



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rural Ontario Institute appoints Acting CEO

GUELPH, ON, Apr. 3, 2018 — The Rural Ontario Institute has implemented a transition plan in the wake of CEO Rob Black's appointment to the Senate of Canada. Approved by the ROI Board and effective immediately, Norm Ragetlie, Director, Policy and Stakeholder Engagement, will be Acting Chief Executive Officer. Rob Black will continue as Transition Advisor to the Board until his departure from the organization on June 30th, 2018.

Norm, who has been with the organization since its formation in 2010, will be appointed ROI Chief Executive Officer in June. In addition to Norm's responsibilities for directing the Policy and Stakeholder Engagement projects, his new additional responsibilities will include the key functions of a not-for-profit chief executive officer including financial management, personnel management and Board support.

The organization will be creating and recruiting for two new positions, a full-time Leadership Programs Director and a part-time Bookkeeper/Office Administrator.

The Leadership Programs Director will have responsibility for all leadership activities as well as fundraising for all leadership activities, including, but not limited to, the long-running Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program.

"Rob leaves some big shoes to fill as AALP's program director, however, I am looking forward to working with a well-networked leader from the ag sector to help build and grow both AALP and ROI's other leadership offerings," says Ragetlie.

"The Board Directors are confident these changes will ensure ROI continues to be well positioned to deliver on the organization's strategic goals into the future," says Suzanne Trivers, ROI Board Chair.

The Rural Ontario Institute is a non-profit organization committed to developing leaders and facilitating collaboration on issues and opportunities facing rural Ontario.

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