



Canadian Council for
**ABORIGINAL
BUSINESS**



Media Release

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CCAB announces recipients of the 2018 Aboriginal Business Hall of Fame (ABHF) Aboriginal Lifetime Achievement Award and National Youth Entrepreneur of the Year Award

Toronto, ON – December 5, 2017 – The Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) is proud to announce the 2018 Aboriginal Business Hall of Fame (ABHF) recipients of this year's prestigious national awards.

The Lifetime Achievement Award recipient is Harry Flaherty, Qikiqtaaluk Region Nunavut with the **Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneur of the Year Award going to Jordan Jolicoeur**, Métis, Stony Plain Alberta. Both awards are Founded & Exclusively sponsored by ESS Support Services Worldwide, a division of Compass Group. The award ceremonies will take place **January 31, 2018, at the CCAB Annual Toronto Gala, Beanfield Center, 105 Princes' Boulevard in Toronto, Ontario from 17:30 to 21:30.**

Harry Flaherty embodies a lifetime of business and community excellence. As a strong business leader who is known for his intellectual curiosity he focuses on creating opportunity for Inuit peoples.

Mr. Flaherty has been with the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation (QC) and its group of companies for nearly twenty years, with the last eight years as President and CEO. Qikiqtaaluk Corporation (QC) is a wholly owned Inuit birthright corporation of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), created in 1983 to be QIA's for-profit, development arm. QC's purpose is to provide employment and financial opportunities for Inuit in the region.

As the most recognized business leader in Inuit Nunagat (Inuit Homeland) his resilience tells a much larger story on business and community levels.

"I am honored to receive the CCAB's Aboriginal Business Hall of Fame Lifetime Achievement Award and truly humbled to join the prestigious group of Indigenous leaders who have been past recipients and particularly grateful to my family and numerous colleagues who supported our effort to advance business and career opportunities on behalf of Inuit. I'm reflective of the strength and perseverance I've gained from my parents, who were among the exiles transported to the North in the 1950's in order to position Canada's claim to the Arctic, and to recognize my grandfather Robert Flaherty who produced "Nanook of the North."

-Harry Flaherty, President & CEO of Qikiqtaaluk Corporation & Group of Companies, Acting Interim President & CEO, Nunasi Corporation.

"CCAB is honoured to celebrate the accomplished life's work of Harry Flaherty who has proudly built a business brand that has brought jobs and prosperity to Nunavut. His business diversity reflects the landscape and challenges that the north embraces with culture and tradition playing an important role in business development."

-JP Gladu, President and CEO, Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB)

"We are very excited to partner with the CCAB in presenting Harry Flaherty the ABHF Lifetime Achievement Award! His achievements and the impact he has had on the Inuit community is a story that should be shared and celebrated with a national audience. We look forward in doing so at the CCAB Gala on January 31st in Toronto!"

- Michael R. Hachey, President, ESS North America, ESS Support Services Worldwide

Carvel Electric President & CEO Jordan Jolicouer, the 2018 CCAB Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneur recipient, is an electrifying story. He and his brother Joel took one old truck and built Alberta's Carvel Electric into a highly successful Industrial/Commercial Electrical contractor.

Carvel Electric specializes in working with industrial controls and power distribution. Their clientele includes some of North America's largest railroad companies, pipelines and energy companies. The company continues to grow having seen year over year growth over the past three years with Jordan at the helm.

"This award is a reassurance that our vision for our company is on the right path. I am grateful for the CCAB for creating a platform for Indigenous entrepreneurs to thrive."

-Jordan Jolicouer is the President & CEO of Carvel Electric

"Our young people are proudly represented by Jordan Jolicouer, his brother Joel and his team at Carvel Electric. Creativity and imagination combined with hard work and commitment can make young people's dreams come true."

-JP Gladu, President and CEO, Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

"Jordan's journey and the story of Carver Electric is truly remarkable. His leadership and passion defines the entrepreneurial spirit, and it is so exciting to see what a great business he has developed and its growth potential!"

- Michael R. Hachey, President, ESS North America, ESS Support Services Worldwide

The purpose of the Lifetime Achievement award is to honour Aboriginal business leaders who have built full and rich careers. It pays tribute to outstanding business leaders, past and present, and gives hope and encouragement to Aboriginal business people. The National Youth Entrepreneurship Award highlights the enterprising spirit of young Aboriginal business leaders under the age of 35. This prestigious CCAB award comes with a \$10,000-dollar cash prize. Both awards are celebrated at CCAB's Annual Toronto Gala. This year it takes place at the **Beanfield Centre, 105 Princes' Boulevard, in Toronto on January 31, 2018.**

"We at CCAB are excited by the future and honoured by the past. Business excellence is born of people with ideas and the courage to make them into realities. We congratulate our 2018 ABHF recipients and look forward to celebrating them at our 20th Annual Toronto Gala."

- JP Gladu, President and CEO, Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

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About the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB):

CCAB is committed to the full participation of Aboriginal people in Canada's economy. A national non-profit, non-partisan association, CCAB offers knowledge, resources, and programs to both mainstream and Aboriginal owned companies that foster economic opportunities for Aboriginal people and businesses across Canada.

About the Aboriginal Lifetime Achievement Award:

The Aboriginal Lifetime Achievement Award is part of CCAB's Aboriginal Business Hall of Fame, which recognizes Aboriginal persons whose business leadership has made a substantive contribution to the economic and social well-being of Aboriginal people over a lifetime. The inaugural award was given in 2005 and there have been over 22 laureates since then.

About the National Youth Aboriginal Entrepreneur of the Year award:

The National Youth Aboriginal Entrepreneur of the Year award is presented annually to an Aboriginal entrepreneur under the age of 35 and receives a \$10,000 financial award.

For more information go to: <https://www.ccab.com/awards>

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