

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce Announces 2025 Business Excellence Award Recipients

Chatham-Kent, ON – May 15, 2025 – The Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce is delighted to announce the recipients of the 2025 Business Excellence Awards, recognizing the outstanding achievements and contributions of local businesses and leaders who continue to make Chatham-Kent a vibrant and resilient community.

2025 Award Recipients:

- **ATHENA Leadership Award:** Dr. Angel Biligot, the CO.
- **Business of the Year Award – Large:** Postma Heating and Cooling
- **Business of the Year Award – Medium:** JP Contractors
- **Business of the Year Award – Small:** Balance Accounting Services
- **Customer First Award – Individual:** Bree Kettle, Red Barn Brewing Co.
- **Customer First Award – Business:** Konstantino Pizza
- **Downtown Business of the Year Award:** Turns & Tales
- **Emerging Leader Award:** Emma Butler, J&E Meats Inc
- **Entrepreneur of the Year Award:** Kerry Mall, Maple City Property Rental
- **Indigenous Business of the Year Award:** Three Sisters Consulting
- **Innovation Award:** Handy Bros. Home Comfort
- **New Business Award:** IntelliSync Solutions
- **Rising Star Award:** Larissa Howlett, Brows By Larissa
- **Diversity Award:** Community Living Chatham-Kent, Ron Coristine
- **Non-Profit Business of the Year Award:** Chatham Outreach for Hunger
- **Visionary Award:** Jodi Maroney, Chatham-Kent Hospice Foundation.

“I recently had the opportunity to speak with Stephen Spinelli, founder of Jiffy Lube and now President of Babson Entrepreneurial College in Boston, Babson College ranks #2 in The Wall

Street Journal-'s ranking of the best colleges in the United States. Babson is a leader in entrepreneurial development and in recent studies on entrepreneurship determined that the single most important characteristic of entrepreneurial, business and public service leadership and success is RESILIENCE. I think what we have witnessed here at the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce, Business Excellence Awards is the remarkable resilience of our community and those that create great Canadian jobs but also create opportunity and prosperity.” – Rory Ring President and CEO, Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber extends its deepest gratitude to all who made this event possible. Special thanks to our sponsors, partners, volunteers, and the dedicated individuals who work tirelessly behind the scenes, including Tanner, Robyn, Gemma, Dan, Greg, and the 99.1 CKXS team; our entertainment, Milhouse; The Capitol Theatre staff and volunteers; and Schinkels’ Gourmet Meats, celebrating their 40th anniversary this year.

We are also grateful to our valued award sponsors: Enbridge, OLG, Entegrus, YourTV Cogeco, St. Clair College, TD, Royal Bank - RBC, Postma Heating and Cooling, Blackburn Radio, Chatham Honda, Community Culture and Connections, Chatham-Kent Community Futures Development, Bank of Montreal BMO, WFCU Credit Union, Cascade Casinos Chatham, LIBRO Credit Union, CIBC, and ARC Benefits/Chambers Plan Employee Benefits.

Above all, our biggest thank you is to the businesses, stakeholders, and citizens of Chatham-Kent. Your resilience, entrepreneurial spirit, and dedication are what make our community thrive. Whether a recipient or not, every nominee is a champion and an example of what it takes to strive for a dream, believe in yourself and your community, and create opportunity and prosperity for all.

Congratulations to all recipients and nominees. We look forward to celebrating your continued success and the positive impact you bring to Chatham-Kent.