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Long time Food Bank Executive Director bids farewell

(After 14 years, Sean Strickland says he's ready for a new challenge)

(For immediate release)

"To suggest this was a difficult decision would be an understatement," says Sean Strickland, Executive Director of The Food Bank of Waterloo Region. "For the past 14 years, I have been extremely fortunate to be a part of a wonderful organization. I have met and worked with so many generous individuals, businesses and organizations – all of whom share a deep commitment to the welfare of this community through their support of the less fortunate".

The search is on for a new Executive Director for The Food Bank of Waterloo Region. Sean Strickland submitted his resignation to the Food Bank's Board of Directors last week so that he can assume his new responsibility as Director of Public Affairs for the Perimeter Institute in Waterloo. Sean's last official day as Executive Director of The Food Bank of Waterloo Region will be February 2, 2004.

Sean joined The Food Bank of Waterloo Region in 1990 as Executive Director. In 2000, the Food Bank moved to its current location on Alpine Court following Sean's leadership of a \$2-million dollar capital campaign. In addition to serving as an outstanding ambassador for the Food Bank, as well as a committed advocate on behalf of the less fortunate in Waterloo Region, Sean worked hard to help develop partnerships with new community agencies and food programs, as well as in the food industry. His efforts, together with those of the Food Bank staff and volunteers, have helped The Food Bank of Waterloo Region become one of the most respected and trusted not-for-profit organizations in Waterloo Region.

"This organization has some very big shoes to fill," says Tim Jackson, President of the Food Bank Board of Directors. "The name Sean Strickland together with The Food Bank of Waterloo Region has been synonymous for 14 years in this community. Sean has done so much on behalf of so many. His vision, leadership and generosity will be sorely missed by all Food Bank staff, volunteers and supporters".

The search for a new Executive Director will begin immediately. It is expected the process will take several months.

"Because of the important role The Food Bank of Waterloo Region plays in our community, we want to be as thorough as possible in the process to find Sean's successor", says Jackson. "We also want to ensure we find the right individual to lead this organization as it continues to help feed the less fortunate in Waterloo Region".

...continued.



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Long time Food Bank Executive Director bids farewell (*cont.*)

In the interim, the Food Bank's Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Wendi Campbell – the Associate Director of The Food Bank of Waterloo Region – has accepted the position of Acting Executive Director. Wendi has been with the Food Bank since 1999.

“I am both honoured and grateful for the opportunity and for the trust the Board of Directors has shown in me”, says Campbell. “I want to assure our community, our staff and volunteers and most important our donors and supporters, that Sean’s departure will not mean any changes in the-day-to-day operation. We have in place a very professional and responsible team that is quite capable of continuing to help The Food Bank of Waterloo Region fulfill its mission of Helping to Feed the Hungry and Improving the Quality of Life”.

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