

## Greater Charlottetown Chamber of Commerce Announces New Board at 130<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

The Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce announced its Board of Directors for 2017-18 at the Chamber's 130<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, held on May 10, 2017 at the Delta Prince Edward Hotel.

Rory Francis, PEI BioAlliance, was sworn in as the Chamber's 112<sup>th</sup> President. Mr. Francis is a native of Prince Edward Island. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Geology and Chemistry from Mount Allison University and an Masters of Science in Hydrogeology from the University of Waterloo.

Since 2004 he has been Executive Director of the Prince Edward Island BioAlliance, a not-for-profit network of bioscience businesses, academic and research organizations, and government agencies. From 1991 to 2003 Mr. Francis held Deputy Minister positions in several provincial government departments.

Mr. Francis is a member of the Canadian BioAccord and serves as a Board member with the Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute, the Atlantic Chamber of Commerce, the Food Island Partnership, the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre, and is President of the Eastern Canada Oilseeds Development Alliance. He chairs the Advisory Board for the Culinary Institute of Canada's Technology Access Centre at Holland College.

Francis is joined on the Executive by: Jennifer Evans, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Ocean 100/Hot 105.5; Dawn Binns, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Insight Brand & Marketing Studio; Blair Corkum, Vice President Finance, Blair Corkum Financial Planning Inc.; and Pam Williams, Past President, Cox & Palmer.

In addition, nine members of the Board of Directors were confirmed: Darcy MacNeill, Earthform Corp.; Adam Runge, Invesco Enterprise Services; Jeff Murphy, Murphy's Pharmacies; Matthew McMillan, MacPherson Roche Smith & Associates; Colin Younker, The Spa Total Fitness Centre; Barb Smith, Stewart McKelvey; Ashlee London, Elanco Canada Ltd.; Mike Cronkhite, TD Bank Financial Group; Doug Ezeard, Arsenault Best Cameron Ellis.

"The Chamber serves as the voice of business locally, regionally and nationally for close to 1000 members," said incoming President, Rory Francis. "We accomplish this through advocacy efforts, by providing education and networking opportunities, and by celebrating the many successes of our local business community. I look forward to working with the Board of Directors, Chamber members and all our partners to grow our local economy."

The Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce serves as the "Voice of Business" on economic issues for its 975 members, representing more than 17,500 employees in small, medium and large enterprises in the capital region. For further information on the Chamber, visit the website at [www.charlottetownchamber.com](http://www.charlottetownchamber.com) or call 902-628-2000.

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**Photo:** Rory Francis was sworn in as the 112<sup>th</sup> President of the Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce at an induction ceremony that took place during the Chamber's Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

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