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**Contact:**

Ashley Miller  
Direct: 484-253-1109  
Main: 610-687-6232  
Amiller@mlcc.org

WAYNE — July 14, 2010 — The **Main Line** Chamber of Commerce has tapped Philadelphia Business Journal Editor Bernard Dagenais to be its next president and chief executive officer.

“We’re excited about bringing on a leader with Bernie’s reputation and deep business connections throughout the Philadelphia region as we take the chamber to the next level,” said Stephen DiOrio, chairman of the organization. “He has been serving, and been a voice for, businesses as editor of the Business Journal and we look forward to working with him to help strengthen the more than 1,100 businesses we serve.”

Dagenais has been a business journalist for the past 12 years, arriving at the Business Journal in 2002. His tenure at the multi-media company has been marked by an expansion of daily online news coverage, a renewed focus on business issues in government and journalistic awards that have included two Newspaper of the Year designations from the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association, along with repeat national Best in Business Awards accolades from the Society of American Business Editors and Writers.

“My work providing businesses with content that generates business leads, in addition to educational and networking events, translates well to my new role with the chamber,” Dagenais said. “The best chambers of commerce across the country are vital advocates, educators and centers for networking that are so important to member businesses. Chambers are the original social network with business in mind.”

The **Main Line** Chamber of Commerce traces its roots back 89 years. Dagenais will be joining a staff that includes Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President Eileen Connolly-Robbins and is filling a job that has been left vacant since December 2009. Connolly-Robbins, a former chairwoman of the chamber’s board of directors, will stay on as chief operating officer. A major success for the group over the past year has been the creation of the Main Line Society of Professional Women, which quickly became the second largest non-chamber networking group in the region, according to Philadelphia Business Journal research.

In his role at the Business Journal, Dagenais has regularly led presentations about how to build business and has been a sought-after public speaker on the regional economy. He

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has had recurring appearances on Fox 29's Good Day Philadelphia morning show, Larry Kane's Voice of Reason on the Comcast Network and KYW News Radio. He will assume his new post starting Aug. 9.

"The chamber has a storied history of serving and being vital to its members," DiOrio said. "Bernie brings enthusiastic leadership and new ideas that will be worth watching. We're expecting great things."

*The **Main Line** Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of its 1,200 member base, spans nine boroughs and townships constituting the region known as the Main Line. As the Main Line's business advocate, The **Main Line** Chamber of Commerce is committed to enabling members to succeed, promoting economic growth in the region, developing an informed business community and enhancing the quality of life on the Main Line. In its 89th year of service, The **Main Line** Chamber is the second largest chamber operating in Delaware, Chester and Montgomery Counties and the fifth largest in the Southeastern Pennsylvania region. The **Main Line** Chamber is recognized with a 4-Star Accreditation rating from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.*

*Photo Attached*

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