

The Broadcasters Association of Manitoba Announces 2015 Award Winners, New Board

**Broadcast Excellence Award, BAM Hall of Fame Award,
BAM Broadcaster of Tomorrow Award, BAM Hall of Fame Builder Award**

Winnipeg, MB – At the Broadcasters Association Spring Conference on March 26th, four outstanding individuals in broadcasting were awarded this industries' most prestigious awards.

BAM President Cam Clark noted “these awards allow us to recognize those who are leading our industry and young talent who will shape the face of Manitoba’s broadcasting future. The four recipients receiving awards this Spring - have not only made a lasting impact on the broadcast industry – they are pillars in the community as well.”



HALL OF FAME - BROADCASTER AWARD

TOM MILROY

Tom Milroy was honored with the BAM Hall of Fame Broadcaster Award. This award recognizes lifetime achievement for those individuals who have created a legacy in our industry. Tom has a passion for radio and a passion for people and the combination of these two things has made him a listener favourite. Even in his retirement Tom rises at dawn every weekend to do the Weekend Wakeup Show on 680 CJOB. Tom was a part of many people’s early morning routine as part of the Beau, Tom and Dez (& Fraser) breakfast team at Q-94 FM. Tom also worked in Newsrooms around Manitoba for the past 40 years. Through the years Tom has always provided listeners with up to date information, especially entertainment and movie news, and made so many of us laugh at his quick wit and sharp writing style.



BROADCAST EXCELLENCE AWARD

FRANK MCGWIRE

Frank McGwire was honored with the BAM Excellence Award. This award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to our industry. Frank has been in the radio business for over 25 years, graduating from the Western Academy Broadcasting College Class of 1987, working at CKDM Dauphin, Sylvan Lake, KX96 Brandon, 1150 KIX Brandon, Z99 Red Deer and eventually back in Brandon to work at KX96 and BOBFM. Although there were many opportunities for Frank to take his craft to major markets, he always kept it small, where he works with up and coming talent. Frank is a passionate radio guy, but even bigger than his love for radio is his love for music, particularly live music. Not only did he write a weekly music column in the Brandon Sun Newspaper, focusing on local music, but he himself is a talented musician, participating with a handful of different bands over the years, and a major proponent of the local music festival Ridgefest. Frank and Karen Chrest hosted weekly local concert calendar segments on the former local TV station CKX-TV.



BROADCASTER OF TOMORROW AWARD

ALICJA "ALLY" MITCHELL

Ally Mitchell was honored with the BAM Broadcaster of Tomorrow Award. This award recognizes future stars with less than 5 years of experience. Ally is a radio host for 94.7 Star FM and 880 CKLQ. She is a country rock punk metal loving city girl, who hates socks, loves driving and loves the Habs. She is always ready to work any shift that needs to be filled or attend any event that needs a station rep, is a fast learner, is able to work without supervision and she is full of great ideas. She is a cheerful presence and an excellent ambassador for the radio stations when attending special events or remote broadcasts. Ally has proven herself over and over on-air and in the field and has an excellent future in Broadcasting.



HALL OF FAME - BUILDER AWARD

JOHN COCHRANE

John Cochrane was honored with the BAM Hall of Fame Builder Award. This award recognizes lifetime achievement in the Manitoba broadcast industry. John was awarded his first on-air opportunity in 1956 as an announcer at CFOB, Fort Frances, ON. The man who may be credited with giving a start to a future broadcast Hall of Famer was none other than Don Curtin. Two years later – John moved west to Winnipeg – where he was on the air at AM powerhouse – 630 CKRC, where he was asked to change his name to Johnny O'clock! He moved on up the dial to 680 CJOB where he found his new broadcast home. He starting in 1969 doing everything from Announcing, Promotions, Program Director continuing to climb the ladder as Station Manager, and settling in as VP, General Manager, and President of CJOB and 97.5. He is credited with a keen eye for talent and was the man who secured legendary Winnipeg Blue Bomber play-by-play voice Bob Irving for CJOB. John would expand his broadcast role acting as a consultant during the early 1990's and then moving into the world of newsprint as Publisher of the Winnipeg Sun from 1994-1996.

The association also took the time to recognize new and continuing board members who will strive to serve the needs of broadcasters in Manitoba. The 2015-2016 Broadcasters Association of Manitoba Board is:

- President, Cam Clark, Westman Communications
- Vice President (acting) Ben Lucas, Rogers Media
- Wendy Friesen, Golden West
- Anne Skyrynsky, CTV Bell Media
- Darrell Friesen, Golden West
- Heidi Rasmussen, Jim Pattison Broadcast Group
- Craig Pfeifer, Rogers Media
- Scott Armstrong, Corus Entertainment
- Brent Williamson, Global/Shaw
- Verna Lenton, Westman Communications

The Broadcasters Association of Manitoba (BAM) is composed of private radio and television broadcasters in the province of Manitoba. The Association's role is to foster and promote the development of the art of broadcasting amongst its members, encourage the interchange of information amongst them, and foster positive communication and serve the community they live in. More information about BAM can be found at bambroadcasters.ca

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