

**May 5, 2016**

## **What does it take to be a great Mayor?**

Mayor George LeBlanc could tell you, though he is so humble he probably wouldn't like to brag. Looking back on Mayor LeBlanc's time as leader of the City of Moncton there are many highlights to recount. His experience and direct involvement in the city spans nearly two decades, eight years as mayor and nine before as city councillor. Mayor LeBlanc has seen the City of Moncton grow and change in many ways. He also grew up here so his connection and passion for the community is strong.

Mayor George LeBlanc has helped many businesses and people in our community succeed and grow. While in public service, the Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce has seen an increase in business, jobs, the economy, population and immigration.

He lead our city through the greatest of highs and the lowest of lows. His calm reassurance during the long days and nights of June 2014 when a tragic shooting took the lives of three members of our Codiac Regional RCMP and severely injured two more is a true testament to his spirit and resolve. This did not go unnoticed as he received international recognition for the manner in which he handled the tragedy.

Mayor LeBlanc was also there for the huge wins when Moncton was on the world stage for FIFA WWC, Canadian Track and Field, Touchdown Atlantic, U2 and ACDC, all of which overflowed both our hearts and our expectations. As he moves on from his position as Mayor we will continue to see the fruits of his labour live on with the Downtown Events Centre now under construction. We are already seeing its impact and know there will be many more announcements to come around this massive and game changing development.

As election day Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> quickly approaches, we know voters will be deciding on a new Mayor - but rest assured - for a man who's trademark expression is "Moncton punches above its weight class", your boxing gloves (or shoes) will be tough to fill.

### **Carol O'Reilly**

CEO, Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce

***The Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce is the voice of the business community for more than 825 businesses representing more than 35, 000 members in Moncton, Dieppe and Riverview and the vicinity.***

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