

ENTERPRISE SAINT JOHN CONGRATULATES CARSON, ANNOUNCES OPERATIONAL AND SUCCESSION PLANS

SAINT JOHN, NB – MAY 1, 2017 – The City of Saint John has announced the appointment of Steve Carson, chief executive officer of Enterprise Saint John (ESJ), as its new director of strategic real estate. Until Mr. Carson's successor is appointed, ESJ's board of directors and City Hall officials have agreed to a transition period in which Mr. Carson will continue as ESJ's CEO, while at the same time beginning his new responsibilities with the City of Saint John.

Martin Chiasson, Enterprise Saint John's interim board chair, congratulated Carson on his appointment and said he was extremely pleased the region will continue to benefit from his expertise and economic development savvy.

"I am also happy that Steve will be able to continue as our CEO until the end of September to help us recruit and orient his successor," Chiasson said. "We have been very fortunate to have an executive of Steve's caliber as our CEO. On behalf of the board, I want to thank him for his years of dedicated service to the region. My own family moved to Saint John in large part because of Steve's successful efforts in persuading Xerox to locate a major operation here," he said. "Steve was there every step of the way to make sure the community not only met but also exceeded Xerox's expectations which saw the operation grow from fewer than 100 employees to in excess of 600 today. This is just one example of Steve's dedication to the community. I know he will bring the same level of expertise and commitment to City Hall and it is exciting to think how Steve's new role will strengthen relationships among key stakeholders including city hall, Enterprise Saint John, other levels of government, and the community," he said.

Prior to becoming Enterprise Saint John's CEO, Carson held senior positions at Irving Oil Limited in its commercial real estate division.

For his part, Carson says he will be leaving Enterprise Saint John with mixed emotions. "I have always been passionate about the development of our community and feel very fortunate to have had an opportunity to focus my professional life in this area," he said. "I've had tremendous satisfaction working so closely with our community's most engaged business leaders. On the other hand, this new role will allow me to combine both my real estate and economic-development skills to bring new ideas to an important element of Saint John's future. I'm looking forward to becoming champion and lead facilitator for all developers interested in investing in Saint John and to helping build partnerships between the City and the private sector," he said.

Chiasson said the work of finding Carson's successor will begin immediately.

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