



Media Release – For Immediate Release - August 30, 2017

Sabrina Saunders New CEO for The Blue Mountains Public Library

Following a comprehensive national search process, The Blue Mountains Public Library Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Sabrina Saunders to the position of Chief Executive Office.

Dr. Saunders comes to The Blue Mountains after ten years as CEO of Six Nations Public Library. Under her watch, the largest First Nation public library in Canada became accredited, became a leader in library board governance and policy, underwent plans for a new facility, and grew to meet the ever-changing needs of the community for a wide range of library services. In addition, Dr. Saunders has managed and governed several historic and archival projects including heritage museum buildings, museum tourism, physical archives, digital archives, and genealogical initiatives.

Sabrina is a respected member of the Ontario Library Community and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge of library trends and innovation. Dr. Saunders has been a keynote speaker at numerous conferences, including Ontario Public Libraries Association conferences provincially and The Futures Symposium: Libraries 2020, an all provinces symposium. Dr. Saunders also sits on or chairs a number of boards, and we've been told that she leaves a huge hole in her current community.

The following are some of the comments from her references:

Sabrina

“Is well informed and provides information and expertise”

“Is a very friendly, smart woman.”

“Is more than capable of working with people. She does not intimidate.”

“has vision...can assess situations, problem solve and plan short-term and long-term goals.”

“has a level of creativity and innovation needed to achieve goals, even with limited funding”

“interacts well with staff, sets clear expectations, teaches and mentors”

“has excellent rapport with staff”

“will get involved in the community...very approachable, great sense of humour...will do a tremendous job...great capacity”

“Policy is her forte. The policies she created have become a model for other Library Boards.”

“Our library has flourished under Sabrina, and it was floundering when she came. She's a pretty dynamic person.”

“I would hire her in a minute to be honest with you.”

During her first six months of leadership in The Blue Mountains Public Library system, she will be implementing a comprehensive assessment of library services. We anticipate her speaking with many of our patrons and municipal partners as she works with the Board and our staff to create a plan for improved services to our residents and guests alike. Dr. Saunders stated, “It is a privilege to work for such a vibrant and dynamic community. I look forward to the opportunities to enhance services for our residents and the tens of thousands of guests and visitors who use our library system and facilities annually.”

Dr. Saunders will assume leadership of the library on October 23rd. An opportunity for the public to meet Dr. Saunders will be announced this fall, and we trust that all members of our community will extend a warm, supportive welcome. We are confident in the ability of Dr. Saunders to ensure a robust and accessible public library for the people of The Town of Blue Mountains.

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Attachment – Photo Sabrina Saunders

Contact Information:

Cindy Weir

Interim CEO

The Blue Mountains Public Library

519-599-3681 ext. 148