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### Press Release: Canada Celebrates First Employee Ownership Day



The ESOP Association Canada is proudly announcing that June 7, 2017 marks the first Canadian Employee Ownership Day.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WireService.ca Media Release (06/05/2017)** - The ESOP Association Canada is proudly announcing that June 7, 2017 marks the first Canadian Employee Ownership Day.

This day is an opportunity to spotlight the performance and benefits of companies with employee ownership, which includes employee share ownership plans (ESOPs) and other stock-based compensation plans, as well as worker-owned co-operatives.

"WestJet and PCL Construction are just two examples of admired Canadian companies that have employee ownership," says Camille Jensen, [ESOP Association Canada chair](#).

"What is not well known is that there are hundreds of Canadian companies, both public and private, that have employee ownership and are enjoying the benefits, from increased employee engagement to improved productivity and profitability.

"Today, we are celebrating these companies who are demonstrating that there is a more successful and equitable approach to business."

"A significant number of our employees have chosen to become shareholders in our company" said Brent Clegg, president and CEO of the [FWS Group of Companies](#).

"We strongly believe that broad employee ownership through an ESOP encourages a high performance culture which leads to operational excellence and the creation of outstanding value for all of our stakeholders."

More than 40 years of research in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and other countries confirm that companies with employee ownership outperform traditional companies.

Canada's first Employee Ownership Day takes place during the ESOP Association's annual [Canadian Employee Ownership Conference](#) in Ottawa from June 6-8. The day will be marked by learning from the experiences of successful employee-owned companies as well as a special evening celebration. Media are invited to attend the event.

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