

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Volunteer Calgary Board Announces New President & CEO for organization

Calgary, AB (May 11, 2011) The Volunteer Calgary Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Jamie Niessen to the role of President & CEO of Volunteer Calgary. The announcement marks the completion of an extensive search and recruitment effort led by executive search firm Odgers Berndtson, in partnership with the Board of Directors. Niessen will officially assume the role on June 13, 2011.

"We attracted a strong list of candidates interested in leading Volunteer Calgary," stated Dani DeBoice, Chair of the Board of Directors. "With Jamie's extensive experience in the not-for-profit sector, his vision, and his personal commitment to building a stronger community, the Board is confident he is the best person to lead Volunteer Calgary to becoming one of Canada's most innovative volunteer centres."

Niessen joins Volunteer Calgary from his post as Manager of Community Investment at TransCanada Corporation. He has strong connections with the not-for-profit and voluntary sector in Alberta through his professional work and also serves as a passionate community volunteer, including his current role as Chair of the Calgary Public Library Board. Niessen holds a Bachelor of Public Relations and has worked across Canada in a number of marketing communication roles in the corporate, government and voluntary sectors.

"I am tremendously excited about the opportunity to work for Volunteer Calgary," said Niessen. "The organization has a long and proud history in this community and I am honoured to work with our staff, members, community partners and funders to lead Volunteer Calgary to continued success in our vision of creating vibrant communities."

The appointment of Niessen will bring to a close the role of Interim CEO held by Sue Luciuk, Volunteer Calgary's Director of Finance, who has been leading the day-to-day operations of the organization since November 2010.

"The Board is very grateful for the leadership and commitment Sue has demonstrated over the past six months," continued DeBoice. "With the support of the entire Volunteer Calgary team, her management has ensured Volunteer Calgary has been able to continue delivering exemplary programming, services and support to the members of Volunteer Calgary and the public at large."

Luciuk will resume her previous role of Director of Finance and will continue to manage the finances of the organization. Luciuk will help transition the management of the day-to-day operations to Niessen.

Volunteer Calgary's mission is *leading, promoting, connecting, and strengthening volunteerism*. It has played a key role in the development of volunteerism in Calgary for 55 years. Through its services and programs, it enhances the ability of almost 400 member non-profit organizations to manage volunteers and links thousands of Calgarians with unique volunteer opportunities.

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