

NEWS RELEASE

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Executive of the Year

The Parkville & District Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce Kim Burden, Executive Director for the Parkville & District Chamber of Commerce is the recipient of the Chamber of Commerce Executives of Canada's (CCEC) 'Executive of the Year' in the less than 500 members category. He accepted the award at the Annual Conference Awards Banquet, held last Friday in Saint John, NB.

Once a year Chamber exec meet to connect with colleagues from across the country to learn and share the latest on Chamber management. The conference includes an awards reception and dinner where they recognize excellence in Chamber management. Nomination packages were sent off to the Canadian Chamber in July from various Chambers across Canada, and recipients were selected by committee.

Jeannie Maltesen, President of the Parkville and District Chamber of Commerce Board is so proud of Kim's achievements. 'Kim has been a mentor, a leader, a wealth of knowledge, and a support system for board members. Working with Kim over the past four years has been an absolute honor and privilege. He genuinely cares about the Chamber and the work it does for business and communities. His focus on economic development in the region demonstrates his understanding of how a thriving business community creates jobs and supports a healthy and thriving community. He is committed to the community and he works hard to create partnerships to support business, he has an incredible knack for bringing people together!'

Val Litwin, President and CEO of the BC Chamber of Commerce submitted a support letter for Kim's nomination, and he described him as a 'seasoned, committed leader in our provincial network'. 'Kim has a mind built for policy and has ensured the Parkville Chamber is a contributor to our provincial policy process. Policy work is the science of what chambers do but Kim also knows the art of running a chamber.'

Kim was surprised when his name was announced, and he says *'I'm honored and very proud of the team of hard-working innovative people managing the business of the Chamber. This award recognizes the work we do as a group, we've increased member retention, increased overall membership, increased engagement and made a good organization....great!'*

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The Chamber is a member-driven, volunteer led organization that works collaboratively with businesses and community to help create a healthy and prosperous local economy. The Chamber's board promotes the organization's mission, provides financial oversight, ethical and legal governance and ensures a sustainable future for the Chamber.