For Immediate Release **June 25, 2026**

VOLUNTEER WATERLOO REGION ANNOUNCES THE RETIREMENT OF JANE HENNIG AND A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERSHIP BY APPOINTING CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Volunteer Waterloo Region (VWR) announced the retirement of its current Executive Director, Jane Hennig, yesterday at its Annual General Meeting after more than 24 years of unwavering dedication and exceptional leadership. VWR also announced a new direction of leadership by appointing Co-Executive Directors (Co-EDs) who will lead the organization forward post Jane's retirement in the Fall of 2026. Mary McGuinness was appointed Co-Executive Director, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Cameron Tai was appointed Co-Executive Director, Chief Operations Officer (COO).

"Serving the sector in this role for more than two decades has been, without a doubt, the highlight of my career," said Jane Hennig, Executive Director, Volunteer Waterloo Region. "After leading Volunteer Waterloo Region for the last 24 years, I'm personally thrilled about this appointment and future direction of the organization. The passion, professionalism, expertise and knowledge that Mary and Cameron bring to VWR are timely and necessary for the ever changing sector and volunteerism needs in our region and beyond. While the Co-Executive model is new to our organization, I'm confident that it's the right direction for this moment in our history."

Mary and Cameron bring complimentary skillsets and a shared commitment to the mission of Volunteer Waterloo Region. As Co-EDs, they are responsible for the strategic leadership, financial sustainability, and operational excellence of VWR. Reporting to the Board of Directors, the Co-EDs ensure that VWR fulfills its mission while advancing best practices in volunteer engagement and nonprofit development.

The CEO's key responsibilities include strategic vision, advocacy and sector leadership, corporate engagement oversight, and HR planning and strategy. The COO's key responsibilities include operational excellence, performance measurement, program

development, community engagement, marketing and public relations, financial management and sustainability, and risk and compliance management.

"On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and member organizations, I want to sincerely thank Jane for more than two decades of outstanding leadership. Jane has been a trusted connector, advisor, and advocate for volunteerism in her role as leader of Volunteer Waterloo Region," said Laurie Crocker, Board Chair, VWR. "Jane has been an exceptional asset, not only to VWR, but to the sector as a whole, locally and across the country. As we look ahead, VWR is well-positioned to build on this momentum—supported by strong governance, a clear strategic direction, and a continued commitment to innovation and collaboration in service of our community."

The new Co-Executive Directors will step into their roles starting on September 1, 2026 and will have an opportunity to work alongside Jane as she transitions into retirement in November.

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Boilerplate

In 2024 Volunteer Waterloo Region celebrated 40 years providing connections and leadership to support the development of individuals and organizations through volunteerism. VWR is one of nearly 200 volunteer centres across the country that act as a central resource for local volunteerism.

Today, the organization serves more than 150 charities and not-for-profit organizations in the community that represent arts and culture, health, social services, education, the environment, sports and recreation, and more. These organizations, and the added value of support from volunteers, make Waterloo Region a community in which people want to live, work, and raise families.

Volunteer Waterloo Region is a leader and innovator in the community benefit sector, creating and developing new ways to advocate for volunteerism through the use of technology, collaborative partnerships and ever-evolving services to the sector.

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