



HELGA STEPHENSON STEPS IN AS INTERIM CEO AT ACADEMY OF CANADIAN CINEMA AND TELEVISION

Toronto, Thursday, May 26, 2011 - Vice-Chair of the Board, Charles Ohayon today announced veteran arts administrator and promoter Helga Stephenson will step in as Interim CEO of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television effective immediately.

Ms. Stephenson will oversee day-to-day operations of the Academy and will begin the process for the hiring of a permanent CEO in the next few months. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Academy which is about to celebrate its 35th anniversary in 2014.

Best known for her tenure at TIFF, Ms. Stephenson is also a co-principal in Daniels Stephenson Inc., producers of the annual Toronto Film Critics Awards; the Chair of the Reykjavik International Film Festival, the Toronto Human Rights Watch Film Festival, is a member of the Chair's Council of TIFF, the Advisory Council of The Walrus Magazine and is a board member of the Institute of Contemporary Culture at the Royal Ontario Museum.

"It is with great pleasure we welcome Helga Stephenson to our ranks and we look forward to the next period as a time of productive progression to a stronger and more vibrant Academy", said Vice-Chair Charles Ohayon.

"The Academy is one of our country's great institutions and I look forward to helping it better serve its members, the creative backbone of the media industry in Canada. There have been many changes in our industry and we will change to reflect them," said Helga Stephenson.

Established in 1979, the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television is a national, non-profit, professional association dedicated to the promotion, recognition and celebration of exceptional achievements in the Canadian film and television industries. Industry professionals across Canada are members of the Academy, making it a vital force representing all areas of the film and television industries.

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