

## OK Tire Pneus Ste-Brigitte named National Store of the Year 2020



**VANCOUVER – July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021** – OK Pneus Ste-Brigitte, Quebec, has been awarded OK Tire Stores Inc. “National Store of the Year” for 2020 announced at the company’s 2021 annual conference, held virtually this year. The honour of National Store of the Year is awarded to an OK Tire location that frequently upholds OK Tire’s motto, “Honestly Driven” and consistently provides outstanding quality auto service to their community. The store owner Martin Allard was presented with the award, celebrated by colleagues and industry partners.

“Receiving this award means so much to us. We strive to be a staple in our community, and being honoured with this award highlights our hard work and dedication to quality service and honesty,” says Martin Allard. “We know we wouldn’t be here today without the trust of our customers, and we’re thrilled to continue to put our best foot forward for our community”.

Martin Allard and his partner Mélanie Bédard are always ready to help regardless of your vehicular needs, whether it be tires or mechanical. Since 2001, they’ve grown their business from a gas bar to the 2020 OK Tire National Store of the Year. They’ve expanded three times to now have three bays dedicated to automobile services and two bays for commercial truck business. They’ve been proud members of the OK Tire Family since 2013. Martin has built his success on hard work and a keen vision; he is not afraid to try new and different ways of doing things when he sees an opportunity to better service his customers. With employees who are constantly upgrading their knowledge, he sets himself apart from his competition!

“Our 2020 National Store of the Year distinguishes itself from the others through their knowledge and reputation of always providing expert service”. says OK Tire Chief Operating Officer, Michael Rutherford. “2020 brought many new challenges to communities across Canada, and we’re tremendously proud of the team in Sainte-Brigitte-des-Sault for continuing to uphold OK Tire’s outstanding reputation and for setting a standard to inspire all store owners.”



Additionally, this year's OK Tire Stores Inc. 'Regional Store of the Year' awards, recognizing the best service providers from a group of over 325 OK Tire retail locations nationwide, have been awarded. Stores awarded include:

- OK Tire Burnaby Kingsway (Pacific Region)
- OK Tire Drayton Valley (Alberta Region)
- OK Tire Brandon (Prairie Region)
- OK Tire Kingston (Central Region)
- OK Pneus Gatineau (Eastern Region)
- OK Tire Woodstock Carleton NB (Atlantic Region)
- OK Tire Kincardine Commercial (Commercial Store of the year)

For the second time in the history of the company, awards were given to the business partners who demonstrated outstanding commitment and support across three categories:

- Tire Supplier of the year – Toyo
- Accessory Supplier of the year – Wheel-1
- Dealer Support supplier of the year – NAPA Auto Parts

OK Tire also recognized anniversary milestones for many of its employees and stores. "We know our achievements as a whole are because of the dedication shown not only by our dealers but also from our employees," says Jim Caldwell, President and CEO of OK Tire. "We feel it's important to recognize our fantastic team across the country and acknowledge those who have made a significant impact on the success of our great company."

This year's Don Blythe Lifetime Achievement Award was granted to Greg Kwasnicki, Commercial Product Analyst, Inventory Management for OK Tire. Greg worked with OK Tire for 43 years and has since retired on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Congratulations Greg!

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### **About OK Tire**

OK Tire is the largest independent tire and auto service retailer network in Canada. Part of the Canadian landscape since 1953, there are more than 325 independently owned and operated OK Tire locations across the country offering a full range of both retail and commercial services.

OK Tire is 100% Canadian owned and operated. Customers receive nationwide warranties on automotive services and the personal service of a local owner/manager who lives in, shops in, and supports their community.

For more information, visit [www.oktire.com](http://www.oktire.com)

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