

Thursday, October 13, 2022 Best Western PLUS The Arden Park Hotel

Presenting Partner



Platinum Partner



Municipal Partners





Gold Partners





















Reception Partner





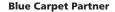


Prize Partner



It Partner







On behalf of the Board and staff for the Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce, welcome, and thank you for coming to our 26th Annual Business Excellence Awards.

This event is dedicated to exemplary businesses in our community. Each year, nominations are submitted and then businesses are asked to fill out a nominee package outlining what makes them successful and worthy of the recommendation. We had over 47 nominations submissions this year. To say that all of these businesses are commendable would be an understatement. Congratulations to all the nominees this year, this event is to celebrate all your accomplishments!



The Business Leader Award is our opportunity as a Board to recognize an individual in our community who embodies what leadership is. We are proud to name Joani Gerber as this year's Business Leader. Joani's leadership and passion for this community make this award a well-deserved recognition. Congratulations Joani!

Thank you to RBC for once again being our presenting partner and to all the supporters of this year's BEAs. These events are made possible because of the support we receive from our partners. Thank you.

Our thanks go out as well to Mayors Mathieson & Strathdee, along with their councils and staff for the ongoing support.

To our members- thank you for your continued support. The last few years have been difficult. Your ongoing trust in us to continue to serve this business community is an honour-thank you.

The Board is also incredibly proud of the work of our General Manager, Eddie Matthews and Office Manager, Shannon Stewart on their commitment to excellence this year. As we move toward a full recovery, the Chamber has rebounded with even more events and opportunities for our membership. Eddie & Shannon work tirelessly to ensure that this business community receives the support needed to continue to prosper and grow. I am grateful for the opportunity to be the Board Chair and to support them as they continue to strengthen our Chamber.

Dana Walton-Siemon Board Chair, 2022-2024

The Judging Process

The judges' committee consists of six people and is composed of individuals from various sectors who are involved with the Chamber. The process begins with online submissions of nominations. The Chamber staff then provides access to a questionnaire for each nominee to complete online. Once the submission deadline is reached, the Chamber grants online access for each judge to review and evaluate the completed nominee questionnaires. It is important to note that each judge reviews the applications independently, not as a panel, to maintain an unbiased perspective free from any outside influence. The judges assign a value between 1 (low) and 10 (high) per question. It takes several hours of concentrated effort to review all of the applications and to complete the evaluation forms. If a judge has a conflict of interest, then the individual judge with the conflict abstains from reviewing that particular category.

Once the judging has concluded, evaluation data is compiled in confidence by the Chamber staff. Winners remain confidential and are not shared until they are officially announced on the evening of the Business Excellence Awards. The process has been structured in a way to remove any bias or influence which may affect the outcome or integrity of the judging process.

Business of the Year Award: Once the winners have been confirmed by Chamber staff, a separate panel of three judges reviews the winning questionnaire submissions to determine which business shines brightest among the rest.

Business Leader Award: Voted on in secret ballot by each member of the Chamber Board of Directors from a list of nominees. The person with the top number of votes is the winner. There are MANY people worthy of this award and it is not intended to imply that one person has been more impactful than another. The intention is to highlight a personal story to inspire our community.

Judging Committee

Krista Robinson Abbey Nuhn-Pearson Lauren Francis Johan Bossers Bill Boon Michael Vancea

Business of the Year Judges

Krista Robinson Joani Gerber Dana Walton-Siemon

Agenda

5 pm Reception

Music by Rob McLaughlin

6 pm O Canada

Rob McLaughlin

Dinner

6:30 pm Welcoming Comments

Dana Walton-Siemon Board Chair

- Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce

Greetings from our Masters of Ceremony

Courtney Teahen – Teahen Kitchen & Cabinetry

Franklin Famme - Famme & Company Professional Corporation

Greetings from Presenting Partner RBC

Michelle Eccles

Vice President Commercial Financial Services

- Huron Perth Oxford Grey Bruce Commercial Markets

Greetings from the M.P.P. Perth Huron

Matthew Rae

Greetings from the City of Stratford

Mayor Dan Mathieson

Greetings from the Town of St. Marys

Mayor Al Strathdee

Presentation of 2022 Business Excellence Awards

Prize Draw - Swanson's Jewellers

9:30 pm Closing

Business Leader Award Winner Joani Gerber



The Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce congratulates CEO of investStratford Joani Gerber as the 2022 recipient of the Business Leader award.

Joani has brought a wealth of experience to investStratford since taking the helm in 2017. Her leadership experience includes positions at both the Waterloo and Stratford Accelerator Centres, the Perth Community Futures Development Corporation, and the Stratford Perth Centre for Business. She is a Board Member of the Huron-Perth Healthcare Alliance and worked closely with the United Way Perth-Huron Campaign Cabinet and the Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Born and raised in Stratford, her sense of business and community started at an early age at JS News, the business owned and operated by her family on Wellington Street in downtown Stratford. Entrepreneurship and small business are important to the success of any community and Joani takes great pride in supporting the growth of all businesses in Stratford and area.

Stratford Mayor Dan Mathieson said of Ms. Gerber. "Joani's steadfast, strong, and dependable leadership at investStratford has improved and enhanced our community in countless ways. She works tirelessly and capably not only to maintain and support local businesses, but also to attract new investment, and build on the strong economic foundation we have here in Stratford.

investStratford supports the City of Stratford's Economic Development goals and is committed to advancing the economic future of Stratford through investment in arts, education and industry.

Congratulations Joani, and thank you for your service to this community!

The 2022 Nominees are:

Innovation

Destination Stratford

Professional

McCutchen & Pearce Professional Corporation

Nesbitt Financial Strategies Stratford Plastic Surgery

Entrepreneur Award

Expressions Hair Design Inc.

Illume Wellness Spa

Lavender and Lemon Cleaning Co.

Malt - Staging & Design (Malt

Management)

Steelecrest Property Care Town Crier Marketing

Retail

Hyggeligt.ca

Jacobs Liquidation & Auction LTD

The Barkery!

- A Healthy Bakery for Dogs

Commercial

Brown Heating & Cooling

Ken Robinson Refrigeration Inc.

Non-Profit/Charitable Award

A Child's Smile

Family Services Perth-Huron

Out of the Ashes Large Animal Rescue

The Local Community Food Centre

The Prosperity Project

United Way Perth-Huron

Manufacturing

Cooper Standard

DJ Jackson Engineered Truss Components
Little Lakes Machine and Tool Ltd.

Hospitality

Black Angus Bakery and Catering

Braai House Erie Drive In

Gourmet Chef At Your Table Inc

Madelyns Diner

Mitchell Golf and Country Club

McDonalds (SSJEM HOLDINGS LIMITED)

Stratford Country Club Sukie Lee's Restaurant

The Bruce Hotel

The Livery Yard Stratford

Service

Accountable Automotive Incorporated

Ashton Tire Service Ltd Blue Heron Delivery Camp-Out RV

Invisible-Care

Moore Creative Consulting

PAWS Pet Sitting Stonetown Travel Ltd. The Green Hair Spa The UPS Store #175 Unleashed on 42 Inc.

Menu

Assorted Fresh Breads with oil for dipping

Oven Baked Brie Cheese with Cranberry Compote & Fresh Herb Crostini

Caprese Salad on a bed of greens

Beef Tenderloins with a pepper au jus

Roasted Baby Red Potatoes
Asparagus with Carrots

Chocolate Mousse Cake with Chantilly Cream

Coffee/Tea

Special Dietary Options

Vegetarian, Gluten & Vegan Friendly: Vegetable Stir Fry



2022 Nominees - Innovation Category



Destination Stratford's mission is "to be Stratford's leading destination marketing organization, working collaboratively with partners and stakeholders to enhance Stratford's tourism experiences and to increase the quantity and quality of overnight visitors to Stratford and area for the financial benefit of the local tourism sector and the community at large."

2022 Nominees - Professional Category



Our business is a small accounting firm that provides real world solutions to person and corporate tax planning, corporate reorganizations and estate and succession planning through honest advice and trusting relationships.



Nesbitt Financial Strategies is a financial planning practice founded in 1994. We have two generations with Ken, Krysta and Jonathan, and over 60 years in combined experience. We specialize in financial planning, succession planning, investing, retirement and estates. Our Family Helping Yours.



Stratford Plastic Surgery (formerly Hasegawa Clinic) has been delivering the highest standard of Plastic and Cosmetic Surgery since 1994. We offer a mix of OHIP funded Plastic Surgery focussing on skin cancer and hand pathology, complimented by a full-service laser, cosmetic, aesthetic, and injectable practice.



2022 Nominees - Entrepreneur Category



Expressions Hair Design is about styling hair that's realistic and beautiful. Be it natural, sleek, or tousled your hair should be simple to wear, stunning to look at and easy to manage. Our goal at Expressions is to create successful styles that work for you.



Illume Wellness Spa is a Certified Green Spa, creating a grounding and holistic experience. We offer organic therapeutic services in our multi-level space and have our Salt Sanctuary; Stratford's first salt room. In addition we have opened our Clean Beauty Market retail space. Check us out in-store and online!



Lavender and Lemon Cleaning Co. provides an all natural cleaning service for our clients homes and offices. We are here to help take the burden off of our clients plate so they are able to spend more time doing the things that provide them joy.



We help Stratford and area homeowners maximize the potential of their property by eliminating distractions and creating an environment that appeals to the highest number of potential buyers. If you're looking to maximize the value and selling power of your home, look no further than malt!



Steelecrest Property Care delivers complete property maintenance solutions for commercial properties of any size. It is through hard work and dedication that we have risen to become one of the largest and most sought-after commercial landscape providers in the area, proud to have roots in the wonderful community of Stratford.



When it comes to enabling new prospects to find your business, engaging the community to #shoplocal with you, and amplifying your message towards controlling profitability, digital marketing is the solution and Town Crier Marketing will help you build your own customized, measurable strategy.

2022 Nominees - Retail Category



hyggeligt.ca is a fabric shop for the quilting arts with the largest collection of the Kaffe Fassett Collective in Canada.



At our Liquidation Store we are super happy to be providing our customers with great deals on housewares, furniture, electronics, clothing, footwear, toys, bedding, decorations, seasonal items and more. We receive new inventory every week, which will make you want to come back each week to find your next deal.



The Barkery, a Healthy Bakery for Dogs, going strong for 21 yrs. A friendly place, where we strive to provide fun, hand made, healthy treats for your family's most loved pet. They are the best and deserve the best. Nothing artificial, no fillers, just wholesome human grade goodness.

2022 Nominees - Commercial Category



Brown Heating & Cooling, owned by Tom Clifford, Keith Thomson and John Clifford, specializes in Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration and has served Stratford and area since 1974. Our team has diligently worked over the past 48 years to build a reputation for product knowledge, experience, and excellent service.



KRR is a full service HVAC company providing installs, repairs and maintenance support to residential, industrial and commercial customers in Stratford and the surrounding area. We strive to offer a partnership based on commitment to industry standards, high quality of service and dedicated customer service.

2022 Nominees - Non-Profit/Charitable Category



A Child's Smile is a non-profit organization that raises funds at Christmas to buy toys for the less fortunate children in Stratford and surrounding areas. We believe that our name says it all, A CHILD'S SMILE. Our motto is 1 TOY = 1 SMILE.



Family Services Perth-Huron is a non-profit, family service agency dedicated to supporting, strengthening, and enriching lives by providing individualized counselling, support, advocacy and educational services that meet the needs of the community. Committed to inclusion, diversity and equity, we strengthen our community one person, one family at a time!



Out of the Ashes, strives to provide a 'forever home' to large (and occasionally small) animals. Animals, who for one reason or another, are unwanted, unadoptable, mistreated, abused and/or neglected. Every animal we care for has proper medical care, shelter, feed, water and have their nutritional/emotional needs met daily.



The Local empowers individuals with barriers accessing good healthy food by offering opportunities to cook, grow, share, and advocate for good food for everyone. We approach the problems of poverty and food insecurity as justice issues, not acts of charity, knowing that access to good food is a basic right.



Launched in May 2020, The Prosperity Project is a volunteer-driven, registered charity conceived by a diverse group of 62 women leaders from across the country. The Prosperity Project is taking action to explicitly link women and prosperity, underscoring the economic importance of gender equality.



UWPH is a 100% local organization working community by community to address #UNIGNORABLE issues such as poverty, mental health and homelessness across our region. Thanks to United Way and its' supporters, over 37,000 of the most vulnerable in Perth-Huron have a chance for a brighter future.

2022 Nominees - Manufacturing Category



Cooper Standard is a leading global supplier of sealing, fluid handling systems and components. Cooper Standard's approximately 23,000 employees are at the heart of our success, continuously improving our surrounding communities. The Stratford Mixing plant includes 94 team members and provides uncured rubber to customers in Canada and the USA.



DJ Jackson Engineered Truss Components is a family owned and operated company located in Southern Ontario. We specialize in providing quality structural components, including both roof and floor systems and superior customer service. While serving customers primarily in Ontario and the Northern US, we have the capacity to design, produce and ship virtually anywhere in North America.



Little Lakes Machine and Tool Company was founded in 1960 on the outskirts of Stratford, Ontario. The company quickly earned a reputation for its capabilities, quality, and dependability. This reputation has fueled its expansion to new customers across Canada and the United States. Today, they operate in a modern facility employing more than twenty experienced machining specialists, and, most importantly, they still provide powder metal tooling and specialty parts of meticulous precision to the exacting specifications of their customers.



2022 Nominees - Hospitality Category



We are a bakery and catering company where our customers enjoy the home made goodness of our wonderful and diverse selection of delectable treats and hearty home cooked meals. We use our family recipes to cook and bake those memorable foods that inspire nostalgic feelings of home.



Braai House is a South African inspired restaurant, focusing on open-fire cooking. We believe that the primal aspect of fire brings people together and connects them with their food, family, friends, community and the outdoors.



Erie Drive In has been serving Stratford with great summer foods and treats for over 50 years.



Owner and head chef Bob Friesen is a Red Seal Chef, offering personalized, all-inclusive catering services alongside his professional culinary team. He creates innovative menus for weddings and events of all types. This company has earned a reputation for their delicious food, exceptional service, and memories that last a lifetime.



Madelyn's Diner is a household name in Stratford and surrounding area. 2nd generation family owned and operated business, famous for our breakfast, Fish n Chips and Buttertarts! Our mission statement is "It's not about making money but about feeding the world."



From our fair but challenging golf course, to our lounge and banquet hall that offer a variety of food & beverages and event & entertainment possibilities, the Mitchell Golf Club has just about something for everyone.

2022 Nominees - Hospitality Category



McDonalds Stratford and St. Marys is a quick service restaurant that is focused on delighting our guests with delicious burgers and fries in a fun and engaging environment that is actively engaged and involved in supporting the Stratford and St. Marys community.



The Stratford Country Club has an 18-hole golf course, golf simulators, a stunning event venue, 4 curling sheets, a restaurant and a large scenic patio. We are proud of the diversity our hospitality business offerings bring. We look forward to serving you soon!



Sukie Lee's Restaurant is a Chinese Cantonese style restaurant serving St. Marys for over 30 years, providing fresh quality dishes and maintaining consistency from our original roots since the 1980s.



The Bruce Hotel and Restaurant is passionately committed to our quality standards of creating a memorable customer experience for every guest. The power of our brand is communicated in our entire team's united goal to fulfill this model.



The Livery Yard Cafe, in the heart of Stratford, Ontario, is a warm, welcoming space for all to enjoy fantastic coffees, teas, and baked treats. In what once housed a historic livery yard stable, this bright cafe also offers weekend live music and fun window art displays.

2022 Nominees - Service Category



We provide the ultimate level of automotive service, consistently offering accountability, transparency and open communication. We pursue the latest automotive information and repair technology to effectively work on all vehicles, no matter what the year, make or model. Delighted to serve you at 342 Home Street, Stratford!



Ashton Tire Service Ltd. is an independent service center in St. Marys, Ontario. We are a family business with a dedicated staff ready to help with all your automotive needs. Come experience hometown service and hospitality the next time you need tires or an automotive service performed.



Blue Heron delivery was established in November of 2020. It is a partnership between Phil Heisz and Frank Heisz. We provide delivery in three main areas: restaurant, grocery and general delivery. We focus on two aspects on demand and last mile delivery.



Camp-Out is a full sales, service, parts and rental RV Dealership. We are celebrating our 60th year in business in 2022. Since 1962 we have been family owned and operated with the main goal of helping customers fulfill their vacation dreams.



Invisible-Care is a revolutionary way to support attendant care. Created with the input of occupational therapists to meet attendant care needs while conserving funds for more rehabilitation. Invisible-Care provides real-time and personalized remote personal support and rehabilitation support that individuals require to live their lives inside and outside their homes.



Moore Creative Consulting is a full-service marketing agency offering marketing consulting, graphic design, copywriting, social media management, website design and so much more to our local community and areas across North America.

2022 Nominees - Service Category



Stratford's original and most trusted name in pet care. PAWS Pet Sitting specializes in personalized, one-on-one expert care for your pet. We offer a variety of pet related services that meet the specific needs of your pet including cat care, dog walking, medication administration, puppy socialization, and exotic pet care.



Stonetown Travel is dedicated to providing outstanding travel experiences through thoughtful consultation with our guests; attention to detail; and communication before, during and after travel. Our offices in St Marys and New Hamburg are open to serve the residents of Southwestern Ontario.



The Green Hair Spa is an award winning environmentally conscious hair salon and green beauty shop located in downtown Stratford, Ontario. Our talented hair artists offer a healthy alternative to the conventional salon experience. We specialize in plant based, ammonia free hair colour and organic beauty products.



The UPS Store offers a wide variety of services; from domestic and international delivery to packaging, printing, and graphic design. Contact us for service availability, pricing, and scheduling. The UPS Store offers convenience and expertise in shipping and business services.



Unleashed on 42 is the place for your dogs luxury vacation. We strive to offer exceptional service, and to be a pillar for positive change in the community. We would like to thank all our loyal customers and our amazing staff for helping us achieve this nomination!

1997

FAG Bearings Ltd., Woodcock Brothers Stockie Chev/Olds/Cadillac Fellini's

1998

Video Plus Books+CD's McDonald's Restaurants Softek International Inc. New-Form Manufacturing Bob Blowes

1999

Stratford Festival Bentley's Inn & Bar Family & Company The Vic Inn on the Park Howard Famme

2000

Hudson's of Stratford CJCS Raedio Ltd. Hunter Steel & Supply Colormat Image Center Keith Culliton

Special Millennium AwardKalbfleisch Brothers
Orr Insurance Brokers

2001

D & D Automation Inc. New Orleans Pizza Omega Paw Steed Standard Transport Fundamentals Books &Toys Eleanor Kane

2002

Candle Passions Honeywell Pike Service Centres Solis Mexican Foods Steve Rae

2003

A.O. Smith Enterprises McCully's Hill Farm Ltd. Town and Country Novatronics Inc. David Martin

2004

Past Winners

N.A. Engineering Associates C.R.P. Products Swan Pack Stockie Chev/Olds/Cadillac Carolyn Drummond

2005

Bradshaws Dyna-Mig of Stratford Crabby Joe's Tap & Grill Credit Risk Management VON Perth-Huron Tine Buechler

2006

Anything Grows Hendrickson Spring Balzac's Coffee Ltd. Echo Tech Machine&Tool Meals on Wheels Services Anita Gaffney

2007

Rheo Thompson Candies Cooper Standard Festival Inn Wightman Telecom Tabworks Big Brothers&Sisters Elaine Genyn

2008

Marley & Me Robica-Forman Tank Tim Hortons Stratford Country Club Credit Risk Management Goodwill Industries Deep Roots Salon & Spa Peter Maranger

2009

Ten Thousand Villages
Stratford Chiropractic &
Wellness Centre
Baldor Dodge Reliance
Clay Café
The Alzheimer's Society
Hyde Construction Ltd.
York Street Kitchen
Nick Aroutzidis

2010

The Touchmark Shop Aisin Canada Inc. Stratford Chefs School Black Angus Restaurant Buchanan and Hall Energrow Inc. United Way of Perth Huron Bill Preston

2011

Spartech Colour Hoegy's Farm Supply Stratford Business Centre Best Western|The Parlour Stratford & Perth

Community Foundation Bradshaws & Kitchen Detail Grotto Hair Studios John Kastner

2012

Creativeink Design Group Stratford Public Library Revel Caffè Florida Production Engineering The Compudoc Ontario Home Health CWD by Laura Barker David Blackburn

2013

SNAP Perth Media Group Your Local Market Co-Op Nuhn Industries Habitat for Humanity ReStore Stratford Chiropractic & Wellness Centre Stratford General Hospital Foundation and Stratford-Perth Family YMCA On Stage Dance Studio

2014

Lisa Hyde

Belliveau Construction Limited Alzheimer Society of Perth County

Past Winners

Revel Caffe TG Minto

Danna Nicole

Royal Palisade Retirement Community Robert Rose-Canadian Grub Restaurant

Eddie Matthews

2015

TEAHEN Construction Ltd., Plumbing and Design Group

The Local Community Food Centre

Soup Surreal

The Prune Restaurant

CR Plastics

Coventry Animal Hospital

Swanson's Jewelers

The Green Hair Spa

Mary Dingman

2016

St. Marys Golf & Country Club

The Alzheimer Society of Perth County

Benefittings - Mastectomy & Medical

Garments

Gateman Milloy D&D Automation

Hayashi Canada Inc.

Moksha Yoga Stratford

Home and Company Real Estate

MacLeods Scottish Shop

Vic Hayter

D&D Automation

2017

St Marys Home Building Centre

Stratford Festival

Red Rabbit

Luckhardt Landworks

Accumetal Manufacturing

Flex Physiotherapy

GOTECH Networking Solutions

Stratford Perth Museum

Nuhn Forage

Stratford Festival

Jeff Orr

2018

Bickell Built Homes

Urban Jars

Keystone Alley

Wightman

Junction 56 Distillery

Famme and Co. Professional Corporation

Rheo Thompson Candies

Accountable Automotive

YMCA

Rob Taylor

2019

Teahen Construction Ltd.

Snapping Turtle Coffee Roasters

Sirkel Foods

Stratford Public Library

C.R. Plastic Products Inc.

L'Arche Stratford

St. Marys Independent Newspaper

La Osa Jewelry & Vintage

A Touch of Dutch Landscaping & Garden

Services Ltd.

Tim MacDonald

2020

ONE CARE Home & Community Support

Services

Harris-Greig Automotive

Sommers Motor Generator Sales Ltd.

Stratford Chiropractic & Wellness Centre

Mercer Kitchen + Beer Hall + Hotel

Better Wavs For Seniors Ltd.

Jillian's

Home & Company Real Estate Corp.

Brokerage

BAG Supplies Canada Ltd.

Franklin Famme

2021

Rob Staffen

Technical Training Group

GOTECH Networking Solutions

Aisin Canada Inc

Vancea Financial Group Inc.

The Sunset Diner

The Pulp

Swanson's Jewellers

Canadensys Aerospace Corporation

Nicholson Concrete

Aisin Canada Inc

Thank you to our Corporate Partners





























Presenting Partner



Don't just hope for the best: plan for it

Simplify your financial life with wealth planning designed for business owners.

We know it can be challenging to manage your personal and professional financial needs while running a successful business.

At Bryan Wealth Management Group of RBC Dominion Securities, our experts are well-versed in the unique wealth needs of business owners. Whether you're focused on growing your business, planning for the unexpected or transitioning to retirement, we have the in-depth expertise to help you at every stage.

We can assist with:

- Managing your business and personal assets
- Investment management to build and protect your wealth
- Tax efficiencies for you and your business
- Strategies to help attract and retain top talent
- Planning for your business succession
- Retirement planning
- Wills and estate strategies

Bring work-life balance to your wealth. Contact us today to arrange a complimentary consultation.

Robert Bryan, B.Comm, FMA, CIM, FCSI

Branch Director, Senior Portfolio Manager & Investment Advisor RBC Dominion Securities robert.bryan@rbc.com 519-271-4611 ca.rbcwealthmanagement.com/ stratfordbranch

Danielle Walker

Senior Commercial Account Manager RBC Royal Bank danielle.walker@rbc.com 519-271-6178 www.rbcroyalbank.com/business

187 Ontario Street Stratford ON, N5A 3H3



RBC Dominion Securities Inc., and Royal Bank of Canada are separate corporate entities which are affiliated. Member-Canadian Investor Protection Fund. RBC Dominion Securities Inc. is a member company of RBC Wealth Management, a business segment of Royal Bank of Canada. 9) ** Trademork(s) of Royal Bank of Canada. Used under licence. 2022 RBC Dominion Securities Inc. All rights reserved. 2,998a.yea.





As Platinum Partners, investStratford together with the City of Stratford and the Stratford Perth Centre for Business, proudly support the Stratford and District Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards Gala. This important annual event celebrates top businesses, community leaders, government

agencies and innovative industries and every nominee is an exceptional example of our prosperous and resilient economy.

investStratford is the official brand of the City of Stratford's Economic Enterprise Development Corporation (SEED Co.) and offers complimentary business advisory and support services for start-up, growth, relocation and new business investment. Together with the provincially-funded Stratford Perth Centre for Business which offers small business start-up and advisory services for Stratford, St Marys and Perth County, investStratford proudly supports a full spectrum of successful businesses focused on growth and investment.

Tonight, we celebrate the remarkable achievements and contributions of business leaders and decision makers both within the City of Stratford and throughout Perth County.

investStratford.com 82 Erie Street, 3rd floor, Stratford, Ontario, Canada, N5A 2M4

Municipal Partner



The City of Stratford was founded on an almost legendary spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation.

From our City's early beginnings as a railway hub to our international reputation today as a Smart City and innovation leader, Stratford has continually attracted businesses and individuals motivated to "raise the bar". Our

unique municipal-wide broadband network, strengths in IT and innovation, provide unparalleled advantages and attract top businesses, community leaders, government agencies and innovative minds and industries.

Both a City and a Community, we are geographically, economically and technologically in the heart of it all, and our "dramatically different" business ecosystem is prosperous, varied and resilient, ranging from cornerstone family businesses, world-class culture and tourist-based businesses, to global manufacturers, entrepreneurs, start-ups, community leaders and support organizations.

Stratford offers the best in culture, lifestyle and innovation, and our City's economy has benefited from businesses and individuals whose innovative mindset 'raises the bar'.

It is that drive to achieve the best that we celebrate here tonight.

The City of Stratford proudly supports the Stratford and District Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards and offers congratulations and best wishes to all tonight's winners and nominees.





Close to Stratford and London yet removed from the hustle and bustle, the Town of St. Marys supports a growing mix of industry and entrepreneurism. Our over 7,000 residents and many visitors enjoy picturesque bridges and waterways, vibrant green spaces and excellent trails, a historic downtown that pairs stunning limestone architecture with a modern

mix of shops and services, and year-round activities that promote community, health, and culture.

Our commitment to economic development is reflected in the range of employment opportunities, services and amenities that are based on the talents, interests, and desires of our residents.

The Town of St. Marys is a proud supporter of the Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce and the Business Excellence Awards. Supporting local has never been more important. Our community is strong and we are grateful to our business community for their resilience. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners!

Reception Partner



Home & Co is a locally owned independent boutique style real estate brokerage.

Being independent allows us complete flexibility. We believe real estate is a local business, and we are local experts.

Boutique refers to the quality and consistency of the services we offer as well as the unparalleled customer service that we deliver.

Real estate is tricky, and we help our clients navigate through the minefield of what is most likely their most important financial, legal and emotional transaction; the sale of their home. We strive for a seamless, hassle free real estate transaction.

We get the value, the significance and the emotion behind the word "HOME". Home isn't just a space, it's a feeling. It's safety. It's comfort. It's security. It's love. It's pride.

We want you to know HOME.

Award Partner



At Mark's we are committed to keeping you warmer, drier, safer, and more comfortable. It has been our family's privilege to serve the hardworking people in the Stratford, St. Marys, and surrounding communities since 1990 by providing quality clothing for every season.

Over the past 30 + years we have developed great relationships with our team and with fellow businesses, organizations, and our loyal customers.

We are very excited once again to be the Award Sponsor for the 26th Annual Business Excellence Awards - 2022.

Congratulations to all members for another year in business and especially to this year's nominees and award recipients.

Prize Partner



Swanson's Jewellers prides itself on offering high quality fine jewellery showcasing both Canadian and International Designers. Providing exceptional jewellery service with every item, from educating our client to servicing our products in the years to come.

Swanson's Jewellers has on-site goldsmiths who take the utmost pride in repairing and restoring your precious jewellery to its original condition, or assisting you in designing a piece that is truly distinct. Visit us in beautiful downtown Stratford, Ontario.

IT Partner



Blitzen is a platform that makes it easy to collect and manage form submissions and data. With a very powerful and easy to use form builder, you can create custom forms to collect applications, email list signups, progress reports, or any templates form information you'd like.

From there, we help you organize, store, and manage this data as easily as possible. Whether you'd like to give access to a review committee to rate, rank and comment on applications or you'd simply like to have this info routed to tools like Mailchimp or a CRM, there are lots of options.

Feel free to get in touch with us at info@blitzen.com if you have specific forms or group reviewing needs or visit our website at blitzen.com for more information.

Blue Carpet Partner



BE BOLD. BE DIFFERENT. BE REMEMBERED.

Melissa Schenk, owner and founder of MS2 Productions is passionate about the power of video and digital marketing solutions. As a high impact digital video marketing agency that focuses on storytelling across all social platforms, MS2 Productions offers strategies that will accelerate your results! Stand out from your competition, boost your profits, and measure the return on your investment. Through a marketing social plan, MS2 crafts powerful messages and creative campaigns that speak to your customers, educate prospects, increase conversions and builds brand equity. Let's Create Something Extraordinary Together!

MS2 offers complete media and marketing solutions for small, medium, and large sized businesses as well as other diverse organizations. MS2 is a full service video/television media marketing and production firm that will work with you to develop and deliver all of your creative storytelling, advertising needs and other marketing requirements. With a customized marketing plan and innovative solutions to suit you, we'll help you cost effectively brand, network and market your business with the next generation of media, video marketing and corporate storytelling.

"Because the impact you have on others is the greatest currency there is!"

Gold Partner



Assurance | Accounting | Tax | Advisory

The Stratford BDO team is committed to providing our clients with practical advice and insight, tailored to the clients' industry and goals. Our partner-led practice provides the accounting, tax, and business advisory services that our clients need to succeed.

At BDO, we believe that delivering exceptional client service is the foundation to being your trusted advisor. Our professionals are rooted in our local communities. They know you, your industries and your markets. They service all types of businesses, and provide our clients with a clear advantage in industry knowledge, not only by local experts in Stratford, but with the knowledge of industry experts across Ontario, and beyond.

BDO Stratford offers a wide-range of both traditional accounting and tax services, as well as specialty services, such as US Tax, Business Transition, Financial Advisory and much more. Learn more at www.bdo.ca/stratford.

People who know, know BDO.™

Gold Partner



The Arden Park Hotel

At Best Western Plus The Arden Park Hotel we are committed to providing excellence in our customer service, product and overall guest experience.

Whether you are hosting a small intimate occasion, a conference or a special event, our dedicated and experienced sales team are committed to ensuring your event is memorable. Newly renovated conference facilities, guest rooms & suites makes Best Western Plus the Arden Park Hotel your destination of choice

www.ardenpark.ca





At BMO, we have a proud legacy of making tomorrow better. With a focus on collaboration, learning, and innovation, we work with our community partners to achieve sustainable solutions and shape the future together, while also strengthening our existing client relationships and aspiring to acquire new ones.

The BMO Bank at Work Program and Business Xpress Platform are both examples of doing just that. Designed for Small Businesses across various industries, these market-leading platforms deliver a premium client experience with quick access to financing, a complementary suite of preferred banking products, and financial literacy programs - all tailored to help each client and their employees achieve their personal and business financial goals.

We believe the success of a business depends on fulfilling their commitments to the community, planet, employees, and clients. Where we connect is the source of sustainable growth, which is why we are thrilled and honored to support the Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce 2022 Business Excellence Awards.

We would like to thank all of the associated members for their personal commitment to making our communities a better place to live and for providing BMO this partnership opportunity to Boldly Grow the Good in Business and Life.

Gold Partner



Since 1947, Famme & Co Professional Corporation has celebrated many years of continuous accounting, auditing and tax services in South-western Ontario. We service every type of business, including restaurants, retail stores, hotels, manufacturers, farmers, farm mutual insurance companies, farm equipment dealerships, non-profit organizations, and the many types of businesses in the construction industry and related services, to name a few. Our clients are provided with a wide range of services in a timely fashion, from assistance with completing various forms and license applications, to full audits of multi-branch corporations. The growth of our firm over these years has only been possible by the dedication and commitment of our loyal staff. Simply put, our people make the difference.





HIP Developments is proud to be a member of the Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce and supporter of the Business Excellence Awards. Congratulations to all the awards nominees and thank you for all that you do to contribute to this wonderful community.

HIP was founded in 2010 and has always approached real estate development with a broad vision. We believe that it is our job to build more than real estate. It is our job to help build cities, to build communities.

City building is a collaborative effort by all sectors of society, and HIP accepts its role in this passionately. Yes, we build condominiums and apartments, but we also build public squares and commission art installations that encourage people to engage in play with strangers and tell our community's stories. We develop ways for kids to learn about our amazing lineage of creative problem-solving. We call these things our joy experiments because they have the potential to bring us together in celebration.

So, when we say we are "Building More Than Real Estate", we mean we are active builders of the bridges that will turn cities into communities worthy of everyone's faith.

Gold Partner



For over 90 years, IG Wealth Management has been one of the largest independent financial planning non-bank affiliated wealth management firms in Canada with advisors in every community coast to coast. We are part of the IGM Financial and Power Corp family of companies, one of the largest financial services firms in Canada. Every day, we are driven by our mission to inspire financial confidence that can transform the lives of our clients and their families, and we are deeply committed to improving financial literacy in the communities where we work and live.

At IG Wealth Management, we believe there's never been a more important time for truly comprehensive financial advice. As personal and financial lives become increasingly complex, IG Advisors set themselves apart from other financial advisors by taking the time to understand our clients' unique needs and aspirations. This deep discovery builds lifelong relationships that lead to greater financial well-being.

Your IG Advisor plays a proactive role at all stages of your financial journey, looking at factors that impact your wealth, and working with our team of industry-leading experts to meet your unique wealth management needs. At IG, we are committed to putting the best interests and financial needs of you and your family at the heart of everything we do, every day. Your financial well-being and peace of mind is our ultimate goal.

Gold Partner



Congratulations to this evening's Business Excellence Nominees. By your proven success you have helped to make our community a better place. The Co-operators was founded in Canada in 1945 with the belief that the world is a better place when we take care of the things that matter.

As a trusted leader in the Financial Services industry, we pride ourselves in providing the very best in wealth management and insurance products to both protect your financial interests now and build your financial success for the future. See us at Peter Maranger & Associates Inc. for financial advice you can trust.

Gold Partner



TD is a top 10 North American bank and serves more than 27 million customers in business segments including Retail, Business Banking and Wealth Management primarily in Canada and the United States.

TD has a long-standing commitment to enriching the lives of its customers, colleagues and communities. In 2018, TD launched The Ready Commitment, a new multi-year program to help individuals and communities prosper. As part of The Ready

Commitment, TD targets CDN \$1 billion in total by 2030 towards community giving in four areas critical to opening doors for an inclusive tomorrow – Financial Security, a more Vibrant Planet, Connected Communities and Better Health.

TD Commercial Banking is pleased to be a Gold Sponsor of the Stratford Chamber Business Excellence Awards and we wish to congratulate all nominees. Our team provides dedicated, knowledgeable service, customized solutions and local expertise to support business growth.

TD is excited to be a part of Stratford & District and we look forward to continuing helping people feel more confident – not just about their finances, but about their future and their ability to achieve their goals in a changing world.





Tanurb, the former owner and original developer of Festival Marketplace shopping Centre, has made some significant changes and sold the property in August this year. "The Mall" as we were always known, has been an integral part of the Stratford shopping scene for over 32 years. Tanurb always wanted the mall to be loyal to local and support the community and I was lucky enough to pursue this mission for 15 years with them.

Tanurb

We have shaped the community over the years by supporting this Chamber, your kids sports teams, local charities and non profits. We recently worked with Gallery Stratford, by giving them the space to run a community art program, despite the COVID pandemic, it still

remains. The Empty Bowls program had a pop-up shop for the holiday season in 2021, supporting the House of Blessing and it was a great success. We also provided a "school bus" to collect backpacks for needy kids in our community each year, with great success.

We supported Optimism Place for the Women of the Year awards for many years, to help empower local entrepreneurs and leaders, and watched the men of our community teeter on red high heels for the annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes Event for many years. We helped these groups achieve their fundraising goals and create awareness, that in turn strengthened our community. It has been an honour and privilege to serve this community in the many capacities that the mall has allowed and hopefully the goals for the new owners' envelope the same approach. So always remember, you can't buy happiness, but you can buy local and that's kind of the same thing.

Gold Partner



UpAuto is a community-based automotive business that specializes in dealerships located in non-metro markets. Smaller operations like these allow 'Up' to offer customers a more personalized, one-on-one style of operation-The Hallmark of the UpAuto brand.

We are building the business the old-fashioned way, on a handshake and a first-name basis, and while we boast the latest in technology and innovation, the over-riding vision for our growing network of stores remains steadfast and clear- Keep things uncomplicated, positive and dare we say 'up' for both sides of the car buying and maintenance / repair process. The car business is a people business, first and foremost. Happy team members make for happier customers and vice versa. The result is an ownership experience and service standard that is positively world-class because we continue to aim higher. "The only thing down at UpAuto, is our prices."

Launched in July 2016 by Michael Carmichael, UpAuto currently owns and operates three dealerships in the Stratford area: Stratford Nissan, Stratford Subaru and St. Marys Buick GMC. UpAuto opened Cargo Auto, Used Car Specialists on Lorne Avenue in Stratford, in March of 2020.

Silver Partners



Offering the Stratford community reliable and safe solutions to recycle all metals while generating maximum returns for their scrap! When you choose AIM Recycling as your business partner, you opt for a family-owned and family-operated business maintaining the highest standards metal recycling. Contact us today for a customized business proposal.



BELFOR is Canada's leading disaster recovery and damage restoration company for both residential and commercial properties. We operate more than 35 full-service BELFOR Property Restoration offices in eight provinces from the mountain ranges of western Canada to the eastern Atlantic coastline. BELFOR's mission is to be the leading provider of value-added solutions to our customers; to provide a secure and career-oriented environment for our employees; and to provide a fair and equitable return to our shareholders, all with truth, fairness and integrity.



Blue Branch is a community-focused organization that seamlessly resolves operational labour challenges. This is done by providing full-service support to businesses and skilled resources alike. Our unique approach is designed to facilitate the cost-effective start-to-finish process of transitioning resources from highly skill-dense regions to areas of available opportunity.



Festival Hydro provides distribution and generation of reliable and safe electric power for approximately 22,000 customers in the municipalities of Stratford, Brussels, Dashwood, Hensall, St. Marys, Seaforth and Zurich. Our vision is to enable prosperity in these communities through exceptional people, partnerships and performance, ensuring growth and sustainability of our municipalities for the future.



Libro is a full-service financial institution with trusted commercial experts for all your banking, borrowing, cash management and investing needs. With a purpose beyond profit, Libro invests 100% of profits in southwestern Ontario, helping create a thriving local economy and supporting strong and prosperous communities. Libro: growing prosperity in and around Stratford! www.libro.ca

Silver Partners



Hats off to all the winners and nominees for 2022! We care about our community, education, and your experience. Little Leaf is Stratford's only locally owned and operated recreational cannabis lifestyle company and our mission is to be our community's primary trusted resource and partner for cannabis education, advice and selection. Experience cannabis shopping the way it is meant to be — in a warm and inviting environment our amazing team of highly educated Cannsultants are ready to help you find the right product from the largest selection of cannabis and CBD products available in our market. We call this the Little Leaf. Big Experience



McDonalds of Stratford and St. Mary's is a quick service restaurant proud to be a part of a caring and vibrant community. We are proud to offer up world class hospitality with some delicious and iconic favourites like Chicken Nuggets and fries.



Congratulations to all this year's nominees and winners. You have all demonstrated exceptional levels of innovation, commitment, and collaboration that a community and business requires to succeed. At Orr Insurance & Investment we are proud to continue our longstanding traditions of community involvement and professional service while constantly adapting to fit the modern needs of today's customers. With six offices across Perth and Huron counties, our independent insurance and investment brokers work with over 60 different providers to find you the right combination of coverage and price. You've got Options!



Wightman Fibre to the Home offers everything you'll need for your home and business – lightning-fast internet, TV, phone, and mobility. Visit us at our office located at 587 Huron Street to learn how we can get you connected. Strong local businesses and organizations create strong communities, and we're proud to be servicing Stratford.



YNCU is your straight-talking financial partner who understands the real trials and financial realities of our members' lives today. We prefer to use our profits to fuel local growth rather than let them leave our communities. We're proud to support and invest in our local Stratford business community. We're all about being a good neighbour!

In Kind Partners



At 2day FM 107.7, Juice FM 107.1 and MyStratfordNow.com community is at the core of everything we do. We are the pulse of Stratford & Area when it comes to providing local news and information. We take great pride in being the trusted voices that inform, entertain, and cheerlead the efforts of our great community.



Above & Beyond Event Design and Décor is a premier full service decorating company that is passionate about providing the very finest in event design. Beginning in November 2022, Above & Beyond will operate exclusively as an in-house division of St. Marys Weddings (St. Marys Golf & Country Club). Whether you are hosting a small intimate gathering, a large gala event or planning the wedding of your dreams, Above & Beyond Event Design and Decor by St. Marys Weddings will help you bring your design vision from concept to completion, with specialized attention to every single detail.



We are passionate about supporting local community initiatives such as the Residential Hospice, Bentley's Soccer Field and other local initiatives with our fundraising, sponsorship and patronage efforts. If you're looking for a pub, or restaurant in Stratford with great food and friendly atmosphere, you'll feel right at home at Bentley's.



Full Service Photography, Advertising, and Video Production. In a world that is moving increasingly online, davidiam photography looks to provide fast effective imagery. Photo + Video. Wow clients, stand out. Get a return on your investment. I craft refined images, on time, on budget.

Visit www.davidiamphotography.ca to learn more.



Whether you are new to tea or well acquainted, we are certain that you will find a taste you love here at Distinctly Tea. Let Proprietor Dianne Krampien explore the world of tea with you; from the opulent tones of Earl Grey to the cultured subtleties of Oolong. We also have an amazing selection of Polish Pottery that makes the perfect gift for you, or someone else that you love!

In Kind Partners



You spend a large portion of your day in your vehicle. Traveling, commuting, spending time with friends and family, or just going for a drive. It is an extension of who you are, and we understand the importance of your vehicle and maintaining it. Trust the best, at Halo Car Wash® we know that you and your vehicle deserve superb service that is specifically designed to leave your vehicle looking showroom ready.



Ms2 PRODUCTIONS - For Companies and People Who Want To Be Seen! Be Irresistable! & Be Remembered! Impacting Online Conversations, Amplification & Applause with the Power of Online Video & Live Streaming. "Because the impact you have on others is the greatest currency there is!"



Pelee Island is home to over 500 acres of vitis vinifera vineyards. Here in an internationally recognized microclimate created by its extreme southerly latitude and the moderating effect of Lake Erie, the vines of Pelee Island Winery enjoy Canada's longest growing season, and thrive in the island's rich limestone-based soils. The combination of sun, soil, lake and latitude create ideal grape-growing conditions, and provide the source of Pelee Island Winery's Award-Winning Wines.



Multiple generations have celebrated special events and occasions with Rhéo Thompson Candies. Grandparents have bought Rhéo's treats for their children and grandchildren just as their parents and grandparents did fifty years ago. When someone gives a green and gold box to celebrate an occasion, it is an indication of the care they have taken to choose the right gift. From humble beginnings in a basement to our present store on Albert Street people tell us they truly love Rhéo Thompson Candies and for that we are grateful.





Our pre-dinner music tonight is provided by Rob McLaughlin at the piano. Rob hails from Woodstock and has spent most of his life on many different stages entertaining at the piano. Most recently you can find Rob on many theatre stages around southwestern Ontario as well as locations in the US. He is the piano player and technical director for ClassicSeger.com - a tribute to the music of Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band. At the formal start of tonight's program, Rob will lead us in singing 'Oh, Canada'.

Please feel free to join in.



Stratford Business Centre would like to congratulate all the nominees for this year's Business Excellence Awards. As a member of the Chamber for 25 years and a past winner of a Business Excellence Award, we're proud to be part of such a great organization.



Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce Board 2022/2023



Dana Walton-Siemon Board Chair



Greg Orr Vice Co-Chair



Natalie Moore Vice Co-Chair



Michael McCutchen Treasurer



Travis Blum Past Chair



Alisha McLean Director



Anthony Jordaan Director



Michelle Webber Director



Nick Preikchas Director



Patrick King Director



Trena Hough Director



Tom Clifford Stratford Council Rep.



Don Van Galen St. Marys Council Rep.



Eddie Matthews General Manager



Shannon Stewart Office Manager



Special Thanks

The Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce wishes to thank the sponsors, volunteers and all those who have contributed to the success of this event.

Special Thanks To:

Judges

Abbey Nuhn-Pearson
Bill Boon
Johan Bossers
Krista Robinson
Lauren Francis
Michael Vancea

Masters of Ceremony

Courtney Teahen Franklin Famme

Business Excellence Committee

Brad Beatty
Dana Walton-Siemon
Michelle Webber
MJ Thomsom
Sheri Maguire
Travis Blum

Staff

Eddie Matthews Shannon Stewart



BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP FOR YOUR BUSINESS

StratfordDistrictChamber.com



Build and strengthen your business network. Gain an instant list of friends. We are stronger together



Visibility

Stand out and get noticed as as an active member. The chamber helps drive visibility to it's members



Community

Create a strong economy. Attract new talent & help develop the area for a higher qualty of



Credibility

Chamber Members are recognized as community builders. Consumers are more likely to do business with Chamber Members.



GROW

We work Together to bring more business & customers to the area. Let's all grow together.



Voice

The Chamber creates opportunities for introductions to legislators city officials





MISSION STATEMENT

"The Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce is the prominent business organization in Stratford and District that is committed to being the voice of business by championing economic prosperity and an exceptional quality of life."