

Chamber ball honours Pupatello & Jones

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The Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce held its annual Chamber Ball celebration on June 23, and this year's honourees were Sandra Pupatello, for a lifetime of service to Windsor and Essex County, and Jennifer Jones, who has just completed a two-year term as Chair of the Chamber's Board.

Matt Marchand, president and CEO, Windsor Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce, said that the Caesars-hosted ball was a great success as the community gathered to recognize two of Windsor-Essex's great leaders.

"The attendance was outstanding," Marchand commented. "Two hundred community leaders came together at Caesars Windsor, who put on a first class show."

"The event was about celebrating two fabulous women in our region," explained Marchand. "It was a lifetime achievement award for Sandra – who has provided outstanding community service over the years – and Jennifer Jones – who has led the Chamber for the past two years, and celebrate the end for her chairmanship."

Jennifer Jones said that one of the exciting elements of the evening was presenting the lifetime achievement award to Sandra Pupatello. "It was really wonderful," Jones explained, "She has been such a champion of our chamber and has been so good to all of us; bringing in speakers, and strengthening the chamber movement across the county. It was a wonderful moment to be there."

In regards to being honoured herself, Jones commented that the experience was bittersweet. "Tonight is the last meeting I will chair for the Chamber. It's been an amazing two years, and I enjoyed it a lot more than I thought I would." Jones said that it was an extraordinary time in our community while she was the Chair. "To have a voice in where we go and how we do it, I really enjoy that."

Pupatello acted as MPP for Windsor West from 1999-2011, and was a Liberal Minister in McGuinty's Government. Pupatello further served as the Minister of Education, Minister of Economic Development and Trade, Minister Responsible for Women's Issues, and Minister of International Trade and Investment, as well as sitting on numerous boards and committees in Windsor-Essex.

Jones is the president and CEO of Media Street Productions, and travels across North America speaking on topics like leadership, motivation, an public image. As a member of Rotary International, Jones has spent 2012 speaking to more than 20,000 people from more than 200 countries.