

Business Excellence Awards Gala 2018

Nominations for the Annual Business and Community Excellence Awards can be made online at www.westprincechamber.com or by picking up a nomination form from the Rural Action Centre. Businesses have until December 15th to register as a Chamber Member and memberships due must be paid in full to qualify for awards. Nominations entries must be completed by Dec 15, 2017.

There will be 5 annual awards categories: Business Excellence Award; Emerging Business Growth Potential Award; Community Impact Award; Best Website/Social Media Marketing Award; Ambassador of the Year Award. For more details on the awards please visit our website @ www.westprincechamber.com



West Prince Chamber is looking for 5 Companies to Sponsor our Business Excellence Awards in February. Corporate Sponsorship is also available. Please call Tammy @ [902-859-3616](tel:902-859-3616) for more details!

Celebrating Small Business Week Oct 15-21, 2017



October Breakfast Business Mixer

Maxine Rennie, Dryden Perry, Larry Stewart and Kevin MacLeod were part of the presentations by CBDC West Prince Ventures at the West Prince Chamber Breakfast Mixer on October 19th held at Mill River Experience with close to 60 in attendance. Dryden Perry won the 2017 Young Millionaires Excellence Award; he attended all workshops with a positive attitude and displayed a strong interest in learning about business. He sold Fire Starters that consisted of dryer lint, egg carton, and wax. Everything was all tied up in a bundle, resulting in a perfect and easy way to start a campfire. Way to go Dryden!

Larry Stewart of Stewart Enterprises in West Point, PEI is presented with the CBDC Business Distinction Award 2017. At a young age, Larry began working around the shop of his family owned business. In 1974 Larry's father started the business which Larry now manages his own staff of 12 during their busy season. Stewart Enterprises primarily do earth work, such as shale, gravel, sand, as well as scrap metal work and hydro seeding for highway construction projects. A remarkable story of succession - 43 years to be exact. It is apparent that Larry possesses innovative and entrepreneurial skills, new ideas and diverse initiative. There is no denying that this business has evolved over time and continues to change and diversify as demands and economics conditions change! Keep up the great work Stewart Enterprises!



Guest Speaker Deputy John Jamieson

Food Industry Disruption and the Opportunities this creates for Western PEI was the topic of discussion during Small Business Week at the Chamber Breakfast Mixer October 19, 2017. Deputy John Jamieson a Professional Agriologist & Certified Nutrient Management Planner; Deputy Minister for Department of Rural & Regional Development and Agriculture & Fisheries. John brings many years of experience to both industries!

John explains how the Province has identified food as a key growth sector for PEI; branded as "Canada's Food Island", given the number of food items we produce. One of the most important ingredients in Modern Food Producing today is **TRUST!** John also explains how disruptive technologies in food like Foodini a 3D Food printer, Amazon food fresh and Blue Apron can affect the way we do business; learning how other companies are keeping up with demand and using current data can be a very valuable resource of information. Not only can we learn from these new technologies but we can introduce new markets with value added products and innovation. Now is the time businesses owners have to stay in touch with future trends and continually keep up with meeting consumers needs!

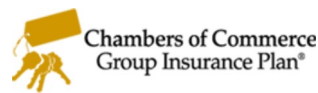
Opportunities in West Prince for growth in the aquaculture industry, oysters, shellfish species and land based finfish. Other opportunities included wagyu beef (Chinese market) , cheese, blueberries and apples.

Potatoes still remain dominant in West Prince 2011-2016 with a slight increase. and many opportunities exist with growth in malt barley and pulses. WA Grains & Pulse Solutions in Summerside specialize in growing pulses (faba beans/green & yellow peas). The demand is strong and crop has a low environmental footprint. They are one of the fastest growing companies in Canada and owned by a former Islander.

Lobster remains dominant with 50% of all PEI landings from Western PEI; \$100M landed value in 2016 and Snow crab, herring, rock crab also very important the economic growth.

John also spoke on the importance of the Regional Economic Advisory Councils and how their mission is to help guide, develop and help drive community and economic growth across Island communities to ensure prosperity for all.

Special thank you to John Jamieson for his expertise, wonderful presentation and keeping on eye out for West Prince!



Canada's #1 Plan

Employee benefits are an important tool used by employers to attract new employees and retain experienced employees.

The Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan® is Canada's largest group benefit program for small business, serving over 25,000 firms.

For more information please call Brent Gallant @ [902-888-7249](tel:902-888-7249)



We are 125 Members Strong!

Goal #2 Reached!

Help us reach our 150 Members by December 31

Why Become a Member...

Advocacy.....to nurture ideas and grow business. A key role of the chamber is to represent the views of the business community on federal, provincial and municipal issues.

Connecting & Networking.....Individuals want to do business with people and companies they know and trust.

Professional & Educational DevelopmentInformation and training opportunities

Creditably & Support.....We are your business support and voice when you are busy with your day to day operations!

Join Today.... West Prince needs your help for future generations to come! Let's talk, learn and grow together!

WPCC 1st Inaugural Golf Tournament raised \$2040. Thank You to all 9 Teams for your support!



Thank you to the following Business Members for the great Doors Prizes and Sponsoring our events! These businesses Support Local, so please support them back and ...Shop Local!


- Graphically Speaking, Debbie Brady: Sept Mixer
- MRSB, Harper Perry: Golf Tournament
- Tignish Credit Union, Ted Pahl: Golf Tournament
- Grant Thorton, Mike Adams: Golf Tournament
- St. Felix Golf Course, Paul Martin: Golf Tournament
- Cooperator's Insurance, Dan MacDonald: Golf Tournament
- O'Leary Building Centre, JD Sullivan: Golf Tournament
- Holland College, Michelle Oliver: Golf Tournament
- CIBC, Bethany Pridham: Golf Tournament
- D & M Tools, Denis Gallant: Golf Tournament & Sept Mixer
- PEI Mutual, Eddie Trail: Golf Tournament
- CBDC West Prince Ventures, Maxine Rennie: Breakfast Mixer
- Rural Action Centre; Maxine Rennie: Breakfast Mixer
- Penny Saver, Christine & Perry Batten: Breakfast Mixer
- Tyne Valley Tea & Co., Carol Rybinski: Breakfast Mixer



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Want to learn More about the Chamber

Call Tammy Rix @ [902-853-3616](tel:902-853-3616) or drop by the Rural Action Centre at 455 Main Street Alberton.

 <https://www.facebook.com/westprincechamberofcommerce/>

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 westprincecc@gmail.com