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OTEC ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD

New Board for OTEC's 20th Anniversary Year!

OTEC (Ontario Tourism Education Corporation) recently held its Annual General Meeting and is pleased to announce the new slate of Directors for the 2011-12 year. Victoria Behune, OTEC President & CEO comments that "This is OTEC's 20th Anniversary year leading workforce development for the Tourism and Hospitality Industry in Ontario. It is important that we have highly experienced leaders on our Board who are dedicated to ensuring OTEC continues to grow and prosper for the future". With the successful launch of our new strategic plan including a new vision to be the leading organization in Ontario that enables businesses to attract, develop and retain the best employees, OTEC's Board includes key representatives in tourism, hospitality and service-oriented businesses.

Entering his second term as Chair, Mr. Alister Mathieson, Dean, School of Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism, Humber College Institute of Technology & Advanced Learning continues in this key leadership role and provides strategic guidance to the organization and on behalf of the education sector. Ms. Beatrice Schmied, President Schmied Communications continues as Past Chair and offers expertise in the areas of accessibility and transportation training programs. Ms. Anne Marshall, Director Sales and Marketing, Elmhirst's Resort becomes Vice Chair and Mr. Bill Allen, former President, Tourism Industry Association of Ontario and Deputy Minister of Tourism, becomes Industry Liaison. Mr. Paul Dinner, formerly of the Royal Bank of Canada remains as Treasurer for another term.

Joining OTEC as new Directors are:

- Mr. David Adames, President & CEO, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce;
- Mr. Sheldon Gould, Chief Operating Officer, Delmanor Senior Communities Inc;
- Mr. Joshua Karam, Director, Human Resources Westin Harbour Castle and President, Hospitality Human Resource Professionals Association.

Mr. Adames brings a wealth of experience in the tourism and hospitality industry gained as Executive Director of Tourism Hamilton and Chair of the Task Force to create Regional Tourism Organization #3. Mr. Gould brings expertise in the fast growing seniors housing market and an extensive background in assisted living and hospitality operations. As President of the Hospitality Human Resource Professionals Association, Mr. Karam represents human resource professionals working within GTA based hospitality companies.

The following Board members will continue on the Board for another term:

- Ms. Janice Smith, Director, Excellence and Recruitment, Delta Hotels and Resorts;
- Mr. Tony Elenis, President & CEO, ORHMA (Ontario Restaurant Hotel Motel Association);
- Dr. David Martin, Director, Ted Rogers School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Ryerson University;
- Mr. Victor Cheng; President & CEO, ILogic Inc.;
- Mr. Darrell Jarvis, Partner, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP.

About OTEC

OTEC is an independent, not-for-profit training and human resource development organization which has evolved from the 2005 consolidation of the Ontario Tourism Education Corporation (OTEC) established in 1991, and Customer Service Excellence Corporation (CSEC) established in 2001. Originally formed through a partnership with industry, government, labour and education to offer training programs, standards, certification and workforce development programs for the tourism and hospitality sectors, the organization continues with these mandates, but has expanded to provide an extensive range of workforce development, customer service & management training programs and solutions for a variety of sectors and hospitality-oriented clients.

OTEC is also Ontario's representative on the Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council (CTHRC), the national sector council for tourism, funded by Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC), and is the tourism sector council organization for the Province of Ontario representing the labour, skills development, training, and human resource issues of the sector.

For more information on OTEC's products and services please go to:

www.otec.org

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