



For Immediate Release

Sunday May 24, 2015 Fredericton NB

After an intense 2-day process, internally called "The Choosing", the Wallace McCain Institute at the University of New Brunswick has named their 8<sup>th</sup> cohort to join their Entrepreneurial Leaders Program. With 446 nominations this year, the 16 below truly represent the region's highest growth potential entrepreneurs in the greater Atlantic area.

These 16 entrepreneurs will now meet for 2 days per month over the next year in an elite program with speakers and peer interaction. The alumni from the previous 7 years have pledged to continue to meet quarterly for the rest of their lives...so this is a very prestigious and high impact program.

This group has a collective economic footprint of \$100M in revenue and 1078 employees.



Front row, from the left: Michael Van Meekeren (Van Meekeren Farms Ltd.), Brent Smith (Newfoundland Chocolate Company), Melanie R Desjardins (Gilbert M. Rioux et fils ltee), Steven Jackson (Sperra Construction Group Inc.) and Mark Harris (Action Fasteners Ltd.) Second row: Mark MacEwen (Linkletter Farms Ltd.), Melody Munro (Wee College Inc), Paul Fowler (Wrightland Development Corporation), Dave Wolpin (Kredl's Corner Market), Chris Barker (Genesis Technology), Karim Bhibah (Marathon Fluid Systems Limited), Patti Ryan (Health QR Inc.), Chris Hotchkiss (Hotchkiss Home Furnishings Ltd.), Danielle Pelletier (Autism Intervention Services), Michael Coleman (M&R Ventures Ltd.) and Ryan Murphy (Murphy Healthcare).

**About the Wallace McCain Institute**

The focus of the Wallace McCain Institute at the University of New Brunswick is to support the next generation of senior business leaders in the Greater Atlantic Area (GAA) to meet the complex challenges facing in that area. The program is a catalyst for shifting the business culture of the province and advancing the values of entrepreneurship and innovation. The development and deepening of relationships and networks is fundamental to how the Institute delivers on its mandate.

Programs range in depth from a very intensive cohort program where high potential leaders will interact in a series of experiences, to one off workshops and lectures on themes relevant to GAA business issues. The program uses innovative pedagogy to convene people, share best practices, assist in the application of learning, and inspire change.

To learn more about the program, please visit <http://www.wallacemccaininstitute.com/elp>

For more information, please contact:

Nancy Mathis

Executive Director of the Wallace McCain Institute

Phone: (506) 721-3820

Email: [nancy.mathis@wallacemccaininstitute.com](mailto:nancy.mathis@wallacemccaininstitute.com)