

## Dal renames business school for IMP's Ken Rowe

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*IMP founder Ken Rowe wears a lifebuoy signed by students during an event naming the Rowe School of Business at Dalhousie University in Halifax on Friday. (PETER PARSONS / Staff)*

Dalhousie University is renaming its business school for prominent Nova Scotia businessman Kenneth C. Rowe — a stalwart champion of the school.

The executive chairman of IMP Group International is no stranger to the university, as its faculty of management building already bears his name.

Rowe said in an interview Friday one lesson he'd like to share with students is the importance of diversification.

“As we became the dominant player with our original marine products, we ran out of market share,” he said. “To continue to grow, we had to acquire other companies.”

Rowe donated \$15 million to the university last October. It was one of the largest gifts Dalhousie has received from a Nova Scotian.

On Friday, students showered Rowe with hundreds of paper airplanes and cheered from the upper levels of the central atrium of the building — commemorating his contribution to the province's aerospace industry.

The entrepreneur was also to receive one of the first official hoodies from the Rowe School of Business, with the Rowe name emblazoned across the front.

About 1,500 full-time, part-time and mature students are enrolled in the Rowe School of Business.

Rowe came to Nova Scotia from the United Kingdom in 1964. He left his job with the Great Grimsby Coal, Salt and Tanning Co. and embarked on an entrepreneurial path that led to the development of a billion-dollar-a-year aerospace company with 3,700 employees.

“Over the years, Ken has worked steadily, vigorously, to support and encourage the development of our school of business,” university president Tom Traves said.

Dal’s business school will now be marketed across Canada and around the world with its new name.

Source: Chronicle Herald <http://thechronicleherald.ca/business/141069-dal-renames-business-school-for-imps-ken-rowe>