Ontario Chamber of Commerce announces the winners of the 2015 Ontario Business Achievement Awards

TORONTO, **ON**, **November 26**, **2015**: Last night, hundreds of business and community leaders from across Ontario gathered in downtown Toronto to celebrate the achievements of nine outstanding Ontario businesses at the 2015 Ontario Business Achievement Awards (OBAA). This year's event finalists demonstrated the importance of collaboration and innovation while strengthening their local communities.

Hosted by the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC), the OBAA is the most recognized industry gala in the province focused on celebrating business success. For over 30 years, businesses have been awarded for their achievements in areas including sustainability, innovation, and accessibility.

"Tonight's OBAA winners are making positive contributions to Ontario's economy while being mindful of the importance of corporate social responsibility when operating a business here in Ontario and abroad," said Allan O'Dette, President and CEO of the OCC. "This year's OBAA finalists have demonstrated why Ontario is the best place in the world to live, work, play and do business and we're proud to honour their commitments to creativity and innovation."

The 2015 OBAA winners are:

GoodLife Fitness (London) - Community Builder Award, Sponsored by Desjardins Group

GoodLife Fitness is being recognized for making community investments that are yielding significant social returns.

Valydate Inc. (Ottawa) - Ontario Going Global, Small Business Award, Sponsored by the Government of Ontario

Valydate Inc. is being honoured for successfully implementing an export strategy that is positively affecting the small business' bottom line.

AFA Systems Ltd. (Brampton) - Ontario Going Global, Medium Business Award, Sponsored by the Government of Ontario

AFA Systems Ltd. is being honoured for successfully implementing an export strategy that is positively affecting the medium-sized business' bottom line.

SIGNS Restaurant Inc. (Toronto) - Ontario Leader in Accessible Employment Award, Sponsored by the Government of Ontario

SIGNS Restaurant Inc. is being recognized for creating an accessible work environment, recognizing the positive contributions of persons with disabilities, and promoting the development of an inclusive workplace culture for all.

Cognition LLP (Toronto) - Service Excellence Award

Cognition LLP is being honoured for demonstrating that dedication to customer service can lead to demonstrable business success.

IPEX (Mississauga) - Skills & Training Award

IPEX is being awarded for its skills and training initiatives that help harness the power of its employees and support their success.

mobileLIVE Inc. (Richmond Hill) - SME Excellence Award, Sponsored by RBC Royal Bank

mobileLIVE Inc. is being awarded for driving innovation in Ontario and exemplifying forward thinking across all aspects of their business.

1867 Confederation Log & Timber Frame (Bobcaygeon) - Sustainability Award, Sponsored by Progressive Waste Solutions

1867 Confederation Log & Timber Frame is being recognized for their commitment to sustainable practices and environmental stewardship, proving that being a leader in sustainability makes good business sense.

Nix Sensor Ltd. (Hamilton) - Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Sponsored by Colleges Ontario

Entrepreneur Matthew Sheridan has been honoured for successfully building a unique and game-changing venture with his company Nix Sensor Ltd.

-30-

Learn more about the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

Media Contact:

Michelle Kelly Senior Communications Advisor Ontario Chamber of Commerce e. michellekelly@occ.ca

t. 416.482.5222 ext. 2410