



### Culinary Standouts from Okanagan Profiled in Hawaiian Press

While Okanagan residents already rave about the meat products made by Okanagan Sausage and the wines from Cedar Creek Estate Winery, enthusiasm for these products has now extended to visitors and residents in Hawaii. Both were mentioned in an article on some of the best culinary items from Canada that recently appeared in the Garden Island newspaper which serves the island of Kauai, Hawaii.



Oyama Sausage was mentioned for its more than 350 types of sausages and dry-cured meats. Cedar Creek was mentioned as an example of quality wines that flourish in the Okanagan, and the industry that has "come a very long way, actually in a very short period of time."

### Is Your Business/Organization Seeking an All-Inclusive Office Space?

The Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission and the City of Kelowna are researching the viability of an innovative new office centre that would house businesses and organizations in the Creative Economy, including arts, culture, heritage and new media; for-profits and non-profits; as well



### Existing Home Sales Increase

In its January, 2010 report, Canada Mortgage and Housing notes that sales of existing home rebounded sharply in the fourth quarter of 2009, more than doubling from the previous year. Sales of detached home, townhouse and apartment condominium sales all recorded big increases.

Lower prices, an ample supply of listings and favourable interest rates have drawn more buyers into the marketplace. As well, prices have begun to rise in response to stronger market demand and reduced supply and are expected to edge up through 2010.

Kelowna's existing home market has shifted to a balanced position from a buyer's point of view. Homes are still taking longer to sell than in 2008, but sellers are now achieving a higher sale price to list price ratio compared to just a few months ago.

To view the full report, [click here](#).



### New Ventures 2010 Competition

Turn your idea into a profitable company by entering the New Ventures BC Competition. A "new venture" is a business idea that is economically viable, but has not yet secured significant financing from "outside investors" (i.e. investors other than friends, family and company founders.) It must be an innovative product or service involving a new technology.

The competition will give you the opportunity to:

- Join in-depth seminars and network with business, legal, government and marketing professionals;
- Meet experts, mentors and innovators who can help you take your idea from germination to fruition;
- Refine your idea for a technology product or service and develop a business plan to attract financing;
- Win the first prize package worth over \$100,000.

The New Ventures BC competition is open only to those ideas involving a new technology. In the past, new technologies have included a pile driver, a laptop anti-theft device, a livestock

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as social entrepreneurs and organizations.

The facility would have both private offices and open desks and a "Shared Services" hub with common space and meeting rooms. This would be a space for innovative thinking, connecting, creating and doing. To express your interest in this service please complete this [questionnaire](#).

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feeding system, and a wireless gaming application, among others.

For all eligibility requirements, see the [2010 competition rules](#).

## Links and Events

[Tourism's Place in a Sustainable World - February 18](#)

[Thrive Not Survive Seminar Series:  
Pitch Your Business - March 2](#)