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# Township of Langley

## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** December 16, 2021

### **A New Cultural Services Manager will be joining the Township of Langley in 2022**

**Langley, BC** – The Township of Langley announced that a new Cultural Services Manager will be joining the Arts, Culture and Community Initiatives division and the Langley Centennial Museum during the first week of January 2022.

Annelisa Pedersen will take on the role vacated by the Township's former Cultural Services Manager John Aldag who went to Ottawa as the federal (elected) representative for Cloverdale/Langley riding. Pedersen has a broad and diverse background in Arts, and Culture that began in our very own community.

Pedersen is a graduate of the Langley Fine Arts School in Fort Langley. She went on to study at the University of British Columbia earning a Bachelor of Music Degree. She continued her studies at the Vancouver Academy of Music and at the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto Ontario the following year. Later she went on to get a Graduate Certificate in Arts Administration and Cultural Management from Humber College.

In 2006, she returned to British Columbia, to become the General Manager for musica intima, a well-known Vancouver based vocal ensemble. Between 2009 and 2012 she served as the Executive Director of the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, helping the organization to expand audiences and increase revenues. While in Hamilton, Pedersen was appointed to the City's Arts Advisory Commission, eventually serving as the Commission Chair. While on the commission, she helped develop a Public Art Procurement Process for the City.

She has a breadth of experience in government including as a Business Advisor for the City of Hamilton, and in varied roles across the Ontario Government. Additionally, Pedersen has completed two postgraduate degrees: a Master of Public Administration from Queen's and an MBA from Laurier.

In 2018 she became the Director of Cultural Stewardship for the Niagara Parks Commission, an Agency of the Government of Ontario. While in that position she had oversight of the Commission's Heritage Attractions, Indigenous Relations and Arts and Cultural Events. She worked closely with Indigenous leadership to present impactful programming to celebrate Indigenous Peoples Month and Indigenous Veterans Day. Two of the larger scale events that Pedersen helped organize were the annual New Year's Eve celebration, attracting tens of thousands of people, and the Canadian Niagara Power Generation Station Open Doors event. The Open Doors event was significant in that the 1905 Power Plant was decommissioned in 2006 and had not been accessible to the public.

Peter Tulumello, the Township's Director of Arts, Culture and Community Initiatives stated, "I am thrilled that Annelisa Pedersen will be returning to Fort Langley and joining our team at the Museum as we plan the move into a new Arts, Culture and Heritage Centre – Salishan Place by the River." Tulumello continued, "Pedersen's background in Music and Arts Administration will add another dimension to Arts and Cultural services, programs and events in the Township of Langley."

Pedersen begins work for the Township of Langley on January 4, 2022.

**For further information about Arts and Culture in the community, email [artsinfo@tol.ca](mailto:artsinfo@tol.ca) or visit [museum.tol.ca](http://museum.tol.ca)**

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**Annelisa Pedersen**