



13th Annual Gala

Sponsorship & Participation
Opportunities



13th Annual Manitoba Business Hall of Fame Gala

April 6th, 2027

5:30pm Reception - 6:30pm Dinner
Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre

1808 Wellington Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

The Manitoba Business Hall of Fame was established in 2013 by JA Manitoba. Individuals are nominated by their peers and are chosen by the Board of Directors of JA Manitoba. The Hall of Fame recognizes the cumulative work of individuals over a lifetime dedicated to enhancing the economic prosperity of Manitoba. Inductees are widely respected for their integrity, business acumen and community contributions.

The 13th group of business leaders will be inducted on April 6, 2027. The Gala will bring together business leaders, entrepreneurs, and community members to honour the contributions of these exceptional inductees. Proceeds support JA Manitoba's mission to develop and deliver financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship learning experiences that equip youth with the skills and mindset for success

The 2027 Manitoba Business Hall of Fame Inductees



Mike Pyle Chief Executive Officer & Director Exchange Income Corporation

Mike Pyle is the CEO of Exchange Income Corporation and was the co-founder of the company in 2002. Under his leadership, it has grown from a single employee capital pool company to a \$10 billion enterprise with approximately 10,000 employees located in countries around the globe. It has become a Canadian leader in essential aviation services predominantly in Canada's North, an international provider of maritime surveillance services and a conglomerate of niche manufactures. The growth of EIC has provided remarkable returns to its shareholders averaging an annual compounded rate of return of over 20% since inception. The company is focused on investing in the First Nations and Inuit communities it services in Canada and providing hope and economic opportunity to their citizens.

Mike holds two degrees, both from the University of Manitoba. The first a Bachelor of Arts (Economics and Political Science) and the second a Masters of Business Administration (Finance). Mike is a member of the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD) and is a graduate of the ICD – Rotman Directors Education Program (ICD.D).

Prior to founding EIC, Mike spent a decade in Merchant Banking in increasingly senior roles at Roynat where he specialized in structuring and providing capital for rapidly growing companies. Following his time at Roynat he moved to Arctic Glacier where he filled several operating rolls culminating as its COO before leaving to start EIC.

In addition to serving as CEO and a director of EIC, Mike also serves on several other boards across the province. He is currently the Chair of Manitoba First Equity Fund, is a director and Audit Chair at Sio Silica, and is the CFL Governor for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers Football Club. Previously, Mike was the Chair of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers Football Club, Chair of the Manitoba Business Council, Chair of the Board of Softball Manitoba, and served on the board of Manitoba Hydro, Centreport Canada and Next Hydrogen Solutions.

Mike has shown his commitment to youth in the North through his leadership and the inception of multiple programs under his direction, including its reconciliation program with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers Football Club where over 1,000 northern residents (mostly children) are brought to Winnipeg each year to see a football game. EIC also has created the Atik Mason Pilot Program, where each year approximately 30 Indigenous students are trained to be commercial pilots at no cost to the young pilots. This endeavor creates a pathway to long term employment within EIC and real economic reconciliation.

Mike is a strong believer in giving back to his community and has dedicated many hours to social causes and coaching young athletes. His 25-year commitment to softball in Manitoba culminated with his induction to the Manitoba Softball Hall of Fame in 2016.

The 2027 Manitoba Business Hall of Fame Inductees



Mark Evans Executive Chair, Conquest Planning

Mark is a Winnipeg-based technology entrepreneur, computer scientist, and philanthropist whose work has shaped the financial-planning software used by many of the largest financial institutions across Canada, United States and the United Kingdom. He earned his BSc (Honours), Master's, and PhD in Computer Science from the University of Manitoba, completing his doctorate in 1988 with a thesis in distributed artificial intelligence. He joined the university's Department of Computer Science as an Assistant Professor. His research centred on applied artificial intelligence, spanning expert systems for farm management, computer-aided design, and financial simulation. In 1990, while still teaching, he founded EISI to develop what would become NaviPlan, first launched commercially with Investors Group in 1995. He left the university in 1997 to lead the company full-time.

Beginning in the late 1990s, NaviPlan was adopted across Canada — by BMO, RBC, Manulife, Great-West Life, and London Life — before expanding into the United States with MetLife, Prudential, Morgan Stanley, UBS, and Ameriprise. He sold EISI to a Vista Equity Partners portfolio company in 2011.

In 2018 he founded Conquest Planning to reimagine financial advice, launching first with Investors Group in 2020 as the successor to NaviPlan. Conquest has since been deployed across Canada's leading institutions, entered the UK in 2023 with partners including Fidelity, J.P. Morgan, and Irish Life. Its US rollout in 2025 was with Principal Financial, BNY, and Citi. Backed by various investment firms, the company has raised more than \$150 million since 2020. In 2026 Mark moved to the role of Executive Chair.

Alongside his business career, Mark has been a dedicated community leader. He co-chaired the capital campaign for the University of Manitoba's Engineering and Information Technology Building, chaired the Children's Hospital Foundation, and served on the board of the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation in addition to being a major supporter of numerous Manitoba charities. He has been recognized with the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award in Technology, the University of Manitoba's Distinguished Service Award, Manitoba's Philanthropist of the Year, and the Lieutenant Governor's Volunteer Service Award.

Mark has built his career alongside a remarkable story of personal resilience. First diagnosed with kidney cancer in 2008, he underwent the removal of his left kidney and recovered fully from a heart attack in 2010. When cancer spread to his lungs in 2011, he received interleukin-2 immunotherapy — a treatment with only a five-to-ten percent chance of response & was among the fortunate responders, remaining stable for more than a decade.

In 2025, a brain hemorrhage led to surgery and radiation, and subsequent scans identified further metastasis. He began a next-generation immunotherapy in December 2025 and has responded well, with significant reduction across affected sites, all while remaining deeply engaged in his work and his community. His perspective through these challenges has been marked by gratitude, optimism, and an enduring commitment to the causes and people he cares about.

The 2027 Manitoba Business Hall of Fame Inductees



Leo Ledohowski Founder, Canad Inns

Leo was a visionary entrepreneur, respected business leader and dedicated community builder whose influence helped shape Manitoba's hospitality industry. Over five decades, through his innovative leadership and commitment to excellence, Canad Inns evolved from a single property into Manitoba's largest hotel chain. Under his leadership, Canad Inns properties became vibrant destinations that brought together dining, entertainment, conferences, business functions and community events.

His vision led to the expansion of Canad Inns throughout Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, Brandon and Grand Forks, creating employment opportunities and becoming an important part of the communities in which the company operated. His accomplishments in business were recognized nationally, with Canad Inns being named one of Canada's Best Managed Companies since 1997 and a member of the prestigious Platinum Club since 2003.

Long before establishing his reputation in the hospitality industry, Leo had distinguished himself as an academic. He served as a professor in the Faculty of Commerce at Carleton University and later at the University of Manitoba. His academic background and understanding of business and economics helped shape his approach to leadership and allowed him to share his knowledge and experience with future generations of business leaders.

Leo's impact on Manitoba reached well beyond his business achievements. He was a strong advocate for community development and public service, sharing his experience and leadership with numerous organizations. He served on the boards of the Bank of Canada, BDC, Destination Winnipeg, Partners In The Park and the Business Council of Manitoba, while his contributions to Manitoba and its communities earned him numerous honours, including the Order of Manitoba and the Distinguished Service Award from the University of Manitoba. Recently, to honour his lasting impact, the City of Winnipeg unveiled an Honourary street designation, naming part of Jefferson Avenue – "Leo Ledohowski Way."

Leo served on the Board of the Manitoba Hotel Association for 38 consecutive years and on the Board of the Hotel Association of Canada for two decades. He also served as the Honorary Consul of Ukraine to Manitoba and as Honorary Colonel of the Air Force Military Police Group.

Leo's relationship with the Business Council of Manitoba was also an important part of his professional and community involvement. As a member for nearly 20 years and a former board director, he was deeply invested in the Council's efforts to strengthen Manitoba's economic and social future.

While Leo's professional accomplishments are extensive, his legacy is about the people he supported, the relationships he developed and the communities he helped strengthen. He believed deeply in Manitoba and in the potential of its people, and he understood the importance of giving back and helping create opportunities for others. Leo leaves behind a legacy of vision, entrepreneurial spirit, leadership, dedication and generosity. His contributions can be seen across Manitoba's business, hospitality and community sectors, and the impact of his work will continue to be felt for many years to come.

Presenting Sponsor

Sponsor Package

As the sole Presenting Partner Sponsor, your organization will receive the following benefits:

- Opportunity to bring greetings to the Gala audience on behalf of your company
- Your company logo associated with the event on all marketing and advertising materials **Premium seating of two (2) tables to the** Gala Dinner & Reception
- A full-page advertisement in event program
- Your corporate logo will be prominently displayed during an elegant pre-dinner reception; during the opening program and dinner in the main ballroom, and on the main screen
- Business recognition in all pre-and post event media relations
- Business Logo recognition on our website & on Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook



Gold Level Partner Sponsor Package

As a valued Gold Level Sponsor, your organization will receive the following benefits:

- **Premium seating of one table (10 seats)** to the Manitoba Business Hall of Fame Gala Dinner and Reception
- A half-page advertisement in event program
- Honorable mentions of your generous support throughout the evening
- Your corporate logo will be prominently displayed during an elegant pre-dinner reception, during the opening program and dinner in the ballroom, and on the main screen during breaks
- Business recognition in all pre-and post event media relations including Winnipeg Free Press
- Business and logo recognition on our website
- Business recognition on Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook



Silver Level Partner Sponsor Package

\$7,000

As a valued Silver Level Sponsor, you will receive the following benefits:

- **Ten tickets (1 Table)** to Manitoba Business Hall of Fame Gala Dinner and reception Quarter page advertisement in event program
- Honorable mentions of your generous support throughout the evening
- Your corporate logo will be prominently displayed during an elegant pre-dinner reception, during the opening program and dinner in the main ballroom, and on the main screen Business recognition in all pre-and post event media relations including Winnipeg Free Press Business and logo recognition on our website
- Business recognition on Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and Facebook

Bronze Level Partner Sponsor Package

\$5,000

As a valued Bronze Level Sponsor, your organization will receive the following benefits:

- **Premium seating of six seats** to the Manitoba Business Hall of Fame Gala Dinner and Reception
- Quarter page advertisement in event program
- Honorable mentions of your generous support throughout the evening
- Your corporate logo will be prominently displayed during an elegant pre-dinner reception, during the opening program and dinner in the main ballroom, and on the main screen Business recognition in all pre-and post event media relations including Winnipeg Free Press Business and logo recognition on our website
- Business recognition on Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and Facebook

Table Level Partner Sponsor Package

\$4250

As a valued Table Level Sponsor, you will receive the following benefits:

- **Ten tickets (1 Table) to** Manitoba Business Hall of Fame Gala Dinner and Reception Honorable Mentions of your generous support throughout the evening
- Your corporate logo will be prominently displayed during an elegant pre-dinner reception, during the opening program and dinner in the main ballroom, and on the main screen during breaks and in the gala program
- Business recognition in all pre-and post event media relations including Winnipeg Free Press Business and logo recognition on our website
- Business recognition on Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and Facebook

Ticket Level Partner

\$325

- An investment of \$325 for one ticket to the Gala Dinner and Reception
- Recognition at the gala for your support of the Business Hall of Fame and JA Manitoba

Gifts in Honor

(Contributions from generous supporters unable to join us in person)

Student Partner

- An investment of \$600 to send two JA high school students to the Gala Dinner and Reception
- Recognition on the MBHF website as a generous supporter

\$650

Community Partner

- An investment of \$1000 to honour our three inductees and support JA Manitoba financial literacy education activities
Recognition at the Gala on screen, in the program & on the
- MBHF website as a generous supporter

\$1,000

Inductee Partner

- An investment of \$2,5000 to honour our three inductees and support JA Manitoba financial literacy education activities.
- Recognition on MBHF website as a generous supporter on Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn & Facebook
- Recognition at the Gala on screen & in Program

\$2,500

Hall of Fame Partner

- An investment of \$4,0000 to honour our three inductees and support JA Manitoba financial literacy education activities. Your financial contribution will send ten JA High School Students to the gala
- Recognition on MBHF website as a generous supporter & Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn & Facebook
- Recognition at the Gala on screen & in Program

\$4,000



Take your place in recognizing outstanding and inspiring business leaders

For more information sponsorship opportunities please contact:

**Greg Leipsic,
President and CEO, JA Manitoba**

Email: gleipsic@jamanitoba.org or phone 204.956.6082

The Manitoba Business Hall of Fame is in support of

