

# Innovatis

Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation

Volume 12, Issue 1, January 2011

## Celebrating 30 Years of Innovation in Canada

Edmonton to Host 2011 Gala and Symposium

**Hold The Date**  
**30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala**  
**October 14, 2011**  
**Symposium**  
**October 15, 2011**

Get ready. It's time to book passage to the Festival City: The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Manning Innovation Awards Gala is coming to Edmonton, Alberta on October 14, 2011.

The gala will be followed the next day by a Celebration of Innovation Symposium.

The events will gather together leaders in business, academia, science and government to celebrate innovation and the winners of the 2011 Manning Innovation Awards. The Foundation's Northern Alberta Chapter Chair, Solomon (Sol) Rolinger, QC and his team of dedicated volunteers are already hard at work organizing the events.

Says Rolinger, "we are truly excited

to host this year's gala in Edmonton, which is a hub of innovation in medicine, green living and nanotechnology." He adds, "Manning laureates are a source of pride for all Canadians — no more so than for us in Alberta, where it all began, and especially here in Edmonton, home to two Encana Principal Award winners in the last six years."



## Welcome to the Winter Issue of Innovatis

2011 will be an exciting year for the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation as we celebrate 30 years of saluting and supporting Canadian innovators.

The Foundation was named after the late Alberta Premier and former Senator Ernest C. Manning. It has inspired many Canadians and drawn well-deserved attention to Canadian innovators. If Canada is to succeed, Canadians must create and commercialize innovations to compete in the global economy. There is a need to recognize and promote the next generation of home grown heroes.

In the past 30 years, we have received more than 2,000 nominations, provided over \$4.3 million in awards and celebrated more than 230 adult and youth winners.

I am honoured to take over the leadership of the Foundation during our 30<sup>th</sup>

anniversary year. A dedicated group of trustees and volunteers are now working hard to ensure our gala this fall in Edmonton follows on the outstanding success of our 29<sup>th</sup> gala in Ottawa last September.

Last fall, we bid a fond farewell to Bruce Fenwick, who was the Foundation's Executive Director since 2006, and to Marilyn Golding, the Foundation's Executive Assistant for 20 years. Bruce and Marilyn did an outstanding job of running the Foundation and were instrumental in making so many Foundation milestones.

As I learn about the day to day workings of the Foundation, I am awed at the dedication of the Trustees, Selection Committee Members, Chapters across Canada, and the annual Gala Committees, who give so much of their time and talents to championing Canadian innovators.

This year we are also hosting a Symposium for the first time. The Celebration of Innovation

will be a day-long experience of learnings and experiences of prior winners.

We are most grateful to those organizations and sponsors who have supported us over the years and who also believe in supporting Canadian innovation.

We now have received approximately 40 qualified nominations for the 2011 awards from across Canada. I look forward to visiting each Chapter this year and working with our Edmonton committee to get ready for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala.

I welcome your feedback and comments and look forward to meeting you. You can watch for news about the Foundation on our website, [www.manningawards.ca](http://www.manningawards.ca)

Dave Mitchell, President  
Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation

# 29th Gala a Hot Ticket!

The 29th Manning Innovation Awards Gala held in Ottawa last September was the largest celebration of Canadian innovators and attendees ever brought together by the Foundation. Close to 400 attendees made up of leaders from business, academia, government, the not-for-profit sector and media joined innovators from across Canada for the event.

The Honourable Pamela Wallin, O.C., S.O.M., Preston Manning, C.C., and Bernard Lord, CEO of the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association, co-hosted and emceed the event, making an outstanding contribution to the evening. The program included a moving tribute by Preston Manning to the Foundation's Founder, David E. Mitchell, C.C., who passed away in August 2010.

The Foundation is grateful to a huge effort by a hard working team of Ottawa volunteers led by steering committee chair Lisa Samson of Strategy Corp. Thanks to everyone for creating such a memorable evening.

## New President of the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation

David B. Mitchell has been appointed president of the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation. John Reid, past president and current chair of the Foundation's Board of Trustees, in making the announcement said, "we are most fortunate to have Dave lead the Foundation as we move into our 30th anniversary year."

Dave Mitchell served as a Trustee of the Foundation for 15 years before accepting his new role. A graduate of the University of Calgary, Chair of the Campus Calgary/Open Minds school program, and a former Board member of the Calgary Chamber of Commerce, Dave is well-known in the Calgary business community. Dave and his wife Karen have two daughters, Jessica and Carolyn.



**Dr. Frank LeBlanc**, Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation selection committee, Professor Emeritus, Clinical Neurosciences, University of Calgary and **Gayle LeBlanc**



L to R: **Leah Murray**, NATIONAL Public Relations, **Hon Jay Hill**, P.C., M.P., **Sandra Manning**



**David B. Mitchell**, President, Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation and **Karen Mitchell**, Calgary sponsors of the Dave Mitchell Family Young Canadian Innovation Award



**Nancy and Dick Wilson**, Trustee, Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation



L – R: **Lisa Samson**, Chair, Manning Innovation Awards Gala Ottawa Committee and Principal, StrategyCorp, **Steven Hogue**, Associate Director, Federal Relations, Pfizer Canada, Gala event partner

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L – R: **France Côté**, Benoit & Côté, Trustee, Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation, and Gala emcee, **Bernard Lord**, Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Assn.



L – R: **David Kerr**, Brookfield Asset Management, Trustee, Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation, **Eddy Fortier**, Young Canadian Manning Innovation Award winner, **Elizabeth Dowdeswell**, President, Council of Canadian Academies



L – R: **Wayne Wouters**, Clerk of the Privy Council of Ottawa, **Beth Diamond**, Managing Partner Calgary office, NATIONAL Public Relations, **Geoff Gosling**, 2010 Innovation Award Winner



L – R: Honorary Co-Chairs of the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation Gala, **The Honourable Pamela Wallin**, Senate of Canada, **Preston Manning**, President and CEO, Manning Centre for Building Democracy



L – R: **Alyson Bell**, Young Canadian Manning Innovation Award winner, **Honourable Gordon O'Connor**, Minister of State and Chief Government Whip



L – R: **Suzanne Fortier**, President, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, **Paul Ledwell**, Ex VP, Public Policy Forum, **Leah Olson**, MacPhie & Company

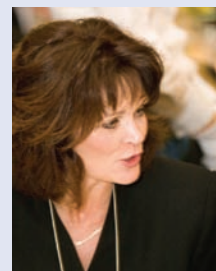
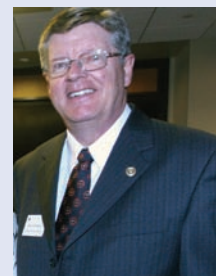
## Happy Trails to Bruce Fenwick and Marilyn Golding

We recently said a fond farewell to the Foundation's Executive Director Bruce Fenwick and long-time Executive Assistant, Marilyn Golding.

Bruce came from an executive and consulting background in oil and gas exploration to lead the Foundation into its 25th anniversary celebrations in 2006 and four subsequent years. Bruce said he will miss the positive energy of the Manning Innovation Award winners and nominees. But, with six grandchildren, Rotary commitments, and many other interests, Bruce won't be doing much napping!

For 20 years, Marilyn Golding was the consistent link to the Foundation for nominees, Laureates, Young Canadians, Trustees, Selection Committee members, sponsors, vendors and the public. Marilyn was responsible for administering the Foundation's day to day activities, which included organizing galas, Trustee and Selection Committee meetings and agendas, newsletters and so much more!

Heartfelt thanks and best wishes were extended to Bruce and Marilyn at a special dinner in their honour following the December Trustee meeting.



# Up and Coming Innovators

This May, over 400 students will gather in Toronto for the 50th anniversary of the Canada-Wide Science Fair. And for the 20th year in a row, the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation will scout out the most innovative science fair projects, selecting four to be recognized with \$4000 Manning Young Canadian Innovation Awards, which will be presented at the Foundation's 2011 Awards Gala.

Last year's Young Canadian Program laureates received considerable media attention, including television and radio spots and a spread in the Globe and Mail alongside the other Manning Innovation Award winners.

The 2011 fair, which will challenge students to connect their projects to current national and global issues, will undoubtedly unveil other talented young innovators who are poised to make a difference.

Past winners include Caitlin Newnham, whose 2009 project on the pain-killing properties of a pepper-plant compound was published in the Canadian Young Scientist Journal. Of the first Young Canadians, Patrick Hayden, a 1992 winner, is now a Canada Research Chair in the Physics of Information at McGill University, Montreal and a Distinguished Research Chair with the Perimeter Institute of Waterloo, Ontario.

## Innovation Symposium Aims to Inspire

*Saturday, October 15, 2011  
Edmonton, Alberta*

"We're dedicated to supporting Canadians with the imagination to innovate and the stamina to succeed," says Foundation President David Mitchell. "Canadians must create and commercialize innovations to compete in the global economy."

To celebrate 30 years of the Manning Innovation Awards, a one-day innovation symposium is being organized by the Edmonton chapter of the Foundation at the University of Alberta. This event will be held on Saturday, October 15, the day following the gala.

Volunteers with the Foundation's Northern Alberta Chapter are bringing the event to fruition with the help of the University of Alberta. University students, Young Canadian Program laureates and the general public are invited to attend the free day of sessions to hear what Canada's brightest innovators and their champions have to say about what it takes to innovate and why it's so important.

Details will be posted to the Foundation Website soon:  
[www.manningawards.ca](http://www.manningawards.ca)

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