

Enterprise Saint John announces new interim Board Chair

Martin Chiasson steps in as Larry Hachey finishes extended term

For Immediate Release

April 5, 2017

Saint John N.B. – *Martin Chiasson* was elected interim Chair of the Board of Directors for ***Enterprise Saint John (ESJ)*** at the Board's April 5th meeting. He takes over from ***Larry Hachey*** who has served as Board Chair since January 2015. Chiasson will remain in the position over the next several months until a new Chair is elected to serve for the two-year term.

"It is my pleasure to step in and continue the work that Larry Hachey has led over the past few years. On behalf of our Board, staff and all our partners, I extend a huge thank you to Larry for all of his great efforts and dedication in his capacity as Chair. Our focus will continue to be positioning our region as Canada's Most Connected Community. Together with our partners, we will leverage our technology, our people, and strategic location to support new start-ups, help our existing businesses grow and attract new investment to our region" stated Chiasson.

Hachey has been Chair of the ESJ board for more than two years. His term was originally scheduled to end December 31st of last year, however he agreed to remain in the Chair's position while ESJ's mandate, funding and key performance indicators were under review by the ***Regional Oversight Committee (ROC)***. The ROC is made up of our region's five mayors and two representatives of the private sector partners who invest in ESJ. It appoints the 11-member volunteer board and works with the board to develop annual key performance indicators. Hachey plans to remain on the Board for a short time to assist Chiasson with the transition.

"It's been a challenging and at times rocky road over the past several months. We are very pleased that the ROC has expressed its full confidence in ESJ's plan and direction to continue to grow our economy. Their commitment to a regional approach with private sector leadership and investment is core to our economic development model. With the renewed backing of the ROC and funding for 2017 secured, ESJ board and staff are anxious to get back to focusing 100% of our efforts on driving growth in the region. It is also time for me to step aside and support our new Chair. We are very fortunate to have some of our community's most engaged business leaders, who volunteer their time around our board table. I know Martin will have lots of support as he steps up to take on this important role," added Hachey.

ESJ is grateful to Larry for his leadership and his guidance. He will stay on the board for a short time to assist Chiasson with the transition.

ABOUT Martin Chiasson- Martin is the founder of ***Loosen Up Consulting*** which helps people develop their leadership capabilities and competencies. He has extensive experience in leadership roles in Sales, Finance, Customer Service and Sales Management Training in cities across Canada, including 31 years with Xerox.

ABOUT Larry Hachey- Larry is the President of ***Blue Chip Leasing Atlantic***. For 25 years, he has been a manager and leader primarily within the equipment finance and commercial leasing industry across Atlantic Canada.

ABOUT ROC -The Regional Oversight Committee is comprised of the mayors of Grand Bay-Westfield, Saint John, Rothesay, Quispamsis and St. Martins together with 2 representatives of the private sector investors in Enterprise Saint John. Its mandate is to appoint 11 members of the ESJ Board of Directors and together with the Board establish annual key performance indicators.

ABOUT Enterprise Saint John- Enterprise Saint John is the regional economic development agency serving Grand Bay-Westfield, Saint John, Rothesay, Quispamsis and St. Martins. Our region's growth will come from being Canada's Most Connected Community where we leverage our technology, our people and strategic location to create new start-ups, help businesses grow and attract and retain businesses to the region.

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