



# London

## First class pride



### Farhi Holdings has changed the face of downtown London by investing in its buildings

Shmuel Farhi, owner of Farhi Holdings Corporation, is a unique developer and landowner in Ontario. Living and working in London, Farhi has purchased many of the landmark buildings in the downtown core of this city. From prestigious office towers and upscale high-rise apartment complexes, to unique heritage properties that have been retrofitted for modern use, the downtown core is the key element in his decision to invest in the city in which he lives.

"He's tremendously passionate about the downtown," says Gord MacKenzie, Regional Vice-President for Southwestern Ontario for Royal Bank Financial Group. "He leads by example. He puts his money where his mouth is and sends out the message that the downtown core is worth investing in. He is a quality landlord and a tremendous ambassador for the city of London and its downtown." Farhi Holdings purchased the Royal Bank tower headquarters last year.

Janette MacDonald, Manager of MainStreet London agrees. "The core of any downtown revitalization is to have people living in the core, and Farhi has done a lot to bring them here," she says.

Farhi has also been busy changing the face of government buildings across Ontario. To date, his design/build projects are located in Kingston, Oshawa, Hamilton, Stoney Creek, Kitchener, St. Thomas and London.

Not only is Farhi Holdings Corporation dedicated to offering a variety of well-located, high-quality commercial and residential space, but the company is also dedicated to providing high-calibre service to its tenant base, no matter the hour.

London Southwestern Region's TD Canada

Trust is another tenant of a Farhi property. "Anything goes wrong and his people are here in a heartbeat," says Doug Galbraith, Branch Manager with TD Canada Trust. With more than 1.5 million square feet to manage in more than 50 sites in London alone, that type of commitment is a necessity.

MacDonald calls Farhi, "a terrific landlord who takes great care of his buildings."

His enthusiasm for his buildings and his tenants goes beyond fulfilling their leasing needs. Helping charities that are part of his tenant base has become a creative passion for Farhi. Among his charitable efforts, he has renovated buildings at no cost for several not-for-profit agencies and regularly donates back part of their annual rent.

His contribution to the community and care for his tenants has not gone unnoticed. "Since arriving in the St. Thomas community, Shmuel Farhi has accomplished more than any other single developer has in this century!" says Bob Hammersely, President of the St. Thomas & District Chamber of Commerce, which honoured Farhi with an award in 1993 as well as a Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of Canadian Confederation for his work in the St. Thomas community. Today, the St. Thomas Courthouse, a massive and awe-inspiring heritage building, and owned by Farhi since the late 1980s, remains his pride and joy.

"Heritage buildings represent our past," says Farhi. "We cannot afford to construct buildings like this any more, with such attention to detail and fine workmanship. It is important to preserve our heritage for future generations."



## Farhi Holdings Corporation

Farhi Holdings Corporation provides first-class office accommodations, retail space and residential apartments throughout Ontario. We take great pride in our properties and we understand that having satisfied tenants is our greatest asset. Our sites are located in Kingston, Oshawa, Hamilton, Stoney Creek, Kitchener, St. Thomas and London.

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