**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Cambridge Chamber CEO receives James Gordon Carnegie Memorial Award**

CAMBRIDGE, Ont. - Cambridge Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Greg Durocher has been recognized for his leadership in the business community by the Chamber Executives of Ontario (CEO) Association.

Durocher was presented with the James Gordon Carnegie Memorial Award at the Ontario Chamber of Commerce’s 2023 Annual General Meeting and Convention held this past weekend in Niagara Falls. The event was attended by 160 delegates representing nearly 80 Chambers across the province.

The CEO Association is the professional development association for the senior management and membership development and events staff of Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade in Ontario. Each year they present the James Gordon Carnegie Memorial Award to a member of the Chamber Executives of Ontario who has displayed exceptional efforts as a mentor and a leader. Nominations are received annually from Chamber and Board of Trade executives to acknowledge the efforts of one of their peers.

James Gordon Carnegie, who passed away in 1996, was a Toronto investment dealer and former executive director of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce who was not only heavily committed to the Chamber network and helping businesses, but an active volunteer in his community. He served as Deputy Chief of the Metropolitan Toronto Auxiliary Police, as well as served on the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police and chaired the finance committee of St. John Ambulance Metropolitan Toronto.

“This is just an incredible honour. It was really a shock because I didn’t even think my name was on the list to consider,” said Durocher, joking that he has never perceived himself as a member of the ‘old guard’ that mentors others. “I just don’t look at myself as being that person. If someone needs help, I’m willing to give them help anytime. None of us do it for any accolades or awards, we do it because we love our communities.”

Cambridge Chamber Board Chair Kristen Danson said the award recognizes Durocher’s unwavering commitment to mentorship, support and leadership which has contributed to his peers and the community for more than 20 years.

“The connections that Greg has made for his peers have not only contributed to each person’s personal success; but have cumulatively resulted in the advancement of business success for the broader business community,” she said. “The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce continues to benefit from Greg’s vision, positive energy and motivation to push forward through any type of adversity presented; pandemic, recession, inflation and whatever else may come our way.”

Besides providing continued mentorship to many Chamber leaders, also among the accomplishments identified by the CEO Association was Durocher’s involvement in the creation of the rapid screening kit program adopted by Chambers across the country to assist businesses during the pandemic.

“Greg has served as a role model and mentor to many, inspiring others to follow in his footsteps,” said Rocco Rossi, President and CEO, Ontario Chamber of Commerce. “He has tirelessly worked towards promoting the prosperity of the province, and we are honoured to recognize him as the most deserving recipient of the James Gordon Carnegie Memorial Award.”

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## ***The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce is committed to the enhancement of economic prosperity and the quality of life in Cambridge. A non-partisan organization funded solely by memberships, the Chamber works hard to address concerns of business, provide access to information resources, and represent members at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels of government. With more than 1,800 member firms, the Chamber's strength is clearly in its hardworking volunteers and committees addressing issues affecting local business and providing practical solutions.***