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TIMBER MART KICKS OFF 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS AT AAA FIVE-DIAMOND RESORT, SEES RECORD-BREAKING ATTENDANCE

VAUGHAN, ON, February 9, 2017 – TIMBER MART kicked off it's 50th anniversary celebrations at their national annual convention at the stunning AAA five-diamond Grand Velas Riviera Nayarit resort in Puerto Vallarta Mexico from January 22-29, 2017. With over 460 dealers, vendors and staff at the special event, the group saw record-breaking attendance and tons of dealer excitement and pride.

"This year's national convention was truly a special experience for us all as we celebrated this important milestone in our evolution as a buying group," says Bernie Owens, president of TIMBER MART. "If the last fifty years have demonstrated anything, they have proven that TIMBER MART can and will adapt to change to ensure the Canadian independent remains competitive in their local market. We thank both our members and vendor community for their support and look forward to serving our membership and the independent for the next 50 years to come."

Throughout the week-long celebration at the luxurious Grand Velas resort, TIMBER MART dealers, vendors and staff celebrated with a birthday party, complete with fireworks and birthday cake, beautiful hosted dinners, live entertainment, and hosted excursions.

"We celebrated the 50-year event with our fellow members to remember the great years that have passed and to cheers the many more to come," says TIMBER MART member, Jay Fafard, vice-president of business development for the Riverbend Group of Companies and Security Building Supplies in Saskatoon, Sask. "This convention was truly a memorable experience from start to finish and indicative of the attention to detail and focus on quality service the group has on their members."

"I feel TIMBER MART is going in a great direction as an organization and am proud to be a member," says TIMBER MART member, Alain Charbonneau, owner of Centre de rénovation Fabreville, located in Laval, Que. "I was happy to celebrate TIMBER MART's 50th anniversary in Mexico this year and look forward to what the next 50 years will bring."

TIMBER MART also hosted it's annual *Lend A Hand* charitable event at it's convention, where on January 27, more than 300 TIMBER MART members, vendors and staff gathered to build over 100 new bicycles for the local, less-fortunate children of Puerto Vallarta.

TIMBER MART's celebrations will continue throughout 2017 with it's 50th Anniversary National Buying Show from February 14-15, anniversary-themed, store-level promotions for TIMBER MART members in the spring and summer, as well at TIMBER MART's Emerging Leader's Summit and Timberkids golf tournaments in the late summer and fall.





About TIMBER MART

Founded in 1967, TIMBER MART is the largest national member-owned buying group in Canada for the true independent entrepreneur. With hundreds of independent building-material and hardware retailers, commercial dealers and manufacturers located in every province across the country, TIMBER MART provides its extensive dealer network with a menu of competitive buying programs, comprehensive marketing services and personalized support to drive independent-business success. For more information, visit <u>www.timbermart.ca</u> and <u>www.timbermartmember.ca</u>.

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