

Oct 28, 2015

## **Ron Keefe named as recipient of the 2015 Volunteer Excellence Award**



**Charlottetown, PE – The Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce will honour Ron Keefe with the Volunteer Excellence Award at the 10<sup>th</sup> annual President’s Excellence Awards in Charlottetown. Sponsored by Maritime Electric Company Ltd., this award recognizes an individual whose time, commitment and contributions to the Chamber have been outstanding.**

Individuals were nominated by Chamber members, and the Chamber’s executive committee selected the winner.

In 2012, Keefe chaired the Island Advance Task Force, an initiative of the Greater Charlottetown Chamber of Commerce created to identify key areas where action was required to stimulate economic growth in Prince Edward Island. The report of the task force titled "Advancing our Economic Future," recommended specific actions to create a vibrant entrepreneurial community in the province, including embracing entrepreneurship, improving access to capital, and retaining entrepreneurial immigrants. In 2013, Keefe agreed to continue with the project and assume the volunteer position of Island Advance Advisory Board Chair, a position he continues to hold today.

Keefe is CEO of BioVectra Inc. and Regis Duffy BioScience Fund Inc. He is a current member and past Chairman of the Board of the PEI BioAlliance Inc., an organization dedicated to the advancement of the bioscience sector of Prince Edward Island’s economy. He has served on many boards, including Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, BIOTECanada and UPEI, and is President of Communities 13 Inc., a non-profit organization which owns and operates a multipurpose recreational complex serving the needs of 12,000 residents in 13 communities.

“Ron has been an outstanding volunteer for the Chamber, and an exceptional advocate for entrepreneurship in P.E.I.,” said Wendy Drake, President of the Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce. “His contribution to the Island Advance Task Force was instrumental in identifying key priority areas to help promote economic growth in the province, and in establishing the Island Advance initiative.”