**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Chamber Community Awards nominees announced**

CAMBRIDGE, Ont. - The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce has announced the nominees for its annual Cambridge & North Dumfries Community Awards.

The awards celebrate the successes accomplished made throughout the past year by the dedicated volunteers and staff of local not-for-profits, various groups, and service clubs by recognizing the impact they’ve made in the community through collaboration and exceptional leadership.

This year more than 60 nominees representing nearly 40 various organizations are being recognized in nine award categories. A tenth award, the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award, will be presented to one individual who over the past 15 years or more, has made significant contributions to the community and whose accomplishments have brought recognition to the Waterloo Region.

“The not-for-profit sector plays such a vital role in making our community a great place to live, work and do business, and we’re thrilled to provide this opportunity to show our appreciation for the people and organizations that make this group tick,” said Cambridge Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Greg Durocher.

New to the category list this year is the Arts and Culture Award which recognizes an individual, ensemble or organization that has contributed significantly to the local cultural scene in the past year. Also, the Best Event of the Year Award has returned after being sidetracked by the pandemic and the Community Impact People’s Choice Award recipient will be selected by the Chamber Membership, rather than a panel of independent judges.

Several hundred community leaders and guests will be on hand Monday, Nov. 13, at the Hamilton Family Theatre Cambridge for the awards ceremony which is one of the Chamber’s most popular events and has honoured the contributions and achievements of these community builders since 2012.

Learn more about the [Cambridge & North Dumfries Community Awards](https://www.cambridgechamber.com/Events-CommunityAwards.htm).

**The nominees and award categories include:**

***Community Collaboration Award***

ACCKWA and Multi Agency Community Space (MACS)

Cambridge Highlands Lions Club

Cambridge Symphony Orchestra, ‘As I Love You’ with Joey Niceforo

Downtown Cambridge BIA and Cambridge Wedding Week

Grand River Pride and Grand River Pride Street Party

Langs

YMCA of Three Rivers Employment Services and Multi-Employer Job Fair

YWCA Cambridge

***Community Leadership Award***

Brian Banks (Community Development and Partnerships, Nutrition for Learning)

Cameron Dearlove (Executive Director, Porchlight Counselling and Addiction Services)

Courtney Waterfall (Chapter Director, Shelter Movers Waterloo Region)

Dr. Craig Albrecht (IPC Team Lead and CMAC Lead Physician, Langs)

Jessica Lynch (Senior Co-ordinator, John Howard Society of Waterloo-Wellington)

Jose de Lima (Multi Agency Community Space (MACS) Manager & ACCKWA)

Kali Bogias (Community Advocate)

Kim Decker (CEO, YWCA Cambridge)

Marjorie Knight (Co-Founder, Rhythm and Blues Cambridge)

Ruth Cameron (Executive Director, ACCKW)

***Community Impact People’s Choice Award***

Cambridge Food Bank

Hespeler Village BIA

Langs

Porchlight Counselling & Addiction Services

Salvation Army Family Food Bank

Shelter Movers Waterloo Region

Trinity Community Table

***Arts and Culture Award***

Cambridge Cultural Association

Cambridge Symphony Orchestra

Penny & Pound Theatre Productions

Galt Jazz

Idea Exchange-Old Post Office

***Best Event of the Year Award***

Cambridge Memorial Hospital Foundation (CMHReveal)

Galt Country Club (Honeymoon Bonspiel)

Galt Jazz (Dinner on the Grand)

Grand River Pride (Grand River Pride Street Party)

Hespeler Village BIA (#walkqueen)

Langs (Community Picnic Series)

National Service Dogs (Paws in Motion)

Peregrine Outreach (*Someone Lives Here* Film Screening)

Porchlight Counselling and Addiction Services (Cambridge Moves for Mental Health)

Waterloo Region Integrated Drug Strategy (Cambridge International Overdose Awareness Day)

***Board Member Award***

 **David Pyper (Cambridge Memorial Hospital – Past Board Chair)**

**Denise Carter (Board Secretary, Langs)**

**Joe Gowing (President, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 126)**

**Julia Goyal (Board Member, Cambridge Memorial Hospital)**

**Terry Kratz (Treasurer, Cambridge Symphony Orchestra)**

***Volunteer of the Year Award***

**David Walden (Cambridge Food Bank Drive)**

**Gerald & Sheilagh Fillion (Community Support Connections)**

**Joan Linton (Cambridge Memorial Hospital Foundation)**

**Lucille & David Kemkes (Community Volunteers)**

**Todd Burnside (Shelter Movers Waterloo Region)**

***Organization of the Year - Under 10 Employees***

**Dawn Centre**

**Ontario Christian Gleaners**

**Preston Scout House Band Inc.**

**Shelter Movers Waterloo Region**

***Organization of the Year- 11 and Over Employees***

Cambridge Shelter Corporation

Cambridge Youth Soccer

Community Support Connections

Langs

Rotary Club of Cambridge Preston-Hespeler

The Food Bank of Waterloo Region

Women’s Crisis Services Waterloo Region

***Lifetime Achievement Award***

**Recipient to be announced at the ceremony**

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## ***The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce is committed to the enhancement of economic prosperity and the quality of life in Cambridge. A non-partisan organization funded solely by memberships, the Chamber works hard to address concerns of business, provide access to information resources, and represent members at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels of government. With more than 1,800 member firms, the Chamber's strength is clearly in its hardworking volunteers and committees addressing issues affecting local business and providing practical solutions.***