



CANADIAN FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT GROCERS · FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES ÉPICIERS INDÉPENDANTS

200 CONSUMERS ROAD, SUITE 200, TORONTO, ONTARIO M2J 4R4

### **Jamie Nelson to Receive Life Member Designation from CFGI**

**TORONTO – January 15, 2026.** . . Brian Bradley, Chair of Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFGI), Ron Welke, President and CEO, and the CFGI Board of Directors are pleased to announce Jamie Nelson of Pattison Food Group in Langley, B.C., as the recipient of CFGI’s prestigious Life Member Award in the Industry Builder category.

At Grocery Innovations Canada in Toronto last October, CFGI awarded Life Member status to four long-time supporters from Western Canada, one of whom was Jamie.

Jamie Nelson’s journey from part-time clerk in Mission, B.C., to President of the Pattison Food Group is a story of vision, perseverance, and people-first leadership. Jamie got his start at the local Mission Overwaitea Foods store. At just 17 years old, he discovered a simple truth - it’s all about the customer. That commitment to service still drives him today. After moving to Merritt and then to Fort St. John, he jumped the Rockies to help support the launch and growth of the Save-On-Foods brand in Edmonton.

His leadership across B.C. and Alberta, especially in Red Deer where he took on his first store manager role, helped shape Save-On-Foods into the banner it is today.

In 2005 Jamie had the opportunity to join the merchandising team in the Langley office. It was here that Jamie further earned the respect of the supplier industry in his role as director of grocery merchandising with his candid, respectful approach to negotiating and joint growth plans.

Today, as President, he leads the strategic direction of the Pattison Food Group, including its retail banners, warehousing and supply chain operations, health and pharmaceutical distribution, and manufacturing facilities.

A respected senior leader in the grocery industry, Jamie has received Pattison Food Group’s highest accolade twice in his career; he was named Store Leader of the Year in 1997 and Business Leader of the Year in 2009. In 2022, he was inducted into the Grocery Business Hall of Fame, and in 2023, Jamie was awarded the highest distinction in Canada’s Grocery industry: the Golden Pencil Award.

Jamie’s passion for the grocery business is evident in his active participation on industry boards, including GS1 Canada, The Grocery Foundation, and the B.C. Premier's task force on agriculture and food economy.

Jamie’s support for CFGI includes having been both a board member and board chair. He says being part of CFGI means connecting with like-minded operators who are hardworking, community-minded and deeply invested in supporting and strengthening independent grocery businesses across Canada.

Jamie credits the success of his career to the opportunities he was given, and the support of his family - wife Becky, son and daughter in law, Ben and Kaitlyn, daughter and son-in-law Megan and Rob, and the most recent addition to the family – his grandson Cooper James.

Jamie’s leadership is grounded in humility, accountability, and a passion for giving back to the communities in Western Canada.

Jamie will be officially recognized at the Grocery & Specialty Foods dinner gala on April 21, 2026. GSF is Western Canada’s primary grocery exposition and conference occurring at the Vancouver Convention Centre, East Bldg., April 21-22, 2026. [www.GSFShow.com](http://www.GSFShow.com)

The Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFIG) — CFIG 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. CFIG is the strong and united voice for the independent grocery retailers to Industry and Government across Canada. CFIG also provides programs that support operational excellence while fostering solid relationships among retailers, distributors and suppliers. [www.cfig.ca](http://www.cfig.ca)

–30–

For more information, contact: Nancy Kwon, Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers  
E: [nkwon@cfg.ca](mailto:nkwon@cfg.ca)