

Partner of the Year	Reasoning
Sobeys Wholesale	Provides a national multi-format food distributor platform, serving the market with a robust listing bases of ambient, frozen and refrigerated products, along with promotional, retail programs and DSD offerings. Focused on ensuring that the DCI retailers are well taken care of with passion and commitment. We support many of DCI customers and have been working hard to provide all customers with Best in Class end to end Customer Service. We recently launched a new private label product to all DCI members (Panache), and continue to ensure each DCI customers have the best product assortment, and promotions, available to them.
Diamond Packaging Supplies Ltd.	Jacob and the DPSL team is tireless in their efforts to get us the right packaging at the right price. He's worked hard to expand his distribution beyond the GTA with twice a month deliveries throughout Ontario, and shipping beyond. Jacob never uses a take it or leave it approach unlike some of his competitors. We're proud to nominate Jacob for this award, as he always go over and above to serve his customers.
Chens Enterprises Co.	Exceptional Product Quality: Chens Enterprises consistently delivers products of the highest quality, meeting and exceeding industry standards. Their commitment to excellence is reflected in the durability, reliability, and innovation evident in their offerings. In our experience, Chens Enterprises has been an exceptionally reliable partner. Their commitment to meeting deadlines and delivering on time has played a crucial role in our operational efficiency and success. Chens Enterprises has continually showcased their dedication to innovation, providing our organization with cutting-edge solutions that have contributed significantly to our competitive advantage in the market. The exemplary customer service provided by Chens Enterprises sets them apart. Their responsiveness, attention to detail, and willingness to go the extra mile have fostered a strong and positive working relationship. Chens Enterprises Corporation has shown a commitment to sustainability, implementing environmentally friendly practices throughout their operations. This aligns with our values and demonstrates a shared dedication to corporate responsibility. Chens Enterprises has consistently approached our collaboration as a true partnership. Their open communication, flexibility, and willingness to adapt to our evolving needs have strengthened the bond between our organizations.
Lactalis Canada	Lactalis has continued to double down on our commitment to our independent partners by simplifying our processes, continuing to offer a wide variety of products that Canadian's love, and providing competitive feature opportunities!
ONFC	Great distributor, always willing to work with brands, preferred distributor of the largest health and wellness retailers like whole foods, Nature's Emp. and Healthy Planet just to name a few. Their account managers are professional and efficient. Recently ONFC developed and implemented an on-line ordering platform which is fantastic. They also are present on social media. Love working with this Team.
Maple Leaf Foods	Works with the independents with dedicated reps, and supports the DCI programs with a passionate energy.
Covered Bridge Potato Chip Company	Despite launching in 2009, Covered Bridge Potato Chips has achieved tremendous success both domestically and internationally. These crispy kettle chips, crafted with care, have become a beloved snack not only in Atlantic Canada but also in several countries worldwide Covered Bridge Potato Chips has been more than just a business—it's a part of the community. The company's commitment to quality, local sourcing, and sustainability has resonated with consumers. Their chips are not just a snack; they're a connection to the land and the people who make them. Unfortunately, tragedy struck when the Covered Bridge Potato Chips plant in Hartland, New Brunswick was destroyed by fire in 2024. The manufacturing plant, which employed 75 to 100 people, was reduced to charred remains however, there's hope that the plant will be rebuilt. Despite this setback, Covered Bridge Potato Chips remains a symbol of resilience, community, and deliciousness.
CJR Wholesale Grocers	CJR's commitment to excellence is evident in its comprehensive one-stop-shop approach, catering to the diverse needs of small to medium size enterprises. By offering a wide range of grocery, dairy, frozen, and refrigerated food items tailored to specific requirements, CJR consistently delivers value to its clientele. What truly sets CJR apart is its unwavering dedication to being a dependable partner, not only through its customer-centric service but also in its supply chain division. The company demonstrates a deep understanding of the industry landscape, utilizing innovative information technology, analytics and strategic initiatives to revitalise demand patterns and drive growth. In addition to their supply chain expertise, CJR Wholesale Grocers aligns its corporate responsibility values with tangible actions aimed at environmental sustainability. Recently, the company embarked on a significant solar panel project, installing thousands of solar panels to power its distribution centers. This initiative not only underscores CJR's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint but also serves as a testament to their forward thinking approach and long term commitment to the future. By embracing such forward-thinking projects, CJR Wholesale Grocers sets an example of corporate responsibility, demonstrating dedication to environmental stewardship. CJR recognizes the vital role of steady and reliable distribution partners to the success of independent grocers. CJR remains committed to the needs of Distribution Canada and its members.