

## Aviva funding more charging stations

AVIVA Canada has set the wheels in motion for its third annual 'Charged for Change' program.

Through a \$3m partnership with Earth Day Canada, communities can apply until Feb. 20 for funding to receive public Level 2 electric vehicle chargers.

"We know that a lack of publicly available EV charging infrastructure can be a barrier to EV adoption and want to support Canadians, particularly those in communities with little to no access, in making the switch to an EV," said Pascal Dessureault, Aviva Canada's chief public affairs officer.

In 2023, the insurer helped introduce Level 2 charging stations in seven Ontario communities with 37 charging heads at 16 sites in Pelham, Selwyn, Prince Edward County, Thessalon, East Ferris, Manitouwadge and Essa.

As of mid-September this year, the charging stations installed in those communities had delivered 2,600 charging sessions and 8,300 charging hours.

Aviva expanded the program across Canada in its second year, when eight municipalities received funding: Okotoks, Alta.; Grand Bay-Westfield, N.B.; Lakeshore, Ont.; Hautes-Terres, N.B.; Chertsey, Que.; Village de Bois-Joli, N.B.; Kedgwick, N.B., and Cap-Acadie, N.B.

Those projects are either underway or completed.

"We know that access to public charging infrastructure is a key deciding factor for consumers considering the purchase of an EV," said Valérie Mallamo, executive director of Earth Day Canada.

"We also know that there is a disparity between levels of infrastructure in larger, urban centres versus smaller, often rural communities.

"Charged for Change hopes to level that playing field so that Canadians who want to make the climate-conscious decision to switch to an EV feel confident that it can meet their needs."

## Insurer made aware of adjudicator by LAT

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A spokesperson for Aviva told *Thompson's* that the issue has been dealt with.

They noted that, at the time, "it did not come to Aviva's attention that (the former adjudicator) continued to hear LAT cases involving Aviva after receiving and accepting a conditional offer of employment until after those LAT cases had been decided, and the LAT raised the issue."

The former adjudicator left Aviva last year.

## TD's Russell heads institute for 2024-25

JAMES Russell of TD Insurance has taken over as chair of the Insurance Institute of Canada's board of governors for a one-year term.

He joined the bank-owned insurer in 2014 as senior VP and became its president and chief operating officer in 2021. Prior to joining TD, Mr. Russell was executive VP and chief underwriting officer at Aviva Canada.

"The Insurance Institute of Canada is a strategic industry partner," Mr. Russell said.

"As stakeholders, we recognize the pivotal role it plays in advancing our profession through its formal educational programs.

"I am honoured to accept the role of chair and I look forward to providing guidance on these vital programs that strengthen our careers, organizations and industry."

Also elected to the institute board is Aon Canada president Stéphane Lespérance, who will serve as deputy chair for 2024-2025.

This year's membership-at-large and vice-chair is Nick Creatura, president and CEO of CNA Canada and Continental Casualty Co.

Valérie Lavoie, president and chief operating officer of Desjardins General Insurance Group, is immediate past chair.

Other elected board members include regional vice-chairs Kerry McLaughlin of Colwood Insurance Services for the western provinces; Intact's Tracy Krunic for Ontario; Alex Stringer of DPA Assurances for Quebec, and Tricia Hashie of P.E.I. Mutual Insurance Co. for the Atlantic provinces.

Other vice-chairs are Paul Croft, executive VP at Aon Canada, who is responsible for the institute's academic division, and Renée-Léa Soucy of Promutuel Assurance, who is heading its professionals division.

## Beneva's Fournier elected chair of IBC

BENEVA's Christian Fournier has been elected chair of the board of directors of the Insurance Bureau of Canada.

Mr. Fournier has more than 30 years of industry experience and has been the Quebec-based insurer's executive VP and lead of p&c insurance since the company was formed in 2020. Before that he worked with La Capitale General Insurance, which merged with SSQ Insurance to create Beneva, since 2011 and most recently served as its senior executive VP and chief operating officer.

"IBC is uniquely positioned to address some of the country's most pressing challenges," he said in a release last week.

"I look forward to helping steer its important work on many key priorities including building Canada's disaster resiliency, delivering sustainable auto insurance systems and a balanced regulatory environment."

Mr. Fournier is a graduate of the Université Laval and a fellow of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries and the Casualty Actuarial Society. He has served on the board of the IBC since 2018 and the board of Property and Casualty Insurance Compensation Corp. since 2020.

Established in 1964, the IBC is the national industry association representing Canada's private home, auto and business insurers.

"Christian brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to his new role as IBC's chair and I look forward to continuing to work with him on the important files we are tackling — from responding and adapting to Canada's changing climate to stabilizing auto insurance systems in multiple jurisdictions amidst a growing and evolving regulatory environment," IBC CEO Celyeste Power said.

## TORONTO STOCK MARKETS

### Closing prices for shares of p&c-related stocks in Canada\*

| COMPANY            | SYM.     | MARKET VALUE† | OCT. 17 | OCT. 24 | OCT. 31 | NOV. 7  | YR. HIGH | YR. LOW |
|--------------------|----------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| Co-operators Gen.  | CCS.PR.C | 83            | 22.20   | 21.75   | 21.20   | 20.72   | 23.10    | 17.12   |
| Definity Financial | DFY      | 6,422         | 54.87   | 55.09   | 55.73   | 55.47   | 55.86    | 35.48   |
| Fairfax Financial  | FFH      | 42,006        | 1760.00 | 1742.28 | 1730.25 | 1821.43 | 1890.36  | 1171.70 |
| IA Financial Corp. | IAG      | 12,340        | 118.55  | 116.91  | 113.44  | 130.39  | 134.29   | 80.95   |
| Intact Financial   | IFC      | 47,653        | 267.81  | 267.44  | 265.90  | 263.97  | 273.05   | 196.27  |
| Trisura Group      | TSU      | 2,129         | 45.21   | 42.11   | 41.20   | 43.42   | 46.75    | 30.82   |
| *Westaim Corp.     | WED      | 634           | 4.67    | 4.76    | 4.95    | 4.95    | 5.00     | 3.38    |
| *Western Inv. Co.  | WI       | 22            | 0.42    | 0.42    | 0.42    | 0.41    | 0.60     | 0.37    |

\*— TSX except Westaim Corp. and Western Investment Co., which are traded on the TSX Venture Exchange.

†—Market value is approximate, in C\$ millions, as of Nov. 7, 2024. All prices in Canadian dollars.