



EXPLOITS REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER VISION

MARCH 2018 - VOLUME 14



Paul Griffin
President and CEO
Marine Atlantic

Paul Griffin was the guest speaker during the 19th Annual Business Excellence Awards and Hall of Fame Induction, held on March 1, 2018 at the Royal Canadian Legion. This was a wonderful evening celebrating the business accomplishments of the Exploits Region.

Mr. Griffin spoke of the weather challenges Marine Atlantic faced in recent months, citing that winds, which one day reached 201km/h, had kept ferries tied up in this province and in Nova Scotia. Marine Atlantic is also aware of the concern from the business community regarding increase in fuel surcharges and Oceanex request for a judicial review of the rate subsidy. As the Oceanex matter is before the courts Mr. Griffin could not comment on specifics, however he did explain that the change in fuel price is due to a mandated change from Bunker fuel to a more environmentally friendly fuel.

A positive point for Marine Atlantic is their customer satisfaction rating and customer growth. Their satisfaction rating has increased over 20% in less than 10 years and in the previous two years they have seen a steady increase in passengers. Marine Atlantic will continue to offer their exemplary service to residents and businesses in the province.

*Update: Oceanex request for a judicial review of the rates has been dismissed by Federal Courts.



**EXPLOITS REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Board of Directors**

President Lou Alteen	1st Year Directors Brian Barry Charlene Combdon
1st Vice President Peter Morris	Dave Conners Roger Martin
2nd Vice President Robert Sills	2nd Year Directors Paul Evans René Veilleux
Secretary Kris Spurrell	Rodney Harnum Tony Martin
Treasurer Steve Gosse	Community Resources Mayor Brian King Mayor Scott Sceviour
Executive Director Gerald Thompson	Councilor Sean Feener

MEETING NOTICE

Board Meetings are tentatively the 3rd
Thursday of the Month

Time: 12:00 noon

Place: TBA

MISSION STATEMENT

The mandate of the Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce is to promote and improve trade and commerce, and the economic, civic, and social welfare of the Exploits Valley Region.

CONTACT INFO

Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce

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Email: info@exploitschamber.com

Facebook: Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce

Twitter: @ExploitsChamber

Executive Director: Gerald Thompson

Assistant: Sommer Pike

UPCOMING EVENTS

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND
ELECTION**

The 66th Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion on April 19, 2018. The Guest Speaker will be announced in the coming weeks.

The Chamber is also now accepting nominations for new board members. If you are interested in representing your community and the business people of this region, consider putting your name forward. Please contact the chamber for more information.

25TH ANNUAL TRADE SHOW

The Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce Trade Show will take place on May 4-5, 2018. This two day event will run Friday from 4pm—9pm and Saturday from 10pm—5pm.

Booth space is available, please call the Chamber for pricing. The booth will include pipe and draping, internet access, power, an exhibitors networking session Friday evening, and lunch on Saturday.

19TH ANNUAL BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS WINNERS AND HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Small Business of the Year Award — Sponsor: CBDC

B&B Sales
Brick and Tile
Kivik



Helping Hands Award — Sponsor: VOCM

Bishop's Falls Lions Club
Classic Theatre
Dominion



Ambassador Award — Sponsor: Town of Grand Falls-Windsor

Botwood Mural Arts Society
EXCITE Corporation
Rafting NL



Customer Service Award — Sponsor: Canadian Tire

B&W Meat Market
GCR Tire Sales and Service GFW
Hickman Honda



Business Growth Award — Sponsor: Grant Thornton

Exploits Home Hardware Building Centre
Merle's Parts and Recreation
Propane Services



Business Woman of the Year Award — Sponsor: NLOWE

Deborah Dunne
Dr. Grace Hwang
Tara Champion



Personal Excellence Award — Sponsor: Newfoundland Power

Randy King



Business of the Year Award — Sponsor: BDC

Dawe's Mechanical
Exploits Home Hardware Building Centre
Thruway Recreation



The Desmond Kenny Family Award — Sponsor: Kenny Family

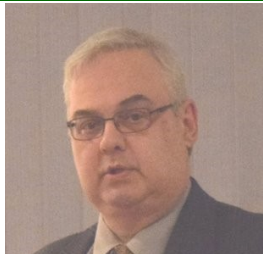
Dyke Family - Dyke's Auto Centre, Dyke's Auto Sales, Queensway Esso, and Ideal Convenience

Business Hall of Fame 2017—Sponsors: Advertiser, Canadian Tire, Dawe's Mechanical, Grant Thornton, Newfoundland Power, Thruway Recreation, Town of GFW, and Western Star Trucks

Harris & Roome/Graybar Canada
Norte Dame Agencies
P & T Auto



MESSAGE FROM OUTGOING CHAMBER PRESIDENT



Lou Alteen
Chamber President

Dear Members,

My second term will soon be concluded, it has been interesting and informative and at the same time, very rewarding.

The Chamber continues to grow, keeping you, our members, involved and informed. If any of you are considering becoming involved in the Chamber, either by serving on one of the committees or a board position, I would encourage it.

Looking back at the year, in October we had a very successful Small Business Week with a luncheon and the placing of place mats in the food establishments throughout the Central area. In December we produced a Desk Pad, which we placed in all businesses in the Exploits region. This was followed in January by producing our bi-weekly Chamber Pot that is delivered to the coffee shops and other waiting areas around the Region. On March 1st, we again held our annual Business Excellence Awards. The response from the general

public was very good with nominations in every category, the Awards night was well attended and reports from those attending very positive.

In the coming months we have our AGM in April and our Trade Show in May. Other details will be sent out to you as the committees finalize plans.

In January we entered into an agreement with the St. John's Board of Trade to partner for The Connector Program, you will be informed more on this partnership in the coming weeks.

Thank you to all who sponsored our projects and served on the Board or committees. Businesses need organizations such as ours to engage in projects that offer both information, education, and the opportunity to network.

This organization has operated within the Region for the past 65 years and has been instrumental in many of our social and community projects, such as the establishment of ERMA, building the Mary March Museum, and starting the Salmon Festival, just to name a few.

Let us continue to grow and prosper together.

Sincerely,
Lou Alteen,
President

BUSINESS EXCELLENT AWARDS AND HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

