

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Contacts: Julia Ann Easley
WLU Information Officer
(519) 884-1970 ext. 2070

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Dr. Ron Craig, Acting Dean
School of Business and Economics
(519) 884-1970 ext. 2214

James Beingessner wins Laurier award for business leadership

Waterloo (Jan. 20) — James Beingessner, president of B&W Heat Treating (1975) Ltd. of Kitchener, has been named recipient of the Laurier Outstanding Business Leader Award for 1992.

The award is presented annually by the School of Business and Economics at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo to a person who has demonstrated superior management leadership in the field of business administration.

Beingessner will receive the award on Wednesday, Jan. 22, at the school's annual awards luncheon, where 30 students will also be presented with scholarships and awards.

Ron Craig, the school ' s acting dean, said in announcing the award, "Mr. Beingessner exemplifies strong management acumen with a concern for his community."

Craig said Beingessner ' s leadership has been a prime factor in B&W ' s growth from a regional family business to its current position of sixth in the heat treating field in North America (based on market share).

The company is one of only four of the more than 500 firms in its industry in North America to receive Ford's "01" certification as a preferred supplier. B&W,

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which employs about 100 people at its two plants in the Huron Business Park, has also been recognized by the Canadian Auto Workers Union for the quality of its labor relations.

Born and raised in the Kitchener area, Beingessner graduated in 1960 from St. Michael's College in Toronto with a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics and physics; in 1962, he received a master's degree in business administration from the University of Toronto's School of Management.

Beingessner first worked as a securities trader and analyst at the head office of the Bank of Nova Scotia before joining the family business as controller in 1963. He became general manager in 1970 and was elected president in 1975.

Beingessner has also been a leader in community endeavours and was recognized as K-W Citizen of the Year in 1986.

Currently chair of the Regional Chairman ' s Task Force on the Economy, Beingessner has also served as president of the Kitchener Chamber of Commerce. In 1983, he was chair of the K-W/ILAP program which helped establish and expand small businesses in the area.

Now chair of the board of trustees of St. Mary' s Hospital, Beingessner has also had leadership roles with Family and Children' s Services of Waterloo Region, the Waterloo Region Social Resources Council, and the Kitchener Rotary Club.

Previous winners of the Laurier Outstanding Business Leader Award are Eileen Mercier, David Gee, Betty Sims, Patrick Forde, and Hugh Sloan.