

Excellence Awards Gala

AGENDA

- 7:00 pm – cocktails and performance of the classical trio
- 7:40 pm – Welcome by Wojciech Sniegowski President of the
Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce
- 7:45 pm – keynote address Michael Chan
Minister of the Immigration, Citizenship and Foreign
Trade of Ontario
- 7:55 pm – greetings Patrick Brown
leader of the opposition of Ontario
- 8:00 pm – opening remarks by Bonnie Crombie
Mayor of Mississauga
and presentation of the five premier awards
- 8:15 pm – dinner
- 8:45 pm – presentation of 17 individual awards
- 9:15 pm – performance by Biały Orzeł
- 9:30 pm – entertainment
- 10:30 pm – raffle

Recipients of Excellence Award

Bart Pasowski

Humanitarian of the year 2016

Peter Milczyn

Political Leadership of the year 2016

Andrzej Sochaj

Industry Star of the year 2016

Tony Jasiński

Champion of the Year 2016

Waldemar Halek

Executive of the Year 2016

Jarosław Piskorski

Nuclear Engineer of the year 2016

Dr. Jack Pozniakowski

Leading Dental Clinic of the year 2016

Magdalena Surma

Youth Mentorship and Publishing in International Relations,
Global Affairs and Diplomacy

Jerzy Malarski

Financial Advisor of the year 2016

Marek Marchelewicz

Freight Forwarder of the year 2016

Agata Klimczak

Marketer of the year 2016

Tomasz Słoniewski

Currency Analysis Software Developer of the year 2016

Leslie Silvestri

Community Award of 2016

Ania Krosińska

Social Activist of the year 2016

Marek Kornaś

Publishing and Printing of the year 2016

Greg Gilmour

Real Estate Broker of the year 2016

Robert Jękosz

Automotive Industry of the year 2016

Ted Zdybał

Art's Management of the year 2016

Krzysztof i Urszula Zapert

Socially Responsible Construction Business

Gabriela Nowak

Master Practitioner and Skin Therapist
at Hydeaway Total Wellnes

Maggie Habieda

Small Business of the Year 2016



Chamber of Commerce of Toronto

Board of Directors:

Wojciech Śniegowski

President of Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce of Toronto

Stephen Klus

Vice President of the Canada Poland Chamber of Commerce;

Vice President of EUCAN

Jack Smagala

Chairman of the Board of Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce of Toronto

Waldemar Halek

Treasurer of Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce of Toronto

Magdalena Stoch

Vice President of the Canada Poland Chamber of Commerce

Jack Krosiński

Vice President of the Canada Poland Chamber of Commerce

Vitek Manitius

Vice President of the Canada Poland Chamber of Commerce

Committees:

Communications Committee

Sophia Śniegowska

Higher Education Affairs Committee

Paulina Nóżka

Engineering and Technology Committee

Magdalena Ordyniec

The members of the **Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce of Toronto** do not have any obligation to the organization other than to attend the networking events of their choosing. The benefits of the membership are numerous and listed on the website www.canada-poland.com. The most important factor is to be a part of the organization that offers excellent networking opportunities leading to expansion and development of members businesses and contacts.

With our growth in new members the Chamber is in a position to advocate with different levels of government in Canada on our member's behalf. Joining does not translate to a responsibility unless one is interested in becoming an active member, joining a committee or running for a board of director position. All members regardless of their level of involvement gain the opportunity to grow and support their own business.

We are primarily a networking organization and the majority of our hosted events take place in the Greater Toronto Area. We strive to raise the profile of our members and Canadian Polish businesses. To reinforce the significance of their contributions we host an Excellence Awards Gala.

Although we are based out of Toronto we help organize, promote and participate in Trade Missions to Poland, Forums, Conferences, and we recently traveled with Prime Minister Harper on his Delegation to Poland.

Some background information on the Chamber:

The Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce of Toronto (CPCC) was incorporated on June 21, 1994. The CPCC is dedicated to the promotion, development and expansion of business, trade and investment opportunities between Canada and Poland as well as the development of relationship and networking opportunities with other ethnic business organizations in Canada. On October 27, 1999, the Chamber entered into an agreement with the Business Centre Club and Association of Polish Artisans (Związek Rzemiosła Polskiego). The organizations agreed to co-operate to further their individual missions and increase membership privileges.

On March 3, 2005, the Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce became a member of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in Toronto. Since 2005, members of the Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce also receive EUCOCIT/EUCCAN membership. Our Vice President is also a Vice President at EUCCAN and acts as our official liaison.

One other project the Communications Committee and the Higher Education Affairs Committee are actively developing are seminars. This summer we hosted our first seminar alongside Ryerson University and the Polish Consulate. Our keynote speaker was Professor Leszek Balcerowicz discussing the 'Euro: Problems and Solutions'. I will notify you once others develop, perhaps one of our topics would be of interest to someone in your network. We are also considering incorporating webinars due to long distances.

Connect with the Chamber via social media to stay up to date with our general meetings, events and networking opportunities. Facebook: [canadapolandchamber](#) Twitter & Instagram: [canadapolandcct](#) LinedIn Group & YouTube Channel: Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce of Toronto

Bart Pasowski

Humanitarian of the year 2016



It is worth waiting for a given chance to help others.

Bart Pasowski was born and raised in Warsaw, Poland. Graduated from Warsaw Technical University with M.Sc.(Eng). He started career as Electrical Engineer in Warsaw. In 1974 moved to London, England where he started work with GEC Co. and later with Westinghouse Electric. He completed projects as varied as oil rigs, petrochemical plants in Iran, Saudi Arabia and paper plants in USA.

After falling in love with North America he requested transfer to Canada where he joined Stelco Co. He was involved with the construction of the huge steel plant in Nanticoke, Ontario as well seamless tube mill for Algoma Steel in Sault St. Marie.

His latest association is with the construction company Aecon Co where he holds position as the Senior Technical Manager. Noticeable projects are: Terminal 1 at Toronto Pearson Airport, International Quito Airport in Ecuador as well as undertaking key project for Canadian Nuclear Laboratory.

But his real passion is helping underprivileged kids. He does it through his involvement with Polish Orphans Charity where he has major success raising funds for needy children all over the world.

He is licensed professional engineer in Canada as well as Chartered Engineer in Great Britain.



Peter Milczyn

Political Leadership of the year 2016



Peter Milczyn was first elected to the Ontario Legislature in 2014 as the MPP for Etobicoke-Lakeshore. He currently serves as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure, with a concentration on infrastructure development. He also serves as the Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs, and as Chair of Toronto Liberal Caucus.

Over the course of his 17 year career in municipal politics, both in the former City of Etobicoke and City of Toronto, Peter has been a staunch advocate for not only Etobicoke-Lakeshore but also the City of Toronto as a whole. He has been a vocal champion for the expansion of public transit, planning reform and the provision of affordable housing. During his time on Toronto City Council, he chaired Toronto's Planning and Growth Committee, served as TTC Commissioner for eight years, served as a Member of the Budget Committee, and the Executive Committee. He spearheaded key initiatives such as the implementation of Toronto's 311 service, the development of the Etobicoke City Centre and the Waterfront.

Peter is a graduate of the University of Toronto Faculty of Architecture with a Bachelor of Architecture degree.



Andrzej Sochaj

Industry Star of the year 2016



CYCLONE MANUFACTURING INC.

7300 Rapistan Court, Mississauga, ON L5N5S1

T: +1 905-567-5601 L www.cyclonemfg.com

Cyclone Manufacturing is a vertically integrated full service provider of 3-5 axis machining, sheet metal fabrication, tube bending, welding and minor sub-assemblies of aerospace structural components to the largest aerospace companies such as AIDC, Bombardier, Embraer, FACC, GE, IAI, Lockheed Martin, MHI, SAAB, Stelia and Spirit AeroSystems. Our surface treatment and controlled processes are approved by the major OEMs such as Airbus, Boeing, Bombardier, Embraer, IAI and Lockheed Martin.

Cyclone is a privately owned company with over 575 highly skilled employees housed within five state-of-the-art facilities totaling 360,000 square feet in both Canada and Poland.

Vertically Integrated Manufacturing Process:

- 3-5 Axis CNC Machining
- Sheet Metal Fabrication
- Tube Bending
- Waterjet Cutting
- Non-Destructive Testing
- Heat Treating
- Shot Peen
- Anodize (CAA, BSA, TSA), Chem Film & Conversion Coating
- Passivation
- Primer, Fuel Tank Coating & Topcoat
- Welding
- Bench top Assembly



Tony Jasiński

Champion of the Year 2016



INPOST – A POLISH SUCCESS STORY

InPost is offering an innovative delivery solution on a Canadian market.

It is a shipping service that allows to receive and send packages within a network of the lockers available 24/7. With a competitive price and convenient way of delivery InPost Locker 24/7 enters the market as an unique option among shipping companies. InPost cooperates simultaneously with retailers, ecommerce and courier companies.

Currently InPost Lockers 24/7 are deployed in over 200 GTA locations that are available at 24/7 high traffic places like stations, shopping malls, transportation hubs, etc.

InPost is successfully rolling out across Canada to reach the network of 1000 lockers.

InPost is the biggest international network of parcel lockers that allows fast and convenient method of shipping and collecting parcels around the clock, seven days a week, with no line-ups and at a convenient locations. InPost has already introduced its innovative parcel lockers among others in: the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Poland, Ireland, Iceland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Russia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Colombia, Canada, Australia and others.

The locker experience in other markets*

Source: IMRG, UK Click & Collect Review 2015



90%
say it's easy



84%
would use again



78%
would recommend

InPost won multiple awards in global industry competitions:

- World Mail Awards 2013 in the "Customer Service" category,
- Postal Technology International Awards in "Innovation of the Year",
- The Delivery Excellence Award 2014 as „Best Carrier Contribution to Delivery Innovation“.



InPost Lockers 24/7 competitive edge:



24/7 Availability
No line-ups and no opening hours



Speed
Picking up a parcel can take as little as seven seconds



Price
one of the cheapest delivery options customers appreciate



Simplicity
a text message, a few clicks or a QR code scan and the locker opens



Safety
unique collection codes, CCTV, secure locks and solid steel locker construction.



Innovation
QR codes and mobile app

Waldemar Halek

Executive of the Year 2016



Waldemar Halek is a finance executive focused on real estate with an outstanding track record of progressive and broad experience with entrepreneurial and complex organizations. Waldemar is a member of the senior leadership team of First Capital Realty ("FCR"), a TSX-listed real estate company, where he serves as the Vice President, Asset Management Analytics.

In his role at FCR, Waldemar oversees asset management analytics, forecasting, and valuations of the company's \$8 billion retail real estate portfolio across Canada.

Prior to joining FCR, Waldemar spent five years as the Vice President, Finance of Elad Canada, a group of companies that included a public issuer on Tel Aviv stock exchange and several private companies investing in and managing a diversified real estate portfolio in Canada and the U.S.. He also spent ten years with PwC LLP, a global accounting firm, working in offices in Toronto, Washington, D.C. and San Francisco.

Waldemar is a Chartered Professional Accountant in Canada and a Certified Public Accountant in the United States. He also holds Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Schulich School of Business and a dual Master of Business Administration degree from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and Schulich School of Business.

In his personal life, Waldemar enjoys outdoor activities with his wife Anita and their two little sons: Richard and Charlie. Waldemar also serves as the board member and treasurer of two not-for-profit-organizations: Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce of Toronto and Tapestry.



Jarosław (Jerry) Piskorski

Nuclear Engineer of the year 2016



ONTARIOPOWER
GENERATION

Jerry joined Ontario Power Generation in 2008 as a new graduate engineer in the Fuel Channel Inspection Engineering department within the Inspection and Maintenance and Services Division (IMS). In this role, he worked with a large team of engineers and technicians to performed NDE inspections and analysis of nuclear pressure tubes to support continued operation of the CANDU nuclear fleet.

Understanding the important role of nuclear energy in Ontario's energy mix, as well as the unique challenges associated with nuclear power, Jerry has always been committed to forming relationships and growing strong teams grounded by the core values of OPG, enabling OPG to continue to be the safe, low cost energy generator of choice.

In 2014, Jerry accepted a position at OPG's nuclear head office to apply his knowledge and skills as the Section Manager of Fuel Channel Engineering. There he supported reactor operation, licensing, as well as fuel channel life extension. Having gained valuable experience in management, as well as interfacing with the regulator, Jerry returned to IMS in late 2015 as the Section Manager of Plant Performance. In this role he is responsible for the development of advanced non-destructive examination techniques to be used for various applications within the nuclear power industry. In addition, his team performs plant measurements and analysis to improve plant performance and efficiency. Utilizing his strengths and his dedicated team, he strives to grow the inspection business and provide advanced inspection services to new and prospective clients.

Jerry's energy, outgoing nature and positive attitude have been a great asset in his role as a leader within the company. Having been recognized for his strengths, Jerry has been tasked with leading several initiatives in the long term excellence plan as well as developing a long term vision of sustainability for the division, supporting OPG in reaching its long term goals.

Dr. Jack Pozniakowski

Leading Dental Clinic of the year 2016



Dr. Pozniakowski grew up in a family, with two other siblings. He was the youngest one. His grandmother, came from US, was visiting Poland and got trapped by World War I. She married a captain of Polish Cavalry and never returned to US. Germans executed his other grandfather in Auschwitz concentration camp for the acts of espionage on behalf of Polish Army. He was a spy during World War II. His parents kept rejecting the communist regime and as a child Dr. Pozniakowski remembers they were listening to radio Free Europe. His father was making many attempts to take his family to the country of his mother, US. Unfortunately, Polish communist government restricted that kind of trips particularly for its non-communist citizens.

As a teenager Dr. Jack was quite independent and new what he wanted to do with his life. His dream was to be a physician

working for Red Cross to travel the world and help people. Eventually, he decided to apply for Dentistry. Right after his parents fooled Polish border officer by buying flight tickets to two different destinations at the same time. One to Greece and one to US. At the last moment they switched the gates and ended up on a plane to New York. Upon graduation of Dentistry he continued to study Medicine. Jack visited his parents once the communist regime started to melt down. He enrolled at Loyola University in Chicago for a dental program. During his living in the centre of Polish community in Chicago Jack experienced unpleasant episodes of discrimination towards Polish emigrants that created some aversion towards the United States. Then Jack met his parent's friends from Canada that made him fall in love in the country. That started a chain of positive experiences for him. Dr. Poz was among brilliant Canadian dentists that shared his passion for higher education. He emerged into new exciting field of laser dentistry. His credentials were recognized and he was offered to teach to use lasers in dentistry throughout South America and Canada. Jack becomes one of the pioneers of Laser Dentistry in Canada. Patients appreciated how the technology changed their dental appointments for better. Over the years of practicing orthodontics Dr. Pozniakowski expanded his knowledge into fields that he believes were essential to treat and diagnose patients more accurate, dysfunctions of jaw joint (TMJ dysfunction) and sleep disorder dentistry. Very important branches of dentistry that he found often overlooked. Jaw joint dysfunction as well as sleep disorder dentistry are also maladies that can impact life expectancy, general health and over all quality of life. Presently Dr. Pozniakowski is taking his dental practice towards holistic dentistry. As the health professional that treats many patients he sees that dentistry cannot be separated from the whole body. We cannot allow ourselves to think that any change happening in one part of our body won't affect the rest. Human body is like a perfect engine that can work well provided all our parts are healthy. Holistic dentistry addresses it all. He have taken extensive training in holistic dentistry and naturopathy that allows him to address the presently growing issues our patients rise about safety of replacing silver fillings and protection against their toxicity, toxicity of root canal treatments, teeth post extraction complications and persistent dental problems that general dentistry seems to be unsuccessful in resolving.

Dr. Pozniakowski's professional career has been about constant self-development and improvement of service to his patients. Never sees to educate and challenge is Dr. Poz's motto.



Magdalena Surma

Youth Mentorship and Publishing in International Relations,
Global Affairs and Diplomacy



Magdalena Surma is the Program Editor of Global Horizons at the NATO Association of Canada. Magdalena completed a BA in Legal Studies (Honours) and a Masters in Public Service at the University of Waterloo. She also attended Harvard during two summers, where she completed courses in psychology, government, and law. In addition, she successfully completed Harvard Law School's Executive Education Program in Negotiation and Leadership. Magdalena is currently completing an LLB through University of London's International Program. She is passionate about law, government, and charitable non-profit organizations.

As an avid researcher, she hopes to extend her research to investigate women in security while examining society, culture, and international relations. In addition, Magdalena is also passionate about international business and economy. She is very excited about being involved with various projects at NATO, specifically engaging youth and society about international affairs. Apart from a love of politics, Magdalena enjoys fine art, ballet, and classical music.

Jerzy Malarski

Financial Advisor of the year 2016



Jerzy Malarski was born in Walcz, grew up in Kielce, and graduated from the Lublin University. He opened up his first business in Kielce in the early 80's but his hunger for freedom and vision of a better life for his family brought him to Canada in 1990. Since then he has built a prominent reputation in the financial services industry, specifically in insurance and investments.

In 1991 he founded a successful brokerage agency – Life Concept Financial & Insurance Inc. Two years later, he established the Polish-Canadian Chamber of Commerce, which grew to amass over 300 members. Jerzy has been an exclusive advisor for the Chamber of Commerce Group Insurance Plan for over 20 years.

Lately he has been promoting a unique type of investment – the Syndicated Mortgage. When investing in a syndicated mortgage, the investor pools their money with other investors to create a mortgage that will be registered and secured directly with the property or building that's associated with that mortgage. He can proudly say that none of his mortgage investors have lost even a single dime so far!

His work has been recognized with many awards from ING - Internationale Nederlanden Group, Chamber of Commerce Group Insurance Plan, and Johnston Group Ontario.

He is a strong supporter of the Polish community and cultural events.

In his free time, he enjoys sailing, skiing and spending time with his friends and family.

<http://jerzymalarski.com/>



Marek Marchelewicz

Freight Forwarder of the year 2016



Soon after Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce of Toronto was established in 1994 I decided to get into CPCC Hall of Fame – to receive its Excellence Award.

For that reason, in March of 1998 I opened and incorporated Abakus Forwarding Inc.

Slowly but surely, I was working on my goal, the Company grew, the staff (me) remained loyal and stayed with the Company through thick and thin. Customer base grew somehow, some came, some retired, I became friends with quite a few.

18 years had gone by and my goal has been achieved. I was notified couple of months ago that I would receive the Excellence Awards of Canada Poland Chamber of Commerce of Toronto, a big award for a small Company like mine.

And this, the award, without a question, I owe to our loyal customers. I am grateful for their support and will continue trying to give them reasons to stay with Abakus.



Uber is excited to support the 2016 Canada-Poland Chamber of Commerce Excellence Awards Gala. We are passionate about celebrating our city and the communities that make it great.

Since 2012, riders and driver-partners have travelled over 122 million kilometres together—that's over 300 trips to the moon! At the core of it all are over 15,000 driver-partners who've chosen to access flexible earning opportunities through ridesharing.

Driver-partners have the opportunity set their own schedules to earn additional income around their daily lives. They empower our city every day as they keep Toronto moving, and help over 500,000 riders get where they need to be.

With the introduction of uberHOP and uberPOOL in Toronto, we're helping put more people in fewer vehicles. Since launching in January, Torontonians have already shared over 300,000 uberPOOL rides! We want to be part of the solution by taking cars off the road, reducing congestion and lowering carbon emissions.

Newly launched uberASSIST and uberWAV are at the forefront of improving access to safe, reliable rides for everyone in our city. We've worked closely with accessibility community leaders to bring these services to those who need them most. Today, because of these ongoing efforts, we're proud that Toronto has become the 2nd largest provider of wheelchair accessible rides in North America for Uber.

Enter UberEATS, and hungry Torontonians now have the city's top restaurants at their fingertips. In less than 11 months since launch, UberEATS has grown to deliver over 100,000 meals from over 150 local restaurants. It's been a huge boost in demand for small businesses; helping connect them with new customers from across the city and ultimately create more jobs. Dig in Toronto!

We're always innovating to ensure that residents and visitors to our city have access to safe, reliable transportation and flexible earning opportunities. It has been an incredible journey so far, and we look forward to seeing what's yet to come.

Thanks for coming along for the ride and enjoy the event!

Toronto • • • ✈ Warsaw

Starting June 14th, enjoy new, non-stop flights from Toronto to Warsaw with Air Canada rouge. Make yourself comfortable in our stylishly-designed cabins, enjoy streaming from our inflight entertainment system or, for even more comfort, move up to Premium rouge.

Book your flight at aircanada.com

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Agata Klimczak

Marketer of the year 2016



Brilliant Minded Women

When she was 25, Polish native **Agata Klimczak** immigrated to Canada. After starting from scratch in an unfamiliar new country, Agata grew into a successful, dynamic leader in network marketing and business. Today, she's creating new opportunities for other female entrepreneurs at all stages of their careers through the Brilliant Minded Woman network.

Agata worked in marketing and tourism for twelve years before entering the field of network marketing with global coffee brand and distributor Organo Gold, where she has reached one of the highest positions in the company.

As a Diamond Consultant, she created and manages a successful team of 2000 distributors. She has performed over 100 key note addresses in North America and Europe and expanded the company into Poland.

When she's not at her day job, Agata is raising two children and volunteers her time supporting organizations that support women and children. As the founder of the Brilliant Minded Women network, her vision is to acknowledge women's achievements and leadership, raise funds for local and international causes and celebrate the importance of women in the world.

She continues to be a strong, inspirational, successful woman, bringing women in business to the forefront.

Brilliant Minded Women is an organization for female entrepreneurs who want more from their professional and personal futures.

We've created a community where innovative, successful women at the top of their fields can develop strong, supportive relationships and show each other new ways to grow their businesses. Our vision is to acknowledge the achievements and leadership of female entrepreneurs, and to celebrate how much they matter. We hold focused, inspiring events to help women connect with each other and we introduce them to thought leaders who will motivate them to take their careers to the next level. Additionally, we use our collective power to raise funds for local and international causes.

Tomasz Słoniewski

Currency Analysis Software Developer of the year 2016



ForexProAnalytics www.forexproanalytics.com

After several years of research, Forexproanalytics developed software used in finance market risk analysis. In 2015 our program was sold to one of the leading Broker, operated in Forex Market.

Forexproanalytics shows the percentage change in price of various currencies against each other. Data is collected from 22 largest banks bridged in foreign exchange industry. We call it legal inside information.

ForexProAnalytics use very sophisticated technique, helping professional traders determine a correct trend in change on currency market.



Forex Pro Analytics

Leslie Żurek-Silvestri

Community Award of 2016



Leslie Żurek-Silvestri is a well sought after healthcare consultant, offering support and advocacy to families in the community as well as educational institutions through her firm while respecting their personal and body integrity. Attention to detail and reflective practice are a key part of her delivery of service and knowledge and her over 25 years as a Nurse.

Leslie is a host of Living in Synergy radio show on Connect me radio. The show strives to bring all parts of life together with a primary focus in health and wellness and supports community initiatives and outreach.

Outside her work in the healthcare sector she is a Humanitarian. Leslie has an extensive record in nonprofit and community leadership and education. She has held chair positions for various organizations such as United way, Breakfast with Santa Foundation, Hats on for Awareness and Learning Disabilities of Peel Region. Her passion is instrumental in creating awareness and a voice in mental health and assisting in dispelling the stigma associated with it. Leslie is a director at the special advisory council of Dufferin Peel Catholic District School board. Currently her work extends to She has a voice Inc. supporting youth and their families bridging the gap between service providers, community agencies and the public.

Leslie is married to Carlo Silvestri and has raised three daughters. She takes pride in her heritage and continues to be actively involved serving the Polish community.



Ania Krośńska

Social Activist of the year 2016



Ania Krosinska, born in Gliwice Poland, is a former chess champion and international cover model actress. After studying forensic science and criminology at the University of Toronto she has since become an artist, a passionate philanthropist, a humanitarian activist, real estate agent and entrepreneur. Her modelling presence the world over has given Ania a voice for people without one. She gained global recognition with headlines and magazine covers after a controversial photoshoot featuring Ania wearing a "Je Suis Charlie" shirt, displaying her fierce support for the fight against terrorism in honour of Charlie Hebdo and for the protection of freedom of speech after the horrific incident in Paris

Ania has co-founded a nonprofit organization called "Heroes in Black" that targets at risk homeless youths. She's also involved with the "Rally for Kids with Cancer", an organization that has raised over 15 million dollars towards Sick Kids Hospital in Toronto. She is extremely active in her community and her heart is drawn to the less fortunate. In her professional life, aside from her modelling she is also an agent at Milborne Real Estate Inc, specializing in pre-construction condominium projects across the GTA and working with top builders in Canada.



M·I·L·B·O·R·N·E

Milborne Real Estate Inc.



Marek Kornaś

Publishing and Printing of the year 2016



Mark Kornas is a pivotal character in the Polish-Canadian community as a leader and driving influence in local culture and business. His activity in civil society and professional services is a result of his close connection to his native Poland. For over twenty years, he organized and promoted concerts, attracting the local Polish population to some of Poland's finest and best known artists.

In 1992, at the Polish Consulate in Toronto, Mark Kornas inaugurated the first Polish Book Fair, which for the following twenty-five years, toured the diaspora in Canada, United States and Australia. In 1994, Mark opened a graphic design-printing business known as Nova Printing, which has thrived in a competitive market. Nova Printing has offered printing services to Canadians across the country and has become an inspiration for other Polish small businesses to follow.

Mark Kornas has been a patron for local arts and culture. He has provided school books and textbooks to Polish schools in Ontario. Working together with a number of civil, non-profit organizations notably with Polish Teacher's Association, Polish Congress, Polish Combatant's Association.

He volunteers and supports local Polish candidates to enter political office, by funding campaigns and raising awareness.

Currently, Mark Kornas is the vice president at the John Paul II Foundation. He has fought alongside members of parliament and city councillors to make April 2nd, (John Paul II Day).

He has taken part in removing visas for Polish citizens coming to Canada, allowing easier access for travel and business.

He is an active member in Polish- Canadian sports and athletics, taking part in Polonia Olympics as an athlete representing Canada in two separate sporting events.

Mark is charismatic leader, benefactor of Polish culture, successful businessman and loving husband and father.

"A promoter of culture and art, charismatic leader and true friend"



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Greg Gilmour

Real Estate Broker of the year 2016



Greg Gilmour burst onto the Real Estate scene in 1975 and wowed the industry, selling 77 homes his first year.

He is most known for his involvement in bringing the RE/MAX Brand to Eastern Canada in 1980; a move that changed the real estate industry as we know it. This created independence for Realtors and allowed Buyers and Sellers to choose the Realtor and marketing plan that meets their needs.

An award-winning developer, Greg has built office buildings, condominiums, luxury homes and an indoor mall. Greg is known throughout Mississauga for his fearlessness; in 1999 he broke a decade-long stalemate in development of the City Centre when he built a 5 storey office building to house his RE/MAX office and a handful of tenants.

Greg's vision and enthusiasm are magnetic. Over 400 Realtors across the GTA choose to make Greg Gilmour their Real Estate Broker as members of his franchise, RE/MAX Realty Specialists, Inc, Brokerage, which celebrated its 35th anniversary last year and closes an average 2000 transactions annually.

Personally, Greg is most proud of how his passion and penchant for Real Estate has improved the lives and economies of hundreds of homeowners, Real Estate salespeople and closest to his heart, his family. All four of Greg's siblings, the majority of his nieces and nephews and both of his children have joined him in what he calls "the greatest profession on Earth".

Greg is proud to have fast-tracked a great many Polish Canadians to achieve their Canadian Dream. A remarkable number of whom are strong, independent Polish women, and a few of whom celebrate with us tonight.



Robert Jekosz

Automotive Industry of the year 2016



Robert Jekosz was born in Tarnow, Poland in 1967. He quickly developed a key mechanical mind with a specific interest in cars and racing. He immigrated to Canada in the 1990's with the intention of furthering his automotive passions. While working at a multitude of different jobs, Robert was able to gain a knowledge of Canadian business and develop business connections that he uses to this day. Stepping out on his own to become an entrepreneur, first in the field of transportation. He then used all his knowledge gained through his automotive history to take on the world of alternative fuels.

Both from an economic and environmental factor, Robert saw early on the benefits of propane. Using his own proprietary technology, Robert's company, PHD, has become the leader in the automotive propane conversion industry. With everything from propane run trailer heaters, dual fuel automotive propane systems all the way to the futuristic and innovative propane run fuel cells, Robert's company seeks to lessen their customer's carbon footprint while also saving their customer's money from the bottom line.

Today, in Robert's spare time, he can often be found at rally tracks around North America, hanging out in the pits with his 3 beautiful daughters and ever supportive wife.

Although Robert has come so far in Canada he has never forgotten his Polish routes. With Polish being the language spoken in the office and at home, and his multiple polish business connections, Robert has always seen the Canadian-Polish relationship as one that is incredibly beneficial for both countries.



Ted Zdybał

Art's Management of the year 2016



Artistic & Musical Director and Choreographer **Ted Zdybał** has been working with The White Eagle Polish Song and Dance Ensemble since 1996. He has created several full length works *The Four Seasons*, *Our Pole Our Poland* and created many choreographic works for the Ensemble. Under his Artistic Leadership the Ensemble has traveled to Europe, Asia, South America, Central America, The Caribbean and throughout the United States and Canada. As a producer, the Ensemble has several Professional Audio and Video Recordings.

Mr. Zdybał is a former professional dancer with the Polish national folk company *Slask* and is the first ever Canadian to ever perform with the company. Prior to his career in Poland to he performed for several years with *Het International Folkloristisch Danstheater* in Amsterdam, Holland. This professional folk ensemble had a repertoire of international folklore. While in Poland he was the Artistic Director of *Tarnogorzenie* of *Tarnowskie Gory* Poland. He has taught for and choreographies for many folk ensembles in Poland, Russia, Holland, Belgium, The United States, Canada and Taiwan.

Ted Zdybał received his professional training from the prestigious National Ballet school of Canada Teacher Training Programme, The Toronto High School for the Performing Arts. He graduated with honours from the The Choreographic Institute Poland at the University of Marie Curie-Skladowska as well Royal Conservatory of Music and the United Conservatory of Music.

He has been awarded the internationally acclaimed Order of The Smile, Golden Cross of Poland, The Citizenship Award. His choreographies have been awarded The Golden Ciupaga / Highlander Axe and the Prestigious Folk Festival in Zakopane, Poland, First Place in Olkusz, Poland, Second and Third Prizes and the International Chin Picnic. He has played an active role as a member of the Board of Directors for Folklore Canada and The Community Folk Arts Council of Metropolitan Toronto.

Since 1996 Artistic Director Ted Zdybał has brought the ensemble into a new technical and creative era. With the same values as its founders, he has instilled in the youth a dedication to the professional interpretation, presentation and expression of historical and contemporary Polish cultural traditions and values. The ensemble is comprised of individuals who devote themselves to the cultivation of their ancestors' folk culture through song and dance. Notable mention can be given to the ensemble's philosophy of not only entertaining but also educating audiences and dancers alike. Most recently, the ensemble's Artistic Director has taken on the task of researching, exploring, collecting and staging folklore from "unknown" Polish sub-regions in which ethnographically, people differentiate themselves. Strong emphasis is made to the commitment of discovering our roots by creating a new existence to the songs, dances and traditions of our forefathers and their ancient folklore that otherwise may have been lost. This is achieved through our recognition of the existence the many identifiable and diverse ethnographic and ethnic groups within and beyond Poland's borders (i.e. the folklore of the *Czadeckie Highlanders-Poles* living in Romania, Roma – *Cyganskie*, *Chelm*, *Leczyce*, *Szczyrzyce*, *Orawa*, *Pszczyna*, *Spisz*, *Wilamowice*, *Jaslicka* and *Lasowiaks*). Mr. Zdybał's recent activities not only add to the expansion of our repertoire and costume collections, but also explores the diverse realms and aspects of Poland's ornate folk heritage.



Krzysztof i Urszula Zapert

Socially Responsible Construction Business



Zapert Inc is a prime company specializing in commercial and residential construction, using Exterior Insulated Finish System (EIFS) in sustainable design. EIFS reduce air infiltration, stabilize the interior environment and reduce energy consumption also add to the "R-value" of a home or building. The Company provide the highest quality of innovative goods and solutions. Company showcase its work at varies Exhibitions including National and International Home Show for last several years. The founders Krzysztof and Urszula Zapert settled from Poland in 2000.

Company is rich in culture, diversity, and provides workplace for over 20 subcontractors and associate. Linking people with opportunities, succeeding with hiring and retention. Also, the company heavily invest in proper recycle procedure caring for the environment.

Krzysztof Zapert is passionate and dedicated to providing superior workmanship and products. He has mechanical engineering education from Poland that lays the foundation for his attention to details and quality.

Urszula Zapert hold a MBA degree from Ted Roger School of Business. She helped at the startup of the company and provides expertise in compliance with industry standards, government requirements and regulations.



Urszula and Krzysztof Zapert are dedicated to enhance and contribute to society they live in. They dedicate ample time to support communities, donate to charitable organizations such as World Vision, and recently they sponsored air travel to Poland for Youth Day in Krakow. Urszula Zapert is also a founding Director of Meaningful Media Foundation that promote enriched youth development.

Gabriela Nowak

Master Practitioner and Skin Therapist
at Hydeaway Total Wellness



Hi, my name is **Gabriela** and I am Master Practitioner and Skin Therapist at Hydeaway Total Wellness. While looking to improve my son's heart condition I discovered a revolutionary therapy that saved his life. Since then, I adopted this therapy to all the treatment at the spa to successfully treat over 246 afflictions related to FACE, BODY and MIND.

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Maggie Habieda

Woman Entrepreneur of the Year 2016

Maggie Habieda is a creative professional portrait photographer, a successful entrepreneur and a philanthropist. A graduate from the Ontario College of Art and Design with Honours in Illustration, Maggie is an international award winning Portrait Photographer with Masters from PPOC and WPPI and has been featured on several magazine covers including "Top Choice" and "Oakville Voice". Maggie is a motivational speaker at professional photography conventions and colleges, not to mention that she is a mentor to professional photography students at her studio. She also serves as a judge for photography competitions.



Maggie is the owner of the exquisite Fotografia Boutique, a high end portrait photography studio in Oakville Ontario. Her large framed Timeless Canvases, Italian-made Fine art story books as well as unique designers photo purses are her trade mark. Maggie's twenty years of experience in fine art, and unmatched blend of creativity and technical skill, allows her to capture people as they dream themselves to be.

Fotografia Boutique is recognized internationally for its professionalism, innovation and exceptional quality of work.

Maggie has photographed senior federal, provincial and local politicians, many performing artists and countless corporate executives. She is sought out for her captivating, timeless portraits, judicious editing creative and professional posing. Maggie has a close promotional/marketing partnership with Audi Centre Oakville and with Life Time Athletics in Canada. Her lobby displays often feature live musical entertainment and long stem roses to all members who take the time to stop by and explore a portrait opportunity.

Maggie's warmth and unique charisma truly makes each client's experience a very comfortable one in the studio setting. Her approach to business is simple; treat all people with genuine honour and love. When you enter the spacious Fotografia Boutique, you feel like you're in an art gallery but when you sit for a Maggie portrait, you feel like a celebrity.

Furthermore, Maggie has a philanthropic side as she is the founder and chair of the Colours of Love International Not for Profit Organization. The Colours of Love International Concert celebrates life, love and multiculturalism through music, dance and art that bind us all together as a global society. The concert event invites everyone to experience the beauty and diversity of artists from around the world sharing the stage and embracing the many Colours of Love. Maggie also supports many other charitable organizations including Hats on for Awareness dedicated to raising awareness, understanding and widespread acceptance of mental illness and addiction, the Epilepsy Association of Ontario and the Mississauga Arts Council.



Maggie is an artist, a creative genius, a passionate cultural arts event producer and a successful entrepreneur.

Maggie is a Member of PPOC, WPPI, OCC

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1525 Cornwall Rd Unit 1, Oakville, Ontario

Anya Mielniczek

Mixed-media Artist



Anya Mielniczek is a Toronto based Polish-Canadian artist who grew up between the city in Canada and the country sides of Poland. As a mixed-media artist, her work explores combinations of both fine art and street dirt mediums.

Mielniczek takes easily discarded materials adding value to what otherwise is considered disposable, in the process drawing attention to our consumeristic tendencies and the implications they have on our environment. Inspired by litter bits, moody images and the treatment of our natural resources her pieces are emotionally charged, experimental and responsive to the time and place she's creating in. The artist's work is both figurative and representational, compiled of layers, textures, and the energy felt in unaltered lines. Decidedly playing between a real and fantastical aesthetic forming a greater narrative pertinent for environmental awareness –informing herself as well as viewers, of the obstacles our finite world faces in light of our consumption.

Having graduated from Queen's University in 2012 with a BFAH, Mielniczek completed her year long fellowship with The Living Arts Centre in Mississauga in 2014 and most recently was an artist in residence for 9 weeks at INSTINC Studios in Singapore.

A N Y A M I E L N I C Z E K

Eliza Kozurno

Jewellery Designer



eliza

Eliza Kozurno launched her first line of jewellery in 2005 after working with an array of innovative designers, including Izzy Camilleri, Colette Harmon and Rita D.

Educated at The Academy of Fine Arts in Lodz, Poland as a decorative textile designer, Eliza's training in painting, drawing, sculpture and photography helped her hone her skills not only as a designer, but as an artist.

The Classical Trio



In an evolving, multi-faceted career **Dobrochna Zubek** has worked as a soloist, chamber musician, recitalist and orchestra cellist in Europe at England's Dartington International Summer School, the Fontainebleau Music Festival in France, in North America for the State of Mexico Symphony Orchestra and currently is also a member of the Canadian New Music Ensemble; The Thin Edge Music Collective. Highlighting Ms. Zubek's numerous competition awards are: first place award of the Peggy Friedman Gordon Music Competition (2002), the Sidney Liebermann Music Competition (2004), the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra Competition (2007)

and the YoYo-Ma Fellowship. Currently, Ms. Zubek is pursuing a doctoral degree in cello performance at the University of Toronto under the tutelage of Professor Shauna Rolston. Dobrochna's recent international performances include a concert tour and series of masterclasses in China as a part of University of Toronto Faculty of Music New Music Festival. Just recently, Dobrochna has recorded her first solo CD entitled: "Mexico-Voyage."



"A compact fireball" (La Scena Musicale), violinist **Sharon Lee** made her concerto debut at ten years old with the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra.

Sharon is Concertmaster of Toronto Concert Orchestra's Casa Loma Residency, Toronto Beaches Chorale, Mississauga Choral Society, and Bellus Barbari. Sharon was recently Guest Concertmaster of PAX Christi Chorale, Sudbury Symphony Orchestra, Sneak Peek Orchestra, and Canzona Chamber Players.

Devoted to music of our time, Sharon can be found backing up legends like Earth Wind and Fire, Barbra Streisand, Michael Bublé, and Josh Groban; working with cutting-edge contemporary ensembles including Toy Piano Composers, CONTACT, Continuum, and Tapestry; and playing original Prog Rock tunes with Dévah Quartet, who are YAMAHA Canada Artists.

Upcoming highlights include performing Mozetich "Affairs of the Heart" Concerto with TCO in July 2016, and the launch of Toronto Chamber Players in May 2016, of which Sharon is Artistic Director. Sharon is a D'Addario Canada Artist.

Fanny Tang began her music studies on the violin at age 6 in Hong Kong, switching to viola at age 13 under the guidance of Mr. Tak-Ng Lai, violin-viola pedagogue and conductor in Toronto, Canada. From 1994 to 2001, Fanny was section member, assistant principal, and principal of orchestras such as the Toronto Chinese Youth Orchestra, Toronto Chinese Philharmonic Orchestra, and Etobicoke Philharmonic Orchestra. She attended the University of Toronto in the Performance programme, receiving extensive viola instructions from Mr. Scott St. John. She also performed in the University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Chamber Orchestra, both under the baton of Maestro Raffi Armenian, as section principal and assistant principal. Aside from her performing role, Fanny is also a music engraver and music arranger.



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