



**KITCHENER - WATERLOO  
ART GALLERY**

101 Queen Street North,  
Kitchener, Ontario, N2H 6P7  
519.579.5860 [www.kwag.ca](http://www.kwag.ca)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 10, 2011

## **New Director Announced at Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery**

The Board of Directors of the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery is delighted to announce the appointment of Shirley Madill as the Gallery's new Executive Director, effective May 2, 2011. One of Canada's foremost curators of contemporary art and senior administrators in the visual arts field, Ms. Madill brings a wealth of experience, dedication to contemporary art and innovative programming approaches to her new role at KW|AG.

"Shirley is just the right candidate to continue to build on and advance the Gallery's trajectory of success, which has been based on programming excellence, community engagement and fiscal responsibility," notes Judith Stephens-Wells, President of the Gallery's Board of Directors. "That the Gallery truly has taken its place on the national stage is evidenced by our ability to attract a new Director with as high a profile and as qualified as Shirley. We know KW|AG's future is in good hands and we look forward to seeing the Gallery's continued progress under her leadership."

Ms. Madill currently serves as Director of Rodman Hall Art Centre at Brock University, and is the former Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer of the Art Gallery of Hamilton and Senior Curator of Contemporary Art and Photography at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. She holds a Master of Arts in International and Cultural History as well as a Bachelor of Arts in History and Art History from the University of Manitoba, and has completed the prestigious Museum Leadership Program at the Getty Institute in Los Angeles.

Teaching has always been an important aspect of her career and she has taught a variety of curatorial, museum studies, photography and art appreciation courses at Brock University, the University of Victoria, Mohawk College and the University of Manitoba. She has served the national and international Gallery community through Board positions with the University and College Association of Canadian Art Galleries, the International Council of Museums, and the Ontario Association of Art Galleries. An active speaker and presenter, Ms. Madill regularly conducts lectures and talks on such topics as public art, creative cities, and the role of museums and public art galleries in their communities.

"I have been impressed by KW|AG's increasing importance on the national Gallery scene and I consider it both an honour and a wonderful opportunity to step into this position at this stage in its development. I sense a real spirit of innovation, excitement and willingness to collaborate in this community and I believe a public art gallery has a vital and central role to play in helping to shape and contributing to such an environment," comments Ms. Madill.



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Recruitment of a new director was triggered last fall by Director General Alf Bogusky's announcement that he would be stepping down, as of March 31, 2011, after nearly 10 years of service to KW|AG. Led by a committee of the board that included business and community leaders, the search attracted candidates from across the country, and internationally. Mr. Bogusky's contribution to the Gallery was acknowledged at a special public gathering Friday March 4, attended by more than 150 patrons, supporters and V.I.P.s.

For more information or to arrange an interview with Shirley Madill or Judith Stephens-Wells, contact:

Caroline Oliver  
Director of Development & Marketing  
519-579-5860 ext 218  
[coliver@kwag.on.ca](mailto:coliver@kwag.on.ca)

### **About the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery**

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KW|AG) connects people and ideas through art. The Gallery emphasizes contemporary art, has a 4,000 work permanent collection and offers experiences for adults, children and families. Established in 1956 and operating within Centre In The Square, KW|AG is the oldest and largest public gallery in Waterloo region: *roots in the community, eyes on the world.*

### **Gallery Hours and Admission**

M-W 9:30am-5pm., T 9:30am.-9pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1pm-5pm. Open before select Centre in the Square Performances. Please view our website for current hours. [www.kwag.ca](http://www.kwag.ca)

Admission to KW|AG is free courtesy of Sun Life Financial. All are welcome.



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