

MEDIA ADVISORY

May 1, 2017

**Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce Presents Chamber
141 Event with Lifetime Achievement Award**

Windsor, ON – The Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce is celebrating 141 years of operation and on Thursday, June 22, 2017, from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., we will be honouring our Chair of the Board, Jeffrey MacKinnon at Windsor's newest premium event venue, Augustus 27 on top of Caesars Windsor, located at 377 Riverside Dr. E.

The event is a celebration of the work of the Chamber and the excitement generated by our community with businesses working together to build a strong network. We are also pleased to present the Lifetime Achievement Award to Marty Beneteau for his business and community contribution to Windsor-Essex.

As Chairman of the Board during the Chamber's 141st year, **Jeffery MacKinnon** has helped advocate for our region on the provincial and national stage. Together with the board, MacKinnon has increased the government's awareness about our concerns with international competition in the steel industry, the cap and trade program, and escalating hydro costs.

MacKinnon is a partner at the McTague Law Firm and practices in the Business Law Department with an emphasis on corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, commercial real estate transactions and related tax issues. He also practices in the area of estate planning, administration and privacy law. He has been a member of the Chamber board for the past nine years and looks forward to continuing to help the Chamber maintain its position as the voice of business for our region.

Marty Beneteau is the former Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of The Windsor Star and southwest region vice-president, editorial, Postmedia Network Inc. An award-winning journalist, executive and community leader, Beneteau's 37 years in the business included more than 20 implementing change while in leadership roles.

Beneteau created a culture of entrepreneurialism, enterprise and performance at The Star. He ushered the 125-year-old newspaper through often jarring change as it transitioned from print-only to a multimedia enterprise offering content on paper, smartphone, tablet or desktop.

He orchestrated The Star's relocation from its historic headquarters at Pitt and Ferry to a state-of-the-art office in the former Palace building at Ouellette and University, helping champion the cause of downtown renewal.

WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL Chamber of Commerce

A recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012, Beneteau won numerous national and regional journalism awards as a reporter, columnist and editor. Among them was the 1995 National Newspaper Award for Our Troubled Children, an investigation into child welfare in Windsor. His teams claimed three Michener Award citations of merit, Canada's highest honor for public service journalism, for subjects ranging from air quality to healthcare.

Marty stepped down from The Star in October 2016. In semi-retirement he focuses on home life, volunteerism, fitness and occasional business consulting.

Community involvement ranks high among his passions. He was on the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors from 2012-2016 and is currently on the Alzheimer Society of Windsor Essex Board of Directors, Windsor International Film Festival Board of Directors, Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare Changing Lives Together Foundation Board of Directors and the Windsor Star Raise-Reader Advisory Committee.

Ticket are available online at www.windsoriessexchamber.org. Register for this VIP evening today before June 2 to save \$15.

-30-

For more information contact:
Lindsey Rivait, Communications Coordinator
Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce
lrivait@windsoriessexchamber.org
(519) 966-3696 ext. 228