

NOB awards achievement

Nearly 500 people gathered at the sixth annual Northern Ontario Business Awards Dinner on Thursday, Oct. 22, in Sault Saint Marie to recognize six companies and individuals for their achievements.

"The NOB Awards program is a significant event," says Michael Atkins, spokesperson for the event. "It brings together business leaders from across Northern Ontario to pay tribute to the immense wealth of talent we have in the north."

"Those we honour serve as a true role models for others striving to achieve entrepreneurial excellence."

Great Lakes Power, of Sault Saint Marie, was named company of the year. The award is sponsored by the Royal Bank of Canada. The company earned recognition in the 51-plus employee category.

Don Watson, the company's CEO, says he's proud that Great Lakes Power has been a leader in productivity across Canada. He says their driving force is to optimize and enhance the value of the utility's assets through the expertise and productivity of its peo-

ple. It also strives to seek out and develop strategic and economically attractive electrical energy projects or investments throughout North America.

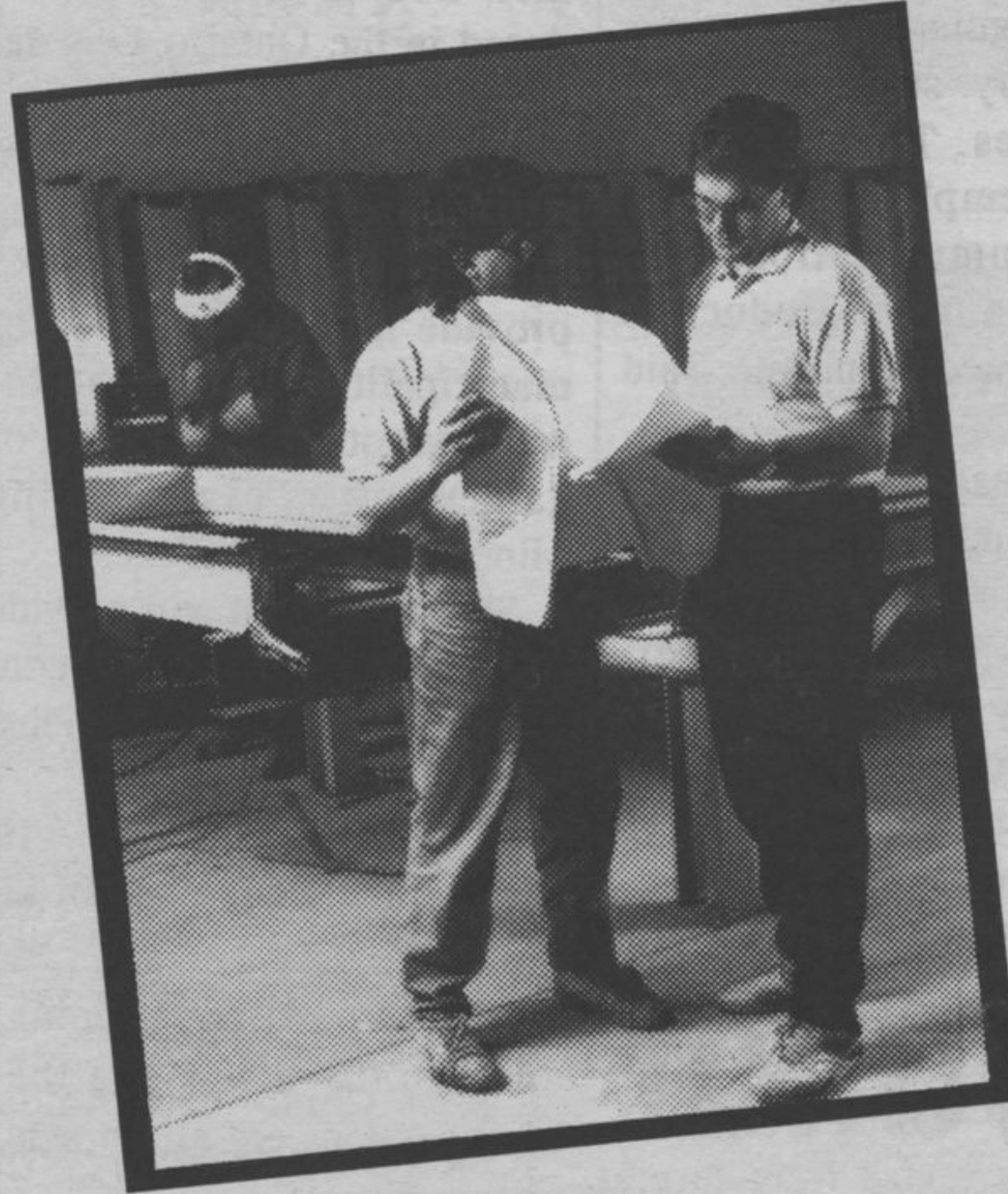
Great Lakes Power Limited has evolved from the small power company, Lake Superior Power Company, founded in 1895.

Dingwell's Machinery and Supply Limited, of Thunder Bay, captured the Company of the Year award in the 26-50 employee category. Dingwell's machine shop was founded in 1944 by James Dingwell and Frank Zurych to provide excellent machine repair fabrication and design to pulp and paper mills, saw mills, grain construction and transportation industries in Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario.

Today, co-owners Patrick Gilbride and Rob Bell have made Dingwell's a leader in a world of rapidly changing technology, environmental concerns and new directions on management. Dingwell's has recognized new opportunities, and has expanded to meet the challenge of the increasing

continued on page 10

"We are offering a level of service never before seen in this region."



Canada

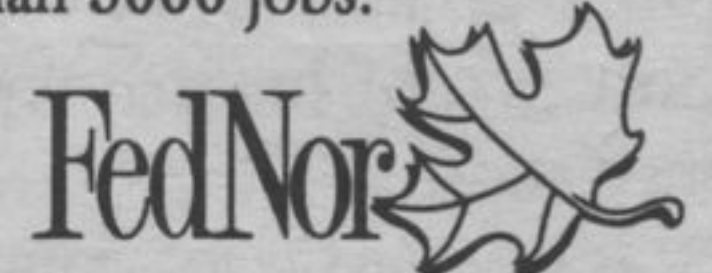
The Honourable Tom Hockin
Minister of State
Small Businesses, Tourism and FedNor

Northern Leadership for Northern Success.

Quality Door Hardware, a member of the Murrell Group of Companies Inc., in Thunder Bay, received a FedNor contribution to establish a fabricating division that produces non-standard size hollow metal doors and frames for commercial clients.

"The support we received from FedNor certainly made the decision to expand a lot easier," said James Murrell, President. "I don't think we would have pursued the project without the assistance we received from FedNor."

Since 1987, FedNor has provided guidance and financial assistance to thousands of enterprising Northern Ontarians and has helped to create or maintain more than 3000 jobs.



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