

February 14, 2020

Atlantic Journal Awards- Hall of Fame- Selection Committee

Re: Nomination- Hall of Fame/Newspapers- David Cadogan

Dear AJA Selection Committee:

It is my privilege to put forth David Cadogan's name for your consideration for placement in the AJA Hall of Fame

Born in Durham Ontario, David's newspaper career started at 8 years old as a printer's devil in his father's community paper. After graduation he worked with Southam Business Publications Ltd., in both Toronto and Montreal. In 1966 David acquired his first business- a commercial printing business, in New Glasgow, NS.

In 1970 at 28, David purchased his first newspaper *The Bugle* in Woodstock, NB. There he printing many other papers such as The Brunswickan and the First Nations paper, Agenutamagen. His outspoken and forward-thinking approach was a controversial one in small conservative thinking communities, inspiring debates and challenges he relished.

A lifelong student, his voracious need for learning was the catalyst that inspired the development of Atlantic Community Newspapers Association. Wanting to learn more about offset printing and finding and not very active NB newspaper association, David reached out to the Nova Scotia Newspaper Association to ask if he might have permission to attend their seminars. The Association President MacKay suggested they meet in Saint John NB in the spring to see if there was opportunity for sharing. Noting there was a newspaper in PEI and several in NFLD as well, it was agreed an invitation would be sent to all to discuss mutual opportunities. In the fall of 1972 at that meeting, ACNA was born and where he served as a Board member and later, its President.

David is also a founding BOD member of the Canadian Newspaper Association, where he served as president and is an honorary life member. Until he became a "snowbird" after his retirement, David never missed a convention, attending 42 consecutive national CCNA conventions, always wanting to keep abreast of his beloved industry and newspaper family.

In 1974 after the formation of ACNA, David and his father acquired the *North Shore Leader* in Newcastle, NB. and later that year David acquired the *Dalhousie News*. He decided to sell the *Woodstock Bugle* and set up a web offset printing press - the *Miramichi Web* and moved to the Miramichi with his family.

David's quest for honest and accurate reporting has been the foundation his newspaper group in every community, never shying away from reporting the facts, no matter how controversial.

He fostered an environment of excellence and encouraged higher education for all his staff by supporting participation at ACNA seminars and keeping the papers updated with the latest technology. He hired educated and capable people but also found individuals who were passionate about their communities, gave them jobs and helped them hone their skills to become professionals and leaders in the community newspaper industry. More importantly he invested in people so they might be able to continue to earn livings, after their newspaper experience had ended. I am one such person.

The presentation of the papers- layout and design- was also an important feature in the development of higher standards of his papers for his audience. This understanding and change in approach, inspired many other papers to follow suit.

Cadogan Publishing Ltd. which included the Miramichi Press and 5 papers- *Miramichi Leader*, *Miramichi Weekend*, *Dalhousie News*, *Kings County Record*, *Miramichi Headwaters* and countless publications were perennial award winners. They acquired many CCNA awards in their respective circulation categories and won the ACNA best all-around title in the largest circulation category more often than all other newspapers combined including in his final year, when they won first and third. "If you are not trying to be the best, who are you trying to be?" he told us.

David always embraced technology and was often far ahead of his time in his thinking of the newspapers and their place in the world. With the invention of the internet David developed the first community web portal, understanding that newspapers had a unique opportunity and position in which to deliver the news and information in this new medium, if they would embrace it!

In 2002 David was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Civil Laws from the University of Kings.

David has personally and professionally been a community champion his entire life. He has been delivering meals on wheels for over 40 years, held President and BOD positions in the Chamber of Commerce, Miramichi Regional Hospital, Miramichi Boating and Yatch Club and is a Jaycees International Senator.

His love of community has inspired engaging and fun opportunities to capture the imagination and to gather, at events such as: The Great Miramichi Raft Race of All The World and Nearby Planets, Miramichi Sail Past of Lights and as some of you card-carrying members will remember, the Miramichi Nighthawks. A passionate fan and supporter of the arts, he continues to seek out venues that entertain and inspire, a passion he shared with his children and now with his grandchildren!

David's life, passion and religion IS the community newspaper business. His influence and legacy continue through the countless journalists and industry professionals he has mentored and inspired. Community leader still seek him out for his advice, especially when there are community challenges.

There are very few newspaper contemporaries who would have started in the industry as early as David and made a passionate and life-long professional career of it. He has been and is an outspoken advocate for the relevance of professional news reporting, more today than ever in a mass media, technological world.

I am enclosing a CCNA document along with 4 letters of support, each individual holding a unique professional relationship with David, and all that have continued personal relationships with him that he respects and values.

I know you will agree that David Cadogan is a most worthy candidate for the Atlantic Journalism Hall of Fame.

Thank you for listening to David's story and your consideration!

Respectfully,

Michelle Cline Cadogan