



## **It's a wrap for Grocery Innovations Canada 2011** *CFIG Packs Up Another Successful Two-Day Trade Show*

**October 26, 2011 (Toronto)** – The Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFIG) proved yet again, that Grocery Innovations Canada has everything the industry needs. CFIG has wrapped up two solid days of innovative grocery exhibits, informative conferences and industry awards presentations at its annual trade show, with close to 5,000 people attending the event, among them some of Canada's top grocery retailers.

Grocery Innovations Canada is recognized as Canada's premier grocery exposition and conference. This annual event is a critical business booster for the grocery industry. With over 500 exhibits comprised of grocery products from national brands, imported and Canadian food processors, as well as the newest store equipment and services, Grocery Innovations Canada is a microcosm of supermarket trends.

"GIC really is the grocery store for the grocery industry," said John F.T. Scott, president and CEO of the Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers. "This year's show saw its fair share of trends, among them fast and healthy meals – Canadians want healthy food and they want it fast. We are pleased that our show continues to be the leading platform to launch these trends and new products. Our loyal sponsors and exhibitors certainly helped us live up to our reputation of being the meeting place for the grocery industry."

The conference portion of the trade show featured a wide-range of diverse and well-respected guest speakers, among them Amber MacArthur, new media strategist and TV host; Anthony Longo, president and CEO of Longo Brothers Fruit Markets; and Andrew Coyne, editor of Maclean's Magazine.

Festivities went well into the night with the 49th Annual Canadian Independent Grocer of the Year Awards where winners were announced and recognized in a variety of industry-specific categories. This year's recipients of the awards include:

### **Top Independent Grocer of the Year Award Winners – Small Surface Category**

Bronze Award – Dan Stezenko and David Stezenko (Quality Market, Campus Hill – Thunder Bay, ON)

Silver Award – Colby Woodhead and Annette Woodhead (Blind Bay Village Grocer – Blind Bay, BC)

Gold Award – Jacques Dufresne and Michel Vincent (L. Dufresne And Fils Ltée – Val David, QC)

### **Top Independent Grocer of the Year Award Winners – Medium Surface Category**

Bronze Award – Brooke Kynoch and Linda Kynoch (Safety Mart Foods – Chase, BC)

Silver Award – Daniel Plouffe and Patrick Plouffe (Métro Plouffe de Sherbrooke – Sherbrooke, QC)

Gold Award – Gary Kadonoff, Christopher Kadonoff and Staff (Port Carling Foodland – Port Carling, ON)

### **Top Independent Grocer of the Year Award Winners – Large Surface Category**

Bronze Award – Ken Schley, John Briuolo, Dan Gigliotti and Staff (Quality Foods Courtenay – Courtenay, BC)

Silver Award – Alain Gagné (IGA Des Sources – Quebec City, QC)

Gold Award – Steve Vetrecin and Staff (Longo Brothers Fruit Markets Inc. Maple Leaf Square – Toronto, ON)

### **Canadian Master Merchandiser Awards**

Gold Large Surface Category – Marcel Moncoin, Linda Moncion, Terry Hess and Staff (Moncion's Your Independent Grocer – Ottawa ON)

Gold Medium Surface Category – Ken Schley, John Briuolo, Kevin Foote, Gord Groves and Staff (Quality Foods Bowen Road – Nanaimo, BC)

Gold Small Surface Category – Kerry Waldo and Staff (Freson Bros. Manning IGA – Manning, AB)

Platinum Award – Kerry Waldo and Staff (Freson Bros. Manning IGA – Manning, AB)

### **Heritage Award Recipient**

The Arnold Rands Heritage Award – Jeff Rowe, Pat Rowe, Shannon Forner, Murray Munroe and Staff (Valu-Plus Foods – Keremos, BC)

The following were also inducted into the CFGI Hall of Fame:

Longo Brothers Fruit Markets Inc. Highway 7 – Dave Carbone and Staff (Markham, ON)

Sharpe's Food Market – Steve, Tim and Justin Sharpe (Campbellford, ON)

Longo Brothers Fruit Markets Inc. York Mills – Rocco Agostino and Staff (Toronto, ON)

In 2012, CFGI will be celebrating its 50th anniversary with Grocery Innovations Canada returning to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, taking place October 1 and 2. The theme of the event will be "Welcome Home!".

For more information on CFGI, visit [www.cfig.ca](http://www.cfig.ca), and to learn more about Grocery Innovations Canada, visit [www.groceryinnovations.com](http://www.groceryinnovations.com).

The **Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFGI)** is a non-profit trade association founded in 1962, which continues to be a collaborative community, equipping and enabling independent, franchised and specialty grocers for sustainable success. Representing over 4,000 grocery retailers from every part of Canada, CFGI is a strong and united voice for independent grocers, providing programs for operational excellence, facilitating educational and training programs and fostering enabling-relationships among retailers and suppliers. CFGI is a respected organization that speaks confidently for its retail members to industry, government, and the consumer.

For more information, contact:

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