



2026 UPEI Inspiring Young Alumni Award

Jared Murphy (BBA 2015)

Jared Murphy, co-owner and CEO of Lone Oak Brewing, attended UPEI as a home-grown soccer recruit who went on to earn three AUS all-star selections and multiple academic all-Canadian awards. He eventually helped lead the UPEI Men's soccer squad to a historic bronze medal on their home turf at the 2014 CIS national soccer championships. Jared scored the game-winning goal and was recognized by Sport PEI as the Intercollegiate Male Athlete of the Year.

After graduating from UPEI with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 2015, Jared worked in marketing and communications with Sport PEI before turning his attention to entrepreneurship. Wanting to build something of his own, Jared considered starting a cidery business and connected with Spencer Gallant who was working for PEI Brewing Company at the time. Eventually they decided to focus on brewing beer instead.

Jared's business education and competitive fire served him well when he co-founded The Lone Oak Brewing Company with Spencer Gallant and Dillon Wight in 2019.

The co-founders opened their first location in Borden-Carleton, which they saw as an opportunity to help introduce PEI to visitors arriving via the Confederation Bridge. Their goal was to bring some life back to Gateway Village and to showcase the local talent and local ingredients the Island has to offer.

But within weeks of their grand opening, Lone Oak, like many other businesses, was hit hard by the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the challenges caused by the pandemic, the three co-founders pivoted, innovated, and continued to invest in their business. Before long, they had grown Lone Oak Brewing into a multifaceted operation with five food and beverage locations serving Islanders and tourists across central PEI. In February of this year, Lone Oak Brewing was awarded the Charlottetown Chamber of Commerce's People's Choice for Community Impact Award.

They continue to innovate and pivot, all the while sticking with their original plan of showcasing Island talent, ingredients, and the hospitality that Canada's smallest province is known for. They also continue to stay connected with UPEI, hiring students and grads, supporting UPEI Athletics, and sharing their stories to help inspire future alumni.

In recognition of his inspirational community-building entrepreneurial success, the UPEI Alumni Association is proud to present Jared Murphy, (BBA 2015), with a 2026 Inspiring Young Alumni Award.