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## THE ATLANTIC ART OF SUCCESS RECOGNIZES BUSINESS EXCELLENCE IN ATLANTIC CANADA



*The Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), and MP Gerald Keddy, Parliamentary Secretary to the ACOA Minister, pose with the 5 Newfoundland and Labrador showcase clients at ACOA's Atlantic Art of Success. From left to right: Emad Rizkalla from Blue Drop Inc. of St. John's; Jerry Byrne from D.F. Barnes Limited of St. John's; Maria Matthews from Vision, The Atlantic Canada Co. Limited of Corner Brook; Minister MacKay, Parliamentary Secretary Keddy; Mike Voisey of Torngait Ujaganniavngit Corporation of Nain; and Leonard Pecore from Genoa Design International Ltd. of St. John's.*

More than 200 business leaders from across Atlantic Canada gathered in Halifax today to recognize business excellence in the region at The Atlantic Art of Success, an event designed to showcase 20 of Atlantic Canada's accomplished entrepreneurs and to illustrate how collaboration between the private and public sector is strengthening the region's economy and growth.

Hosted by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), the event also officially marked ACOA's 20 years of service to Atlantic Canadians.

"Canada's New Government, through ACOA, is getting things done for the people of Atlantic Canada," said the Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence and Minister of ACOA, who spoke at the event. "Over the past two decades, ACOA has been making a difference in the lives of Atlantic Canadians

by helping our entrepreneurs start-up and expand their businesses, boost their productivity and adopt new technologies, while at the same time strengthening the infrastructure of our communities.”

Showcase entrepreneurs from Nova Scotia and Cape Breton included: Jean-Paul and Louis Deveau, Acadian Seaplants Limited, Dartmouth; Brian Lowe, ImmunoVaccine Technologies Inc., Halifax; Barbara Manning, IT Interactive Services Inc., Halifax; Charles Cartmill, C-Vision Limited, Amherst; and Candace and Peter Christiano, FineWood Flooring and Lumber Limited, Cape Breton.

From New Brunswick: Michael Bolster, Christmas Mountain Manufacturing Inc., Perth-Andover; Dr. Salem Masry, CARIS, Fredericton; Mike Doiron, The Moncton Flying Club, Moncton; Stephen Crabbe, SWP Industries Inc., St. Stephen; and Barry Kyle, Industrial Rubber Company Ltd., Bathurst.

Showcase entrepreneurs from Prince Edward Island included: Brian Thompson, Atlantic Turbines Inc., Summerside; Regis Duffy, Diagnostic Chemicals Limited, Charlottetown; Deidre Ayre and Andrew Ayre, Other Ocean Interactive, Charlottetown; Jeff Malloy, Acadian Fishermen’s Cooperative, Wellington; and John Cudmore, Rodd Hotels & Resorts, Charlottetown.

From Newfoundland and Labrador: Leonard Pecore, Genoa Design International Ltd., St. John’s; Emad Rizkalla, Blue Drop Inc., St. John’s; Maria Matthews, Vision, The Atlantic Canada Co. Limited, Corner Brook; Jerry Byrne, D.F. Barnes Limited, St. John’s; and Mike Voisey and Richard Pamak, Torngait Ujaganniavingit Corporation (TUC), Nain, Labrador.

“These 20 companies have recognized the wealth of resources that this region has to offer,” added Minister MacKay. “They have laid solid foundations and have taken important steps to compete and succeed. As Minister of ACOA, I look forward to our continued work with the region’s business community to build a stronger region and prosperous communities for all Atlantic Canadians.”

ACOA President Monique Collette spoke at the event, which also featured an address by Dennis Campbell, President of Ambassadors Gray Line. Gene Fowler, President of FatKat Animation, was the Master of Ceremonies.

#### INFORMATION:

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