

Parks, Forestry & Recreation
Brenda Patterson, General Manager

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October 7, 2010

TO: Parks, Forestry and Recreation Staff
FROM: Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
RE: Announcement - Parks Director

I am very pleased to announce that Richard Ubbens is the successful candidate in the Canada-wide search for the position of Parks Director for the Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division.

Richard is well-recognized as one of the country's leading urban forestry experts. Richard has an outstanding record of service with the City of Toronto that has spanned more than 23 years. Since 2005, Richard has served as the Director of Urban Forestry. Prior to being promoted to this position, Richard was the City Forester for both the former City of Toronto and the newly amalgamated City of Toronto.

Richard is well-known for the leadership he has provided to the City and to his team in Urban Forestry on a number of challenging and significant initiatives, which include the Asian Long-horned Beetle and the Emerald Ash Borer management strategies, and the City's 2008 Urban Forestry Service Plan, which set aggressive planting targets and maintenance protocols to protect and grow Toronto's urban forest. Most recently, Richard and his team in Urban Forestry have delivered the City's first-ever tree canopy study, *Every Tree Counts*, released last week on the PFR website. This significant document quantifies the structure and value of Toronto's urban forest and provides baseline data to inform management decisions. This legacy document will lead the City in the continued stewardship and growth of its forestry assets for many years to come.

Richard is already a key member of the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division's senior management team. I am very confident that his cross-branch expertise and the strong foundation and understanding he brings on environmental and strategic initiatives will provide Richard with the tools he needs to lead the Parks Branch with the same passion, dedication and expertise that he brought to Urban Forestry. Please join me in congratulating Richard on his most recent achievement.

Richard will assume his new position of Director of Parks, effective Tuesday October 12. Richard will be located at City Hall, 4th floor West Tower.

I will be in touch shortly with transition plans with respect to leadership of the Urban Forestry Branch.

Please join me in welcoming Richard to his new leadership role with the Parks Branch.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B Patterson".

Brenda Patterson,
General Manager
Parks, Forestry and Recreation