



CANADIAN FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT GROCERS · FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES ÉPICIERS INDÉPENDANTS

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## Tom Shurrie Receives CFGI's 2024 Spirit of the Independent Award

**TORONTO: September 5, 2024.** . . . Jamie Nelson, Chair of the Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFGI), Ron Welke, President and CEO, and the CFGI Board of Directors are pleased to announce **Tom Shurrie, former CEO & President, CFGI**, as the recipient of the **2024 Spirit of the Independent Award**.

The Spirit of the Independent Award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the growth of the entrepreneurial spirit of Canadian Grocers and have provided inspiration to Canada's independent grocers. This award is not an annual award, and it is reserved for individuals who personify what the award stands for.

Tom Shurrie is retiring from his role of President and CEO of The Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFGI). He started his 49-year career as a stock clerk at the age of 15. Tom has been a leader in the grocery industry and supported many CPG companies and Innovative Retailers in the areas of sales, operations, logistics, store set up, business development and general management. Those companies include Longo's, Kraft Foods (now Kraft Heinz), Parmalat (now Lactalis), Dairyworld Foods (now part of Saputo), Conagra and Acosta Canada.

Tom says there was no magical formula to go from a stock clerk to President & CEO. "Refining the skills of planning, listening, executing and learning while being flexible and having a passion and love for what you do while giving back to many will help you achieve what you want to achieve in our industry!"

Tom will be officially recognized at the Canadian Independent Grocer of the Year awards gala on Wednesday, October 30, at **Grocery Innovations Canada 2024 (GIC)**. GIC is Canada's primary grocery exposition and conference occurring at the **Toronto Congress Centre, October 29-30, 2024**. [www.GroceryInnovations.com](http://www.GroceryInnovations.com)

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**The Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFGI)** — *CFGI is a non-profit trade association founded in 1962, which continues to be a collaborative community, equipping and enabling independent, franchised and specialty grocers for sustainable success. CFGI is the strong and united voice for the independent grocery retailers to Industry and Government across Canada. CFGI also provides programs that support operational excellence while fostering solid relationships among retailers, distributors and suppliers.* [www.cfig.ca](http://www.cfig.ca)

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