

Check Against Delivery

**32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the ALberta Business Hall of Fame Induction Ceremonies and Gala Dinner Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 – Northlands Expo Centre, Edmonton**  
**Hon Dave Hancock, Minister, Human Services**

Thank you, J'lyn (Jay-Lin) for your kind introduction.

I am pleased to bring greetings on behalf of Premier Alison Redford and to convey her congratulations to the inductees.

I am honoured to take part in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary for the Alberta Business Hall of Fame induction ceremonies.

Tonight, we are celebrating 5 individuals who have had a resounding impact on Alberta's business community, including the late Ivan Gouin.

The Gouin family can proudly know that Ivan's legacy will live on through his fine sons Martin and Roger, as well as through the honour of being inducted to the Business Hall of Fame.

Tonight's inductees exemplify qualities that help build this province — hard work, perseverance, entrepreneurship and commitment.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to your community.

This evening, you join some very distinguished members of the Alberta Business Hall of Fame, including Lois and Ted Hole, Stanley Milner and Robert Stollery.

As you are inducted into the Hall of Fame tonight, you can take pride in knowing that you are carrying on this great tradition.

Junior Achievement of Northern Alberta and Northwest Territories established this Hall of Fame to acknowledge the leaders and role models for our youth.

I have worked closely with youth in my career and am reminded of a book from a group of academics at the University of Michigan - -the book called *Child Development*, discusses just how important role models are to children.

They explain that children exhibit "observational learning." That means role models display a certain type of behaviour -- and children imitate, and later adopt these behaviours as their own.

I am sure many of you here tonight, including me, can recall a role model you looked up to as a child and can attribute certain self-characteristics to.

Role models can have such an impact on a person for many years.

To the inductees, thank you for providing inspiration and encouragement to countless youth in Alberta.

I also want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the hard work carried out by the Junior Achievement of Northern Alberta and Northwest Territories.

The vision of this organization is to inspire and educate students to enter the workforce with the skills and knowledge they need to achieve their goals.

As Minister of Human Services, and as a former Minister of Education, and Advanced Education, this is a vision I am fully supportive of.

Most of you know Alberta is facing a labour shortage. In the next decade this province will be short approximately 114,000 workers.

We need more skilled workers, with the operative word being skilled!

My department estimates that 62% of jobs created in the next five years will require some type of post-secondary education, whether that's a university degree, a trades certificate or a diploma program.

With the majority of the jobs in Alberta requiring some sort of specialized education, the work Junior Achievement does to help prepare youth is tremendously important.

I also want to acknowledge Jay's hard work and efforts which have been instrumental in Junior Achievement's many successes in working with businesses, educators and other partners in preparing the youth of Alberta.

I am thrilled to see the impact Junior Achievement has had on Alberta and the Northwest Territories and even more excited to see the work this organization will do next.

Once again, congratulations and thank you.

Please enjoy your evening.