015

LEO WIESER COMMERCE AWARD ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

September 29, 2016



Your Worship, Councillors, jury, fellow nominees, award winners, ladies and gentlemen...

My business partner Becky Scott and I are honoured to receive this award.

16 years ago, Becky and I had a vision. Both coming from theatre arts backgrounds, we knew that Calgary had so much in untapped natural resources to offer.

I have to be clear that we are in no way associated with oil and gas and have little interest in pipelines.

We saw that in the arts and entertainment business, Calgary was completely undervalued. Our vision was to start a company that could compete on a world stage by offering high quality products, services, and creative content with a uniquely Canadian style. In short, we wanted to create cool. We didn't want to be limited by what we did not know, nor be told what we couldn't do. We were inventors, tinkerers, artists, hackers, performers, and most of all – business people – for we do fundamentally understand that our work is called show *business*.

We have made it through 14 years of ups and downs, and we are just beginning to see the results of our work reverberate around the world. I think I am wrong however, when I say that we are not interested in pipelines – we are. We are interested in the pipeline of people, creativity, stories, images, and ideas we can offer up to the world.

We ARE a resource sector.

WE are natural resources which can only be found HERE.

And which are ones that need much more cultivation and investment. We will work to do that.

And we will create cool.

Thank you.