



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**J.W. Bud Bird, Normand Caissie and Barry Kyle named to the  
New Brunswick Business Hall of Fame**

**The 2011 Event Marks a Special 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Milestone**

Fredericton, N.B. – Three prominent New Brunswick business leaders have been named to the Junior Achievement New Brunswick Business Hall of Fame. The 2011 laureates are J.W. Bud Bird, Normand Caissie and Barry Kyle. They will be officially inducted into the Business Hall of Fame at the gala dinner on Tuesday, November 15, in Fredericton. This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hall of Fame gala event.

“We are thrilled to honour these exceptional business leaders as this year’s laureates,” said Connie Woodside, President and CEO of Junior Achievement New Brunswick. “They have each made a lasting impression on our province, and are shining examples for our young Junior Achievers.”

A former Mayor of Fredericton, J.W. Bud Bird founded J.W. Bird and Company Ltd. in 1958. The company specializes in residential and commercial supplies and distribution for the construction industry. In 1990, he acquired William Stairs Son & Morrow Ltd. of Halifax and the companies became Bird Stairs Ltd. The company operates throughout Atlantic Canada, including in Fredericton, Saint John, Moncton, Halifax, Dartmouth and St. John’s. Today, he operates Bird Holdings Ltd. Mr. Bird is a former MLA, former provincial Cabinet Minister, and a former Member of Parliament. In 2001, he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada. Mr. Bird was most recently named Philanthropist of 2011 by the Fredericton Community Foundation.

Normand Caissie is the President and CEO of Imperial Manufacturing Group. The company produces more than 7,000 products for the heating, ventilation, air conditioning and building industries, and operates internationally. The Imperial Manufacturing Group employs more than 800 people in 6 locations across Canada and the U.S. Mr. Caissie was awarded Entrepreneur of the Year by the Conseil économique du Nouveau- Brunswick, Ernst & Young’s 2002 Entrepreneur of the Year and Alumnus of the Year by the Université de Moncton.

Barry Kyle is the President of Industrial Rubber Company, located in Bathurst. Industrial Rubber Company is a supplier and manufacturer of industrial rubber-moulded products and linings for the Canadian military, and for mining, chemical and pulp-and-paper companies worldwide. In 2007, Mr. Kyle was recognized for business excellence at The Atlantic Art of Success, an event designed to showcase 20 of Atlantic Canada’s accomplished entrepreneurs. He is also the President of PumpsPlus, CTS and GreenKore.

“The Business Hall of Fame recognizes the achievements of these highly accomplished and successful individuals during this milestone year for us,” says Britt Dysart, Chair of the Board of Directors of Junior Achievement New Brunswick. “The event also serves to motivate and inspire our Junior Achievers, who are the business leaders of the future.”

The annual gala is Junior Achievement's largest fundraiser and has raised over \$1.7 million to date. The theme of this year's gala is "Competition." The evening will showcase how this year's laureates have faced competition, both professionally and personally.

### **About Junior Achievement**

Junior Achievement is an international not-for-profit organization that brings together business leaders, educators, parents and the community to help prepare youth for their future. Junior Achievement of Canada remains the nation's largest developer of business education programs for students aged 8 to 19. Junior Achievement New Brunswick (JANB) encompasses five regions: JA Fredericton, JA Southeastern NB, JA Southwestern NB, JA Northwestern NB, and JA Chaleur, Restigouche and Miramichi.

– 30 –

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