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KW|AG Director Alf Bogusky Moving On After 9 Years at the Helm

The Board of the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery and its Director General, Alf Bogusky, are pleased to announce plans to facilitate a new era of leadership at KW|AG. Bogusky will be concluding more than nine years of transitional and transformative leadership at the Gallery, as of March 31, 2011.

Judith Stephens-Wells, President of the Board of Directors, in describing Alf's tenure at the Gallery, notes "We're deeply grateful for Alf's years of work shaping a strong foundation for the Gallery and his commitment to working with us to manage a successful leadership transition. He has made a tremendous contribution to KW|AG, and will be a tough act to follow. But we're confident that the right individual is out there to build on the Gallery's strong base and take it through the next exciting phase."

The Board will begin a search for Bogusky's successor immediately.

Bogusky has led KW|AG for nine years, revitalizing the gallery financially and artistically. Under his direction, Gallery revenues more than doubled, the accumulated deficit was reduced and endowments were established. Professional recognition of the Gallery has jumped, as evidenced by the positive critical reviews KW|AG receives and a dramatic increase in peer-assessed agency funding from the Canada Council and the Ontario Arts Council. Council funding grew from less than \$20,000 when Bogusky arrived, to its current level of \$200,000 annually in a highly competitive environment. "Alf's role in developing alliances and shared collaborative projects has been noteworthy. He has been a wonderful community leader," says Stephens-Wells.

"I took on the KW|AG project as a change agent and I've accomplished what I came here to do," explains Bogusky. "The time is now right for a new leader to move the organization forward to the next level. Public institutions develop and succeed because of group effort, not because of one person and the staff and Board team at the Gallery is exceptionally strong."

"When I first arrived here I was struck by the strength and diversity of this community, the terrific people and the strong interest in art. It's been a pleasure to work and live here." Bogusky is not retiring from the field, but after 34 years of service in gallery management he intends to take some time for himself, and then find a new project.

"We are very pleased that Alf plans to remain in our community as both a resident and enthusiastic supporter of the Gallery, and we wish him the very best in his next creative endeavour" says Stephens-Wells.

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