

## **Creative Enterprise Enabling Organization – Community Update**

WATERLOO, ONTARIO, June 17, 2010 - On March 12, 2010, The Prosperity Council of Waterloo Region's Task Force on Creative Enterprise announced the appointments for the initial Board of Directors of the Creative Enterprise Arts Enabling Organization.

As outlined in the press release of March 12<sup>th</sup>, the Enabling Organization will provide a wide range of services with the intention of enabling the arts, culture, and creative sectors (private, public, and not-for-profit) to achieve their potential.

The board has been meeting on a bi-weekly basis since March, and felt it was important to provide a high level update to the community on the board's first quarter of operation, and plans for the next three months.

### **March – May 2010 Activities**

- Education and Awareness - sessions have been held with the Board of Directors to get them up to speed on the foundational work that was done by the Prosperity Council of Waterloo Region's Task Force on Creative Enterprise.
- Active Listening – members of the board are listening to individuals and organizations in the arts and culture community, as well as those in the community at large, to get more input into the board's strategic planning sessions and future role.
- Organizational Administration - a variety of operational tasks have been undertaken to begin the new organization including the establishment of protocols.
- Sustainability funding has been secured to enable the hiring of a CEO, and ability to establish the required infrastructure.

### **Plans for the next three months:**

- The board will undertake strategic planning sessions in June to build on the work of the Prosperity Council and incorporate information that has been gathered in the last three months. These sessions will lead to the creation of key operating principles that will be communicated to those interested in the community.
- The recruitment of the CEO of the Enabling Organization will begin.
- Board members will continue to actively participate in the arts and culture sector within the community.

"It has been a busy three months," said Roger Farwell, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Creative Enterprise Enabling Organization. "As with any new organization, we are taking the time to construct a solid foundation to ensure an appropriate and sustainable structure is in place.

The next six months will build on that structure to help us work towards the goals identified through the research and initiatives led by the Prosperity Council. In the interim, arts and culture organizations are continuing to operate as they have in the past in terms of things such as; marketing events, collaboration, and securing funding."

For additional information, please contact:

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