

New chair, co-chair take Headwaters helm

Written By JOSHUA SANTOS

Headwaters Communities in Action (HCIA) has announced its new co-chair and vice-chair at their annual general meeting on Sept. 27. Trish Keachie and Diana Morris take on the role of co-chairs.

“Headwaters Communities in Action is very fortunate to have Trish Keachie and Diana Morris as Co-Chairs of our Leadership Council,” said Gord Gallagher, past-chair of HCIA in a news release. “With their extensive and varied experience, they understand the community we live in and the opportunities and challenges that we have ahead of us.”

Keachie has worked in the social service industry for over 40 years. She was involved in provincial policy development in child care, domestic violence and supporting and funding homelessness programs for the City of Toronto.

She was the executive director of Dufferin Child and Family Services and retired from her position in 2013. She sits on the board for Family Transition Place as well as the HCIA Leadership council.

Keachie is a resident of Mono and a lead sponsor for a Syrian refugee family in Orangeville.

Diana Morris is the general manager of the Dufferin Board of Trade (DBOT). She holds a diploma in business marketing and a certificate in human resource management from St. Clair College. She has completed several course and certificate programs in finance, management and administration.

Morris is in the process of completing a certificate in economic development through the University of Waterloo. She has spent seven years prior to join DBOT running the office of a farm equipment dealership in Wellington County and was working in banking four years prior.

Keachie and Morris succeed Gallagher. Gallagher will remain on the leadership council as past-chair.

HCIA has evolved from the early social prosperity project to its current form. Gallagher is acknowledged for managing a significant portfolio of community projects and being an organization of profile and responsibility, according to the release.

“Gord has provided endless support and effort towards making HCIA what it is today,” said Shirley Boxem, executive director of HCIA in the release. “His guidance and patience have been invaluable over the years. We are thrilled that he remains with the organization as past chair and helping with financials.”

Ken Topping takes on the role of vice-chair for HCIA.

Topping has experience in leadership and governance on a number of boards. He served a six-year term on the Central West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) where he chaired the CEO Compensation and Review Committee and sat on the audit, quality and governance committee.

Topping is a past president of the Dufferin Arts Council and chair of the strategic planning committee. He also serves as a director of the board for PACE Credit Union and also sits on the audit committee.

He has joined the board of Headwaters Health Care Centre where he sits on the quality committee and is a vice chair of the governance committee.

Sylvia Cheuy will remain on the board. Jeff Sedgwick will continue his second term as treasurer.