

Please join us in welcoming  
**Nicole Fougère**  
to the RAC as executive director

The Rotary Arts Centre is pleased to announce that Nicole Fougère will join the RAC team as executive director, effective June 18.

Ms. Fougère comes to Corner Brook from artsPlace, a community arts centre in the mountains of Alberta, where she was the programs director for the last five-and-a-half years.

At artsPlace, Ms. Fougère managed more than 300 programs and events per year, from ceramics courses to free family art classes, from multicultural celebrations to salsa nights. Nicole also helped to launch many outreach initiatives including the “Right from the HeART program,” which teaches mental wellness tools through the arts in local schools. She founded the Cultural Learning Circle Series at artsPlace, which creates a brave space for people of many different cultural backgrounds to share their artistry and speak about how to coexist together. She is especially passionate about the Indigenous Connections Programs at artsPlace, which respect Indigenous artistry and create bridges of understanding between different cultures.

“The Rotary Arts Centre is such a dynamic and magical place,” said Ms. Fougère. “I love that there are so many artists that thrive there. I am honoured to join the team at RAC and to support the vibrant arts community of the Corner Brook.”

Ms. Fougère comes to the RAC following the retirement of Dr. David Smallwood, the founder of the centre and champion of the arts in Corner Brook for more than 50 years.

“We’re thrilled to welcome Ms. Fougère to the RAC,” said interim chair Jerry Etienne. “ Her experience with arts programming, community connections and administrative functions will serve us well as we continue to support artists in the community with an added focus on cultural industry workforce development, giving stronger support to local talent.”

The Rotary Arts Centre is very grateful to all of our sponsors, especially Gerry Byrne, minister of immigration, population growth and skills, the government of Newfoundland and Labrador, the City of Corner Brook and ACOA who continue to support to the arts in our region.