



Tony Gogan Named New Chair of Enterprise Saint John

-- To Focus on continuing growth with the "Home Team"--

SAINT JOHN, JUNE 24, 2010—Tony Gogan, a partner with accounting firm Grant Thornton LLP and a longtime community volunteer, succeeds Bob Manning of Owens MacFadyen Group as Chair of Enterprise Saint John during its public Annual General Meeting. Manning's two-year term as Chair concludes today.

Enterprise Saint John's mission is to support and attract people, ideas and investment to the Saint John region. It is funded by the five Saint John area municipalities, the Province of New Brunswick and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, along with significant private sector support and investment.

Mr. Gogan assumes his volunteer role as Saint John continues to make progress economically and socially. "We've seen some significant economic growth in the past few years that is changing the face of our community, even in the midst of an unprecedented worldwide recession," noted Mr. Gogan. "Our unemployment rate has trended below the national average, educational attainment rates are up and poverty is down. We are a community moving in the right direction."

"While we are disappointed that one or two of the proposed energy megaprojects have been delayed or cancelled due to global market forces, we should step back for a moment to realize that we are enjoying steady, solid and sustainable growth without them. Our entrepreneurial class is surging, and we are attracting new knowledge workers to the area

every day. The challenge to Enterprise Saint John is to maintain and enhance this positive momentum. We need to stay focused on supporting the Home Team companies whose head offices are here today.”

As incoming Chair, Mr. Gogan, working to complement and provide collaboration with PlanSJ, has led community consultations with over 40 groups and more than 150 individuals. Those consultations helped form the strategic direction for Enterprise Saint John. This includes targeting five sectors with the most growth potential for the community:

- Health Sciences
- Information and Communications Technology (ICT)
- Energy
- Tourism
- Advanced Manufacturing

To support increased investment in the Saint John region, Enterprise Saint John focuses on creating the conditions for success. This includes an emphasis on supporting local entrepreneurs, workforce expansion, and business support services.

“There is a tangible sense of optimism among the citizens of the Saint John region. Working together, we can continue to make good things happen,” said Mr. Gogan. “On behalf of everyone at Enterprise Saint John, I want to thank outgoing Chair Bob Manning for his tremendous leadership over the past two years. We have all greatly benefited from his commitment to advancing the interests of our community.”

About Enterprise Saint John

The Greater Saint John Economic Development Agency, Inc. (Enterprise Saint John) is a not-for-profit agency funded by the City of Saint John and the municipalities of Grand Bay-Westfield, Quispamsis, Rothesay, and St. Martins, the Province of New Brunswick and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), along with significant private sector support and investment. The Agency’s mandate and core services are:

- Develop and Implement the Community’s Economic Development Strategies

- Investment Attraction
- Business Development
- Entrepreneur Development
- Workforce Expansion

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