

First Time Québécois Wins Prestigious Mentoring Award

MONTRÉAL, Québec, April 10, 2008 — Mr. Jean-Guy Furois is a true 'business godfather.' This is our definition of a 'business godfather': an experienced businessperson who regularly meets with a young entrepreneur to share knowledge, listen and coach.

This is one of the reasons why the Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF) is proud to announce Mr. Jean-Guy Furois as its 2008 Outstanding Mentor Award recipient. Mr. Furois is the first Québécois to win this national award. CYBF presents this award annually to its most Outstanding CYBF Mentor from across Canada. CYBF will give Mr. Furois his award at its Chairman's Awards Gala on Wednesday, April 30, 2008, at the Royal Ontario Museum/Michael Lee-Chin Crystal in Toronto.

"I'm honoured to receive this award," says Mr. Furois. "However, it's an honour that I must share with my young entrepreneurs. It's due to their hard work, self imposed sacrifices and unbelievable success that CYBF recognizes me. What they have achieved fills me with enthusiasm and makes me feel young again."

And Mr. Furois' mentees, Yan and Sébastien Gagnon of G.G. Telecom, have achieved a lot. G.G. Telecom designs and manufactures motion detected digital cameras and pocket size wireless motion detectors and receivers, which are available in stores nationally. Mr. Furois is the founder of Graphicor Ltd. Prior to his retirement, he was its President. Also, Mr. Furois studied at Laval University.

Mr. Furois is one of many CYBF mentors nationwide that share their experiences with CYBF's entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurs and mentors are hand-matched by CYBF, which drives a higher business success rate.

"CYBF recognizes the incredible contribution that mentors make to their mentees and the CYBF program," says Valerie Bellavance, CYBF's Director, Québec. "It's a very positive experience for both the mentors and the young entrepreneurs."

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The **Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF)** is a national charity that provides youth, age 18-34, who have a great business idea but are unable to access funds through other traditional sources, with the start-up financing, mentoring and business resources to create their own successful business. Lending based on character not collateral, CYBF's mandate is to keep entrepreneurship alive and well to create economic prosperity in communities across Canada. Since founded in 1996, CYBF has invested in more than 2,300 young entrepreneurs, whose businesses have generated more than \$255 million in sales revenue, \$60 million in tax revenue, \$27 million in export revenue, and created more than 12,700 new jobs. Through CYBF's national framework of community partners we are able to deliver our program to more than 1,300 communities across Canada. CYBF is an accredited member of Youth Business International, a global network of business start-up organizations. CYBF is headquartered in Toronto, Ontario, with offices across Canada. Information about CYBF is available at www.cybf.ca.

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