



14th Annual Canadian Printing Awards Celebrate Innovation and Industry Achievement

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 8, 2019 – More than 230 print professionals gathered on November 7, 2019, to celebrate some of the best printing projects and initiatives in Canada over the past year at the 14th Canadian Printing Awards Gala, organized by *PrintAction*, a property of Annex Business Media.

The event was held at the Palais Royale on Toronto's waterfront, where a total of 113 awards were presented to printing companies and technology suppliers from across the country. For the complete list of winners, visit:

<https://www.printaction.com/CPA/event/2019-winners> or
<https://www.printaction.com/headlines/canadian-printing-awards-2019-winners-5944>.

The 2019 program is divided into five distinct sections, including Print Design, Printing, Technology and Environmental categories, in addition to Industry Achievement Awards presented to five individuals who have made significant contributions to the industry.

The Print Design and Printing category awards are determined by an independent panel of judges comprised this year of 12 industry experts, who spent a full day analyzing and ranking the entries through a blind scoring system. The judges consider issues like technical achievement, printing process, run length, creativity and repeatability across submitted samples.

The 2019 Best of Show Award, chosen from among all Print Design and Printing category entries, goes to Hemlock Printers of Vancouver, British Columbia, for softcover book *CP Connects*. The cover was printed black plus 1 PMS with a matte varnish, high-build gloss on the text and grit coating on the image on 95lb TopKote Gloss cover. The text pages were printed UV 4-colour process + 1 PMS plus strike-through throughout on 100lb TopKote Gloss text, and the back cover was die-cut with business card slots.

PrintAction's 2019 Industry Achievement winners are:

John A. Young Lifetime Achievement Award

David Friesen

Former President, CEO and Chairman, Friesens Corp.

David Friesen was born into the printing business his grandfather started in 1907, and at 22 years of age, formally entered the business, then known as D W Friesen and Sons. He took on many different positions and in 1986 was named President and CEO, a position he held until his retirement in 2007. He stayed on as Chairman until earlier this year. During his tenure, Friesens grew from a local printing company to Canada's largest printer of hardcover books and one of the largest in North America. Today the Altona, Manitoba, company has sales of near \$100 million and at 600 employees, is completely employee-owned.



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Friesen has been involved in many printing and print related organizations, serving on the board of the Canadian Printing Industries Association and the National Association for Printing Leadership. He has also served as Chairman of the Canadian Book Manufacturers Association.

He was made a Honourary Fellow of University College in Manitoba and in 2004, received a Honourary Doctorate of Laws (LLD). Friesen has been a member of many local and national boards including Manitoba Hydro, the Canadian Association of Manufacturers and Exporters, The National Arts Centre in Ottawa, the Blue Cross Life Insurance Company of Canada, and the Business Council of Manitoba. He is a board member of the Winnipeg Airports Authority and is a member of the World Presidents Organization (WPO).

Throughout his career, Friesen has been widely recognized for his achievements. Among them, in 2006 Friesen was named to the Manitoba Manufacturer's Hall of Fame. The following year he was inducted into the Cased-In Club by the Book Manufacturers Institute, North America's only book manufacturing organization. Friesen received the Order of Manitoba in 2008, which is described as the highest honour conferred by the Manitoba Crown that recognizes excellence and achievement in any field that benefits the well-being of Manitoba and its residents.

John A. Young Lifetime Achievement Award

Jay Mandarino

President and CEO, CJ Graphics Inc.

As President and CEO of The CJ Group of Companies, Jay Mandarino oversees the daily operations of 35 companies, with total sales reaching over \$40 million in a 240,000-square-foot facility in Mississauga, Ontario. Mandarino launched his founding company, now known as CJ Graphics, in 1980 as a print brokerage firm to help finance his schooling at York University. His passion for the industry led him to purchase his first press in 1986 – and the rest, as they say, is history. Today CJ Graphics is one of the world's most award-winning printing and communication solutions companies, receiving over 6,500 awards to date. This year, CJ Graphics was the first in the world to win 22 Bennys in a single year.

Mandarino intuitively thinks outside the box, and strives to empower his team to be innovative and successful. He believes in employing the best of the best, and says that if you surround yourself with excellence, the result can only be exceptional.

Mandarino currently serves on the board of directors for the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario and has served on the Pinball Clemons Foundation Board, the Advertising & Design Club of Canada, past Director of the Graphic Designers Association of Toronto, past President of the Toronto Club of Printing House Craftsmen, past President of the Waterless Printing Association in North America and has served on several boards and committees for the Printing Industries of America, the Ontario Printing & Imaging Association, and the International Association of Printing House Craftsmen.



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His entrepreneurial spirit and philanthropic work have been recognized through numerous accolades including three medals – the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship from the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, and the Order of International Ambassadors Medal. He has also been named *PrintAction's* Printing Leader of the Year and Community Leader of the Year. In 2008, Mandarino established CJ's Skatepark, one of the world's largest not-for-profit indoor skate park, which supports children of all ages and abilities, including at-risk youth and those with special needs, a cause that is near and dear to his heart.

Community Leader of the Year

Marc Boyer

General Manager, Strategic Sourcing and Customer Solutions, Spicers Canada

Marc Boyer is the General Manager of Strategic Sourcing and Customer Solutions at Spicers Canada ULC. Joking that he has paper and printing in his blood, Boyer has spent more than 40 years in the industry and has worked for paper distributors, envelope manufacturers and paper manufacturers over his career. This summer, Boyer and his cycling partner Yvon Jackson participated in MS Bike, cycling across the country from Vancouver to Halifax to raise funds for Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada. The pair cycled about 7,000 km over the course of 10 weeks, cycling about 7 to 8 hours a day, and subsequently raised over \$125,000. Boyer says he is privileged to have a wonderful family. He is married to Lucie for more than 35 years, and has four children and four grandchildren who he cherishes and has photos of at the office, saying they keep him young.

Emerging Leader of the Year

Brad Ranson

Business Development & Regional Sales Manager (Western Canada), Komcan Inc.

Brad Ranson started his career in the industry at the age of 15, working on a saddle stitcher in a Greater Toronto Area-based printer. After two summers, he started with Komcan of Georgetown, Ont., assisting with installations and removals. Upon graduating high school, Ranson was in charge of running the Parts department and in January 2018, he began his current role of Business Development and Western Canadian sales. Ranson is the third generation of his family to be in the printing industry, and says he was attracted to the industry by his father, who held a similar position for most of his career. He studied Economics at the University of Guelph.

Printing Leader of the Year

Cathie Ellis

President, Ellis Packaging Ltd.



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Founded by Bill Ellis in 1983, Ellis Packaging started as a small company in Scarborough, Ont., and has grown into a thriving business consisting of three manufacturing facilities that produce folding cartons for customers throughout North America. Cathie Ellis has worked for the family business dating back to its early days in the 1980s. Over the past 30 years, she has performed many jobs throughout the operation, learning the processes and systems throughout the company. She rose through the company, officially taking the reins from her father Bill in 2010 as President. At the helm of Ellis Packaging today, she continues to direct the company with the same passion, core values, investment and integrity passed down by her predecessor, mentor and father.

The Ellis Group currently owns six Komori Litho Presses and a 10-colour Primographic Press by CPS - Canadian Primoflex Systems with a second press arriving in spring 2020. Today, the Ellis Group is the largest privately owned manufacturer of folding cartons in Canada with three plants in Southern Ontario.

The following sponsors were critical in the success of the 2019 Canadian Printing Awards: Platinum sponsors, Canada Post and Veritiv; Gold sponsors, Canon, HP, Kodak, Manroland Sheetfed and Sun Chemical; and Silver sponsors, Agfa, Heidelberg, Komcan, Koenig and Bauer and Spicers.

About *PrintAction* magazine

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