

Media Release
September 14, 2004

Mac Frugal's Furniture Founder, Gary Clemmensen Nominated for Entrepreneurial Awards

ST. CATHARINES: September 14, 2004... In 1965, Gary Clemmensen launched his career as an entrepreneur having owned his own variety store at the tender age of 18. 39 years later, his vision has led to three highly successful rent-to-own stores strategically placed across the Niagara Peninsula.

In recognition of his success, Mr. Clemmensen has been nominated for two Niagara Entrepreneur of the Year Awards. He is nominated in the *Established Enterprise* and *Family Enterprise* categories. The Niagara Entrepreneur of the Year Awards was established in 1994 to recognize the achievements, excellence and innovation of Niagara's entrepreneurs. The search to find and recognize the very best in Niagara business and entrepreneurship will culminate with the award recipients being announced on February 18, 2005.

With over \$7 million in sales a year, Mr. Clemmensen has established himself as a successful entrepreneur. 35 full-time employees staff the three Mac Frugal locations in St. Catharines, Welland and Hamilton. The St. Catharines and Hamilton Mac Frugals locations are also home to Cash Depot, which is a cash advance service. Combined the three locations cash over \$200,000 in cheques and provide over \$100,000 in payday loans each month.

"I am extremely flattered and excited to be nominated for two Niagara Entrepreneur of the Year Awards," said Gary Clemmensen, owner of Mac Frugal's Furniture. "The fact that my name would be mentioned alongside some of the top entrepreneurs in the Niagara region is an honour in itself," he added.

Prior to founding Mac Frugal's, Mr. Clemmensen owned and operated several prominent businesses across the Niagara region. Gary's Give Aways, a furniture store that sold new, inexpensive furniture; Capones, a restaurant in Niagara Falls and Lincoln Theatre are a few of Mr. Clemmensen's past business ventures.

About Mac Frugal's Furniture

Mac Frugal's has the three largest Rent-To-Own Stores in the Niagara Peninsula. They offer brand name products for the lowest monthly and weekly rental rates in the industry. Their stores are up to six times larger than its competitors, providing customers with the widest selection of furniture, appliances, electronics, computers, and other products to choose from.

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