

# Executive summary

## Lifelong learners

Some will tell you that university is the fastest road to the top because it teaches you to be a critical thinker. Others say that college is a more practical course because of the skills you acquire. Still others say that education is secondary to having the right entrepreneurial attitude. Looking at this year's Top 50 CEOs, it looks like all roads can lead to the top – provided you never stop learning.

### Highest level of education:

- 7% High school
- 4% Some post-secondary
- 9% College
- 33% Undergraduate
- 34% Masters
- 13% Doctorate



**80%**

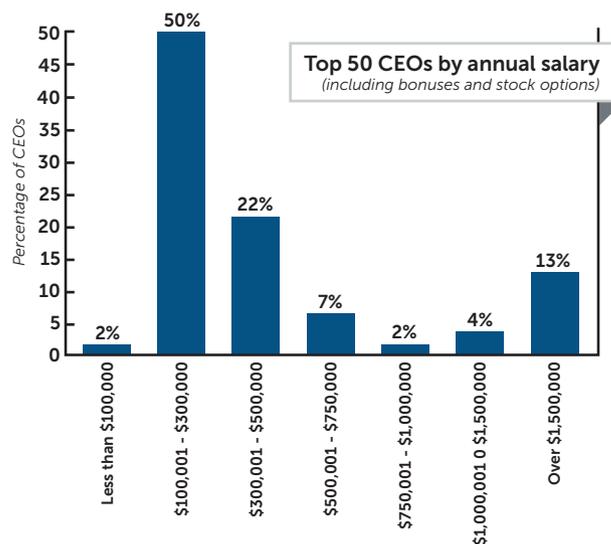
of Top 50 CEOs have completed some level of university

### Top 10 post-secondary institutions attended by the 2014 Top 50 CEOs:

1. Memorial University of Newfoundland
2. Dalhousie University
3. Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto
4. Harvard University
5. Richard Ivey School of Business, University of Western Ontario
6. Acadia University
7. Saint Mary's University
8. Mount Allison University
9. McGill University
10. University of New Brunswick

## They work hard for the money

Entrepreneurs can be found at both extremes of the CEO compensation spectrum, making less than \$100,000 annually or exceeding \$1.5 million. Corporate CEOs who are not the founders of the organization(s) they lead, however, don't dip below the \$100,000 mark. The lesson? Being an entrepreneur is risky business, but with great risk can come great rewards.



## Settle down/move up

Apparently, a stable home life is the secret to professional success – preferably with 2.3 children. For the 16th consecutive year, the overwhelming majority of Top 50 CEOs are in the family way.

**92%** are married

**88%** have children

## Coming of age

More than half (58 per cent) of this year's Top 50 CEOs are under 50 years of age, and 26 per cent are under 45. Which means that a significant number of them have at least another 20 years of leadership excellence ahead of them.

**34** Age of this year's youngest Top 50 CEO, Ron Lovett (Source Security)

### Top 50 CEO ages

- 6% Under 40
- 20% 41-45
- 32% 46-50
- 14% 51-55
- 10% 56-60
- 10% 61-65
- 6% 66-70
- 2% Over 70

## Knowledge is power

Top 50 CEOs are avowed news junkies – with good reason. Competitive intelligence keeps them on top of their game and ahead of the competition.

### How do they consume news/information?

- 22% Mobile device (Smart phones, tablets)
- 21% Print (newspapers, magazines)
- 20% Online (via desktop computer)
- 17% Television
- 11% Radio
- 4% Social media (Twitter, LinkedIn)
- 3% Industry reports
- 2% Personal experience

**46%** of Top 50 CEOs rely on the Internet for news and information

### Most trusted source of news/information:

- 21% State-owned media (CBC, BBC)
- 17% National newspaper (*Globe & Mail*, *National Post*)
- 15% Periodicals (*The Economist*, *Maclean's*, *Time*, *Atlantic Business Magazine*)
- 10% Word of mouth (colleague/industry specialist)
- 10% Local newspaper (*The Telegram*, *Chronicle Herald*)
- 9% Industry-specific research
- 6% Local radio stations (VOCM)
- 5% Commercial networks (NTV, CTV, Fox News, CNN)
- 4% Online news feed
- 3% Internet searches

Incidentally, this is his fifth time being named to the Top 50, making this his Hall of Fame induction year. (*Seriously, Ron, could you possibly set the bar any higher?*)