

Gorman named new Library CEO

By Brock Weir

Bruce A. Gorman has been named the incoming CEO of the Aurora Public Library.

Mr. Gorman, who comes to Aurora as CEO of the Woodstock Public Library, will take the helm from Jill Foster, who is set for retirement next week.

Mr. Gorman's appointment is effective September 4.

In a statement, the Aurora Public Library (APL) says Mr. Gorman comes to the job with over a decade of senior level public library experience in both Ontario and Nova Scotia, including leading the new \$56 million Halifax Central Library from vision to opening, as well as leading its capital fundraising campaign.

"Our nation-wide search has attracted a library leader with an impressive array of experiences and accomplishments," said Nancy Eveleigh Browne, Chair of the Aurora Public Library Board, in a statement. "Bruce's vision, focus on customer experience and expertise in building key relationships will strengthen the Library's community-led focus."

APL hailed Mr. Gorman's skill at "developing unique public and private partnerships and raising awareness of how libraries are impacting and influencing communities in different and distinct ways. His tenure at Woodstock Public Library led to increased library usage and the successful introduction of library services to new audiences."

"I am thrilled to be joining the Aurora Public Library team," said Mr. Gorman. "Aurora is a dynamic community with vibrant library services. I am looking forward to working with the Board, staff and town officials on the exciting initiatives ahead, including the new Library Square and the upcoming Library renovation."

In addition to welcoming Mr. Gorman to the job, the APL board paid tribute to Ms. Foster's five years of service as CEO, lauding her "collaborative leadership style and focus on customer service," which "resulted in Aurora Public Library developing a community-led model for library service."

"Jill worked tirelessly on the upcoming Library renovation to ensure Aurora residents will have the library services they need from an enhanced facility," they said. "Her tenure at APL oversaw tremendous growth and change, and she leaves APL well-positioned for the future."

Bruce Gorman is a graduate of Dalhousie University with a Bachelor of Science, Mathematics, as well as a Masters Degree in Information Management from Syracuse University in New York.

In addition to library work, Mr. Gorman has been on national, provincial and municipal boards with a particular interest in healthcare.