

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **BEDC Inducts Mr. Ron Foxcroft into the Entrepreneur Hall of Fame**

**Burlington, ON, June 10, 2011** - The Burlington Economic Development Corporation (BEDC) inducted Ron Foxcroft into the Burlington Entrepreneur Hall of Fame last night at the Burlington Convention Centre. This esteemed award honours an individual that has built a successful, nationally or internationally recognized company, given back to the community and strengthened the image of the city. Mr. Foxcroft celebrated the award with a sold-out audience.

“Last night’s induction as Burlington’s 7th Entrepreneur of the Year celebration was truly an honour for me to receive. I was overwhelmed to be surrounded and celebrated by family, friends, and business associates who have made my journey to receiving this award a treasured and memorable event. I am deeply honoured to be selected and proud to join a distinguished group of past award recipients. BEDC and the City of Burlington provide a nurturing environment for local businesses to foster innovation and the entrepreneurial spirit. My advice for future Entrepreneurs, in the words of Walt Disney, ‘Get a good idea and stay with it. Dog it, and work it until it’s done and done right’,” said Foxcroft.

Mr. Foxcroft is the Chairman, Founder & C.E.O. of Foxcroft Group of Companies, and inventor of the Fox 40 Pealess Whistle. Mr. Foxcroft’s whistle is currently sold in 140 countries and is sanctioned by almost all major sport organizations worldwide, including the NFL, CFL, NHL, NCAA and the NBA. This famous whistle was invented right here in Burlington. Besides the production of the pealess whistle Mr. Foxcroft in 1982 purchased Fluke Transportation and took it from three to 176 trucks and 475 trailers. Over the years Mr. Foxcroft has received many prestigious accolades including being recognized by Profit Magazine as one of the top Ten Canadian Entrepreneurs of the decade and a recipient of the Queen’s Jubilee Medal.

“It was a privilege to recognize Ron Foxcroft as BEDC’s Entrepreneur of the Year at last night’s Signature Dinner. Ron is an inspiration to the community. Mr. Foxcroft has demonstrated that one can achieve great business success and be a significant contributor to our community,” said Mayor Rick Goldring.

Each year a member of the Burlington business community who exemplifies innovation and entrepreneurial skill is inducted into the Hall of Fame. The first entrepreneur award was given in 2005 to Harry Voortman (Voortman Cookies) and consecutively to the following acclaimed business leaders: Mark Chamberlain (Trivaris), Michael Lee-Chin (AIC Ltd. /Portland Holdings), Michael DeGroot Sr. (Laidlaw/Republic), Ron Joyce (Tim Horton’s) and Murray Hogarth (Pioneer Petroleums). Award winners are presented with a sculpture created by a local artist that captures

the essence of the entrepreneurial spirit being celebrated. All of the award recipients are recognized on a permanent display housed in the main reception area of Burlington City Hall.

“I’m certain that Ron Foxcroft’s family and friends are proud of his accomplishments and excited by his induction into Burlington’s Entrepreneur Hall of Fame, “ said John Chisholm, Chairman of the BEDC Board. “I know that my colleagues on the board of directors and the staff of the BEDC are equally as proud to be able to recognize Ron’s contribution to the Burlington community and his spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship”.

Along with the award presentation to Mr. Foxcroft, the BEDC presented 11 scholarships to students from The Centre for Skills Development & Training, Mohawk College and DeGroot School of Business, McMaster University. The BEDC scholarships recognize local students that are currently enrolled in academic programs associated with business and entrepreneurship.

The keynote address of the evening “Going for Gold in Sport and Business” was delivered by Brian Williams, CTV Host, Olympic Games and Award-Winning Sports Broadcaster. Guests attending BEDC’s flagship event celebrating the entrepreneurial spirit also enjoyed a performance from the Hamilton Tiger-Cats Football Club cheerleaders, Mr. Foxcroft’s favourite CFL team.

### **About BEDC**

The Burlington Economic Development Corporation (BEDC) is a non-profit organization established in September 1994 to work with both the public and private sectors to promote economic growth in Burlington. In partnership with the City of Burlington, BEDC is dedicated to retain the existing businesses in Burlington as well as attract new investments to the City.

For additional information regarding BEDC please visit: [www.bedc.ca](http://www.bedc.ca).

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