

ELAN News Update

Fri 13 Feb, 2015

ELAN Board of Directors update: Peter MacGibbon moves on, Bettina Forget welcomed as Interim President

From Guy Rodgers, in February's ELANews:

"Peter MacGibbon, ELAN's president for the past two years, decided in January that he would have to step down from the board for personal and health reasons. Peter has been a vital member of ELAN's board for almost six years, a constant champion of regional activities outside Montreal, and a key contributor to ELAN's Arts Alive! Quebec project which connects his town of Wakefield with Hudson, Huntingdon, Knowlton, Quebec City and the West Island of Montreal. At our January 13 board meeting, board members expressed their gratitude to Peter for his years of leadership, and Peter thanked the board for their support and understanding of his personal situation.

Bettina Forget, ELAN's vice-president, agreed to put her name forward as interim president. After a brief discussion, the board voted unanimously to elect Bettina for this position. Many of you know Bettina as a visual artist, owner and director of the Visual Voice Gallery, and producer of the Belgo Report. At the same meeting, the board elected Valerie Buddle as interim vice-president. Valerie is a choreographer who has presented her work at numerous venues and festivals in Canada, and she is general manager of the Margie Gillis Dance Foundation."



left to right: Valerie Buddle (Interim Vice-President), Bettina Forget (Interim President) and Peter MacGibbon (outgoing President)

In addition to welcoming Bettina and Valerie to their new positions, ELAN has recruited several new board members to fill the shoes of folks who have moved on to other projects. We're pleased that Keith Henderson (President of the Association of English-Language Publishers of Quebec), Farah Fancy (Executive Director, General Manager and Production Director for Herencias/Afro Cuban Association of Montreal), Len Richman (Vice-President of the Quebec Drama Federation), and Karen Cho (filmmaker, writer, director, producer) have agreed to sit on our Board. We're looking forward to their contributions to ELAN's continued growth and success!