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## **First Atlantic Canadian Agency to receive prestigious national leadership award**

*~ Enterprise Saint John recognized for leadership role in Benefits Blueprint ~*

**October 27, 2010 - Saint John, NB.** Enterprise Saint John is honoured to have been shortlisted in the 2010 IPAC-Deloitte Public Sector Leadership Awards. Their submission, in the not-for-profit category, was for Benefits Blueprint ~ Energizing Sustainable Communities. The award, now in its third year, is a celebration of IPAC's mission – the dedication to excellence in the public sector. Some 80 submissions were received from across Canada. They were shortlisted based on selection criteria designed to demonstrate the role leadership played in a specific initiative and how it would not have been possible to achieve the objectives without that leadership.

Benefits Blueprint was a community-led initiative to ensure Saint John, as a broader community, would have a plan to manage and maximize the benefits of a period of transformational growth. "Right from the start, Enterprise Saint John took a leadership role in rallying stakeholders together to ensure, as a community, we would maximize the benefits of transformational growth," explains Bob Manning, Chair of the Benefits Blueprint steering committee. The goal was simple, "We want to live in a community where spin-offs from economic growth benefit all sectors of our community, so no one is left behind." The innovative plan was developed by citizens to drive growth in the new century. It was also among the first in North America to integrate the city's social, cultural, environmental and economic sectors as a way to optimize growth and benefits.

After being shortlisted, a rigorous presentation was made in Toronto before the selection committee. "The jurors are top in their class," says Michael Fenn, Interim Chief Executive Officer with the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC). He continues to explain, "Our jury members include current and former Clerks of Cabinet, CEO's, subject-matter experts, past winners and Deputy Ministers from federal and provincial governments from across Canada. They reflect the significance of the Award." He says that Public Awards are one of the best ways to communicate and recognize the leadership demonstrated by public servants in all orders of government, healthcare and educational organizations and not-for-profits. They are meaningful to those who receive them; they bestow an honour that benefits the organization, group and individuals, and are a lasting public acknowledgement of excellence.

Enterprise Saint John is humbled to be acknowledged as Canada's only Atlantic Canadian organization in their category to be recognized for the award. "We are thrilled because it adds fuel to our community to drive further innovation, creativity, collaboration and excellence in all that we do," says Steve Carson, CEO of Enterprise Saint John. In today's economic climate, the pressure is high to achieve more, and more with fewer resources.

The Gold, Silver and Bronze recipients will be announced at the Gala Awards Dinner on November 4, 2010 at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel in Toronto.

The Saint John community has always thrived in the spirit of entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation. Enterprise Saint John's recognition by the IPAC-Deloitte Public Sector Leadership Award selection committee is another demonstration that we do not sit still and that we dare to be original, in Canada's original city.

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