



Saint John Board of Trade

Making It Happen For Business



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Mission Statement

*To contribute to a productive economic environment for business in Saint John
To provide encouragement, assistance and guidance for established enterprises, or those aspiring to become established in
business*

NEWS RELEASE

Saint John Board of Trade announces recipient of 2009 "Chair's Award"

October 26, 2009

SAINT JOHN, NB – Kathryn Craig, Chairperson of the Saint John Board of Trade is pleased to announce her choice for the 2009 "Chair's Award" to be presented at the 25th annual Outstanding Business Achievement Awards dinner on Wednesday, November 25th at the Saint John Trade and Convention Centre.

The Chair's Award was established in 1993 to recognize a company, or individual, who has demonstrated a particular excellence or achievement in a certain aspect of their business, having made either an immediate impact on or a substantial long-term contribution to the economic progress of our community.

"It is my pleasure to announce that the recipient of the 2009 Saint John Board of Trade's Chair's Award is **Gerry Pond**" said Mrs. Craig. "Gerry is a stellar example of the best in leadership, both in business and in the community. His list of business achievements includes over 40 years in the telecom and IT world, formerly as CEO of Bruncor and NBTel, and as president of Aliant Telecom during a period of significant restructuring in the Canadian industry. He co-founded such innovative start-ups as Q1 Labs, iMagic TV, Radian 6 and Brovada, and was instrumental in the formation and growth of Mariner Partners Inc., a world leader in IPTV products and services where he is currently Chairman."

As a volunteer in the business community, Gerry has been active in the Saint John Board of Trade, served as chair of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the NB Business Council. He has dedicated numerous hours to providing leadership, expertise and guidance to New Brunswick's emerging entrepreneurs and young leaders.

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Among the many non-profit organizations that have benefited from Gerry's active participation and fundraising abilities are the United Way of Greater Saint John, IWK Foundations Campaign, Atlantic Cancer Research Institute, Greater Saint John Community Loan Fund and the Capital Campaign for Loch Lomond Villa. He currently co-chairs the Province's Poverty Reduction Initiative.

The 25th annual Outstanding Business Achievement Awards dinner, Saint John's Premiere annual business event, will be held at 6 p.m., Wednesday, November 25th at the Saint John Trade and Convention Centre. Tickets are available by contacting the Board of Trade office at 40 King Street, Saint John or by calling (506) 634-8111.

Past recipients of the Chair's Award include: Mr. Philip Oland in 1993; Saint John Pro Sports Inc. in 1994; Mr. Malcolm Somerville in 1995; the Imperial Theatre Inc. in 1996; Mr. Patrick Darrah in 1997; Cruise Saint John's "Meet & Greet" Committee and the Irving Companies in 1999; New Brunswick Community College-Saint John and the University of New Brunswick Saint John in 2000; Mr. Lino Celeste in 2001; The Greater Saint John Roundtable on Primary Healthcare in 2002; Mr. Stephen MacMackin in 2003; Dr. Mary Eileen Travis in 2004; The five regional mayors were honoured as group in 2005; The Atlantica Centre for Energy in 2006; the Business Community Anti-Poverty Initiative (BCAPI) in 2007; and Bob Manning in 2008.

The Saint John Board of Trade is a nationally accredited business organization dedicated to fostering an economic climate that enhances growth, prosperity, and an improved quality of life in the community. With more than 1,000 members, representing 600 small, medium, and large businesses and organizations and therefore, the interests of more than 30,000 citizens, the Board is a dynamic advocate and the principal voice for the business community of Greater Saint John. It offers a variety of programs, activities, services, and networking opportunities designed to enhance the business prospects of members and the overall business climate of the area.