

News Release

SERVING THE PRECOTT-RUSSELL COMMUNITIES AND BUSINESSES FOR OVER 30 YEARS, THE PRESCOTT-RUSSELL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CONTINUES TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE AND PROSPER BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND THE ENRICHMENT OF THE COMMUNITIES OF PRESCOTT- RUSSELL...

PRESCOTT-RUSSELL (Ontario), September 21st 2016 — The Prescott-Russell Community Development Corporation (PRCDC) announces the election of **Mr. Sylvain Charlebois** as Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the PRCDC for 2016-2017. **Mr. Sylvain Charlebois** will be chairing his last year with the PRCDC since he has been with the Corporation for over 22 years.

During its Annual General Meeting held September 20th in Hawkesbury, Ontario, **Mr. Sylvain Charlebois** (Chairperson) highlighted the accomplishments of all divisions of the PRCDC over the past year.

Of the major accomplishments fro 2015-2016, we note that the PRCDC provided **450 000\$** dollars in conditional contributions through the Eastern Ontario Development Program in the Prescott-Russell region. Furthermore, the PRCDC invested over **\$2,490,000** from its Investment Fund in various businesses in order to help create and maintain 298 direct jobs in Prescott-Russell. The newly launched francophone **EDI** program invested **165 000\$** in francophone SME's and managed to create and maintain 37 jobs in Southern Ontario. These investments made by the PRCDC, managed to leverage over **7 million** dollars in additional funds.

"As a REGIONAL economic development organization, the PRCDC will continue just like in the past, to make fair, careful and enlightened interventions for the betterment of our communities and businesses in the Prescott-Russell region as well as for the entrepreneurs of Southern Ontario" states **Mr. Sylvain Charlebois**, Chairperson of the PRCDC.

During the Annual General Meeting, **Mr. Eric Drouin** was elected as Vice-Chair and **Mr. Bruce Smith** re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer of the Prescott-Russell Community Development Corporation.

The Government of Canada's Community Futures (CF) Program supports 61 Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDCs) in Ontario— FedDev Ontario serves 37 in rural eastern and southern Ontario. The remaining 24 CFDCs located in the north are served by FedNor.

CFDCs offer a wide variety of programs and services supporting regional community economic development and small business growth. In particular, they provide:

- Strategic community planning and socio-economic development;
- Support for community-based projects;
- Business information and planning services; and
- Access to capital for small- and medium-sized businesses and social enterprises.

These community-based, not-for-profit organizations are staffed by professionals and are each governed by local volunteer boards of directors familiar with their communities' needs, concerns and future development priorities.

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