



2026 UPEI Inspiring Young Alumni Award

Spencer Gallant (BSc 2014)

Spencer Gallant, co-owner and head brewer of Lone Oak Brewing, majored in chemistry and earned a Bachelor of Science degree at UPEI in 2014. In addition to chemistry and science, his other interests while studying at UPEI included rugby—and beer!

He was a standout player on the UPEI Men's Rugby team, being named MVP and Man of the Year in 2014. His interest in beer stood out as being different from the typical undergraduate student. He wasn't simply interested in consuming beer; he was interested in the science of brewing it. Before he had completed his degree, Spencer was already working as a professional brewer and quality control lab supervisor with the PEI Brewing company.

By 2016, Spencer had begun pursuing a master's degree in chemistry with a research interest in wild-growing hops in the Maritimes and had earned a diploma in brewing from the Institute of Brewing and Distilling. Meanwhile, he continued working with PEI Brewing Company as an innovation brewer before taking the role of head brewer with Gahan Port City and Gahan Riverside and eventually Operations Manager for Gahan Brew Pubs.

His work history, combined with his education in chemistry, served him well when he co-founded The Lone Oak Brewing Company with Dillon Wight and Jared Murphy 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 Spencer Gallant, (BSc 2014), with a 2026 Inspiring Young Alumni Award.