

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ART GALLERY OF HAMILTON ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF MARK STEWART TO DIRECTOR, COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Art Gallery of Hamilton takes great pleasure in announcing the appointment of **Mark Stewart** to the Gallery's new position of **Director, Commercial Activities** on a one-year contract. He joins the AGH team on June 28th.

In this newly-created position, Stewart will be responsible for the development of the AGH's current commercial activities, primarily in the areas of Hospitality Services and Retail Operations, and will work closely with the AGH Board's strategic development committee. Additionally, he will assist areas such as the AGH World Film Festival, Membership and Programming in refining revenue generation opportunities.

Stewart comes to the Gallery from General Electric (GE Capital) in Mississauga, where he held the position of Commercial Leadership Associate. He is also the owner and business director of Flyprint, a Hamilton-based custom apparel and promotional products provider. While attending the DeGroote School of Business (from which he graduated with an MBA in 2009), he successfully completed work terms at Ontario Power Generation, Scotia Capital and RBC Capital Markets.

Stewart recently completed his tenure as President of the DeGroote MBA Association, and stays active at McMaster University as an instructional assistant. He is also an active member of the Hamilton Jobs Prosperity Collaborative.

"The Art Gallery of Hamilton is very excited to welcome Mark to the AGH team. Mark offers a solid background in business administration, an entrepreneurial perspective, and an obvious passion for the city; his enthusiasm, energy and expertise will greatly enhance our commercial activities at the Gallery," said AGH President and CEO Louise Dompierre. "Like many charitable organizations, the Gallery is looking to strengthen its revenue generation activities and has invested in this new position to enable us to move towards self-sustainability more effectively."

"As a returning and native Hamiltonian, I see developing the Gallery's commercial activities as a unique opportunity to enrich the community I grew up in by supporting a diverse set of programming and experiences for families, children, and adults," said Stewart. "The continuing progression of the AGH complements the ongoing expansion of Hamilton's creative sector into a cluster that continues to offer more and more opportunities for cultural and socioeconomic development."

Located in the heart of downtown Hamilton, the Art Gallery of Hamilton owns one of the finest collections in Canada. The third largest public art gallery in Ontario, its Permanent Collection of over 9,500 artworks includes European historical, Canadian historical, and Canadian contemporary art. The AGH celebrates its hundredth anniversary in 2014.

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For more information, please contact:

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