

PRESCOTT AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER
MARCH 24, 2011

The Annual Awards Dinner of the Prescott and District Chamber of Commerce was held on Thursday, March 24, 2011 at the Prescott Golf Club with approximately 130 people in attendance.

Master of Ceremonies Don Rivoire welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the dinner.

President Jen Wyman welcomed all members and guests on behalf of the Directorship of the Prescott and District Chamber of Commerce.

Jen thanked those who have dedicated themselves to projects both within their own businesses as well as out and for giving their time and energy as well as financial support and service in kind when circumstances permitted. She also noted that being a Chamber member allows them to support community programs designed to further economic development and looks forward to working together in 2011.

Don Rivoire gave toasts to the Queen and to the Office of the President of the United States.

Mayor Brett Todd proposed toasts to the nominees and award winners.

Reverend Ian MacLean followed by giving the blessing.

Don Rivoire introduced MPP Steve Clark, Brockville Mayor Dave Henderson, Augusta Township Reeve Mel Campbell and Councillor Bill Pakeman, Edwardsburgh/Cardinal Mayor Bill Sloan, Deputy Mayor John Hunter and Councillors Brenda Ball and Pat Sayeau, Prescott Mayor Brett Todd, CAO Randy Helmer, Councillors Ray Young, Robert Lawn, Jen Wyman, Treasurer Laurie Kirkby, staff member Shauna Faber and President and CEO of Brockville General Hospital Ray Marshall.

Brent Laton introduced guest speaker MPP Steve Clark who thanked all Mayors, Reeves and Councillors for their hard work and spoke on how the Chamber of Commerce is vital in providing jobs and how it inspires others to step up to help provide a brighter future for Prescott and South Grenville. If your local chamber asks for help one should reciprocate.

He noted Yvonne Jin of SGDHS recently won the 2011 Provincial Leading Girls Building Communities award and how she makes a great role model for today's youth.

Steve made note of how the Chamber's vision is to build a prosperous Community of South Grenville by increasing business retention and economic growth through teamwork and innovation.

Steve now has a Constituency office in Brockville which provides many services for local residents and noted he stands beside us and our community and is always available to help in anyway he can.

Steve congratulated all award nominees and winners for 2010 and noted award winners are role models who inspire others to get involved.

He ended his speech with a quote from Vince Lombardi, "individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work"

Robert Lawn thanked MPP Steve Clark for speaking and noted young people should be recognized and not ignored as they will be the future leaders of our community.

Heather Lawless presented the 7th Annual Mike Boyles Memorial Corporate Service Award, sponsored by GCFDC, for 2010 to HOMETOWN HEATING. The family owned business has been in operation for nearly 20 years and has expanded and renovated its business and doubled its sales and now employs 7 people. Owners Randy and Pearl Visser support organizations such as Girls Inc. and minor soccer. The Prescott company handles residential heating and cooling sales, service and installation. Randy and Pearl thanked the Chamber for the award and noted Prescott is a great place to live and grow a business.

Stuart Birnie presented the first ever Artistic and Cultural Contribution Award, sponsored by Riverside Buick GMC for 2010, to WINHARA BURROW, Manager of the King Street Gallery in Prescott. Winhara noted we all need art in our lives and having space to support local art is vital and Prescott is fortunate to have the gallery. Winhara thanked the Chamber for helping her business, Riverside for sponsoring the award and those who nominated her with special thanks to Lisa Smith.

Mrs. Judith Caldwell and Brent Laton presented the 37th Annual Connie Dickey Memorial Youth of the Year Award, sponsored by the Caldwell family, for 2010 to SARAH NORTON. Sarah is in grade 11 at St. Mary Roman Catholic High School in Brockville. She is a member of student council and event chair for the Cancer Relay for Life event for her school. She is also involved in various community events including Brockville Loaves and Fishes, St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church Youth Group and Meeting Club and is employed at Tim Horton's part-time. Sarah is extremely motivated, reliable and respectful. She is the daughter of Allan and Ann Norton. Sarah was honored to receive this award and thanked her family, friends and teachers for giving her many opportunities to volunteer.

Allan Norton presented the 6th Annual Rev. Gerry Ring Memorial Award, sponsored by TD Canada Trust, for 2010 to retired fire Chief LORNE DOHERTY. Lorne joined the Augusta Township Volunteer Fire Department in 1966 and has served as Chief for 9 years retiring last year with over 44 years of service. He was a long time employee with Dupont Canada starting in 1960. Lorne has coached local minor sports and supports their programs as well. Lorne and his wife Jean reside in Maynard. Lorne thanked TD Canada Trust and all who nominated him and felt honored and proud to receive this award. He also thanked his wife Jean and Augusta Township and all local fire departments.

Augusta Township Reeve Mel Campbell noted it was a great pleasure to be here to honor and congratulate the winners and then proposed a toast to the 2010 winners.

The Chamber's two draws for a trip for 2 to Las Vegas or \$1000.00 cash were drawn and the winners were Paul Irvine and Riverside.

Vice-President Don Rivoire thanked everyone for attending the awards dinner and congratulated all winners. He also thanked MPP Steve Clark for attending as guest speaker, all members who helped organize the dinner and sell raffle tickets and Chris and Sue Vallom and their staff of Our Stone Cottage Catering for the excellent dinner they served.