



Independent retailers are the lifeblood of Canadian communities, contributing not only to the health of the country's economy, but to the health and wellbeing of the citizens that they serve. To celebrate the contributions made by independent retailers, Indie Buzz features all of the news, announcements, anniversaries and everything else that make Canadian independent retailing great. Check out what your fellow independents are up to...



## SWINTON'S ART SUPPLIERS

Swinton's Art Suppliers in Calgary, Alberta has discovered that in tough economic times they can fill a void for art connoisseurs on a budget. Rather than buying art, more people are opting to create their own. People are now attending painting classes at Swinton's and are purchasing large-sized canvases to create masterpieces for their own homes. While the sales of professional art supplies have dipped this year, private consumer purchases are a growing market and Swinton's is capitalizing on the trend. To learn more about Swinton's Art Suppliers, visit the website at [www.swintonsart.com](http://www.swintonsart.com).

## HOLE'S GREENHOUSES & GARDENS LTD.

Bill Hole, Owner of Hole's Greenhouses & Gardens Ltd. in St. Albert, Alberta saw the completion of over 5 years of planning and hard work when the first businesses of the Enjoy Centre opened this past Spring. The soft opening happened on April 11th with the opening of Hole's and the Prairie Bistro. The grand opening is set for October 1st now that the rest of the businesses are up and running. The centre is now home to nine businesses that focus on creating a complete customer experience. With greenhouses, a spa, restaurant, wine store, bakery, organic grocery and furniture store a consumer can find everything they need to create their ideal lifestyle. The centre is housed in a brand new, state-of-the-art building that is not only a beautiful mix of contemporary and traditional architecture but was built with an emphasis on sustainable architecture. To learn more about Hole's Greenhouses & Gardens Ltd., visit the website at [www.holesonline.com](http://www.holesonline.com).



Swinton Art Suppliers are filling a void for art connoisseurs.

## SECRETS FROM YOUR SISTER (SFYS)

Secrets From Your Sister (SFYS) is a bra fitting boutique in Toronto, Ontario that was honored as the winner of the 2011 Best of Intima Award for Personal Touch Shop. The ceremony took place on Sunday, July 31st at the 5th Avenue Penthouse Lounge in New York City. Launched in 2004 by *The Best of Intima* magazine, the Best Shop Awards is a yearly selection program of successful independent lingerie and beachwear boutiques throughout North America carried out with the collaboration of a professional Jury made up of 18 to 21 renowned American and international brands. SFYS carries numerous brands and has over 100 different sizes made to suit many different body types. This specialty boutique provides beautiful, quality bras for all women to enhance comfort and confidence. To learn more about Secrets From Your Sister, visit the website at <http://secretsfromyoursister.com>.



Secrets From Your Sister - winner of the 2011 Best of Intima Award for Personal Touch Shop.



## NOTABLES STATIONERS INC.

On June 21st, 2011 Notables Stationers Inc. in Edmonton, Alberta celebrated its 25th anniversary. The independent stationery store has thrived despite many challenges, proving there is still plenty of demand for ink and paper in our highly digital world. "For sure there have been challenges, but we've been fortunate to ride them out," says Suzanne Davis, Owner of Notables. "We have survived postal strikes at Christmas and have competed with the growth of big box stores. In spite of the development of online communications, people still value the tradition of pen and paper, and that's a wonderful thing." To thank the community for their support, Notables donated a portion of its sales on its anniversary, raising over \$3,200 for the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation. To learn more about Notables Stationery Inc., visit the website at [www.notables.ca](http://www.notables.ca).



Notables Stationers Inc. celebrate its 25th anniversary.