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Evergreen Appoints New Executive Director

COQUITLAM, BC – On behalf of the entire Board of Directors of the Evergreen Cultural Centre Society, President Doug Matthews is extremely pleased to announce the appointment of Jon-Paul Walden as the new Executive Director of the Centre. Jon-Paul brings to the community outstanding expertise in diverse areas and his tenure comes at a time when the arts and cultural centre is experiencing enormous growth. His lengthy professional career has been solidly rooted in the arts.

Jon-Paul comes to Evergreen from Keyano Theatre/Arts Centre in Alberta, a state-of-the-art facility where he was responsible for a 594-seat mainstage theatre, a 194-seat black box theatre, a dance studio, visual art studios and art gallery.

Prior to Keyano, Jon-Paul was General Manager of the Vogue Theatre (1150 seats) in downtown Vancouver during a time when virtually every Vancouver International festival made the Vogue its home. He also has been involved in large event productions in Vancouver and New York, where he lived for 5 1/2 years as a stage and film performer and assistant producer for the independent film company Merchant Ivory Productions.

Jon-Paul holds a MBA from York University in Toronto and a BA in International Relations from The University of British Columbia. He was also very fortunate to participate heavily in sports, competing in virtually every sport, playing for a number of University teams – and sees great merit in and a important connection between athletics and the arts.

Already in the position for a little over two weeks, Jon-Paul has been extremely busy meeting community leaders and colleagues and introducing himself to Evergreen's numerous tenants and renters. He adds, "I am extremely excited to be part of the Evergreen team. The staff is extremely savvy in meeting the current demands of the community and maximizing the potential of the Centre. While the city continues to grow, so too will the Centre."

As Executive Director, Jon-Paul will oversee the entire operations of the Evergreen Cultural Centre and provide leadership in ensuring that Evergreen reaches its full potential. The Evergreen Board and Staff hope you will join them in welcoming Jon-Paul into this vital position.

The Evergreen Board would also like to take this opportunity to extend their sincere gratitude to Geoff King, who held the position of Acting Executive Director for over eight months. He will resume his full time duties as Technical Operations Manager.

Jon-Paul's direct line is 604.927.6554, his email is JonPaul@evergreenculturalcentre.ca

MEDIA CONTACT: Jocelyn@evergreenculturalcentre.ca | DIRECT LINE: 604.927.6566