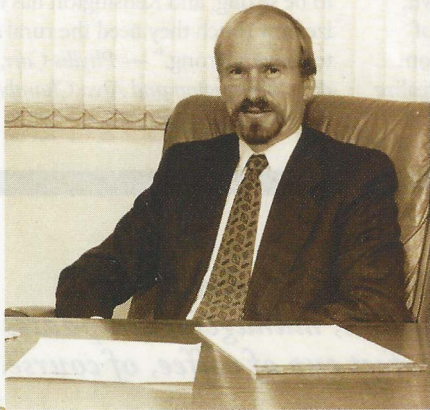


Proven results



Alan Barnett's involvement with the chamber has grown with his business

It's a family affair at Budget Rent-A-Car Maritimes. In 1964, president Alan Barnett's father, owner of Parkway Mercury, branched out and as a sideline became the first Eastern Canada franchisee for Budget. In 1984, the family started taking operational control of the Budget franchise. At that time, Alan Barnett moved to Halifax to work full-time establishing a regional office and begin buying back the larger airport franchises.

Barnett and Budget support the chamber movement, and the company is a member of the local chamber wherever Budget has a branch. "We go way back to the Board of Trade in Saint John. It's [been] almost 40 years," says Barnett. To prove this he says he can remember going to the board of trade meetings when they were at the Admiral Beatty Hotel, which is now long closed.

Although the company is a long-time supporter of several chambers, Barnett feels that Budget's most meaningful volunteer work has been for cystic fibrosis. The Danny Gullivan Cystic Fibrosis Golf Tournament is the first charitable golf tournament in the Maritimes. "They came to Budget and we jumped in," says Barnett. For 10 years Budget was the primary sponsor of the event and now continues in a supportive role. "It's exciting to see your efforts being put into something that actually has proven results, and you can relate it to something personal," says Barnett. Budget also donates vans for Metro Food Bank drives, sponsors various golf and ski tournaments for the QEII hospital, and is an official sponsor for the East Coast Music Awards, Neptune Theatre, and the Nova Scotia Symphony. — *Carol Johnstone*