

News Release

THE CANADIAN MUSEUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WELCOMES GILLES HÉBERT AS VICE-PRESIDENT, MUSEUM PRACTICE

WINNIPEG, November 10, 2011 – Stuart Murray, President and CEO of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR), announced today that Mr. Gilles Hébert has accepted the position of CMHR’s Vice-President, Museum Practice.

In January 2012, Mr. Hébert will join the CMHR’s Executive team and will share the responsibility for leading the Museum from its final development to successful operations. Mr. Hébert will lead the team designing and curating world-class exhibits that inspire action, developing educational programs that promote reflection and dialogue, and undertaking research and scholarship that open new doors of understanding all the while nourishing a national conversation that includes the voices of Canadians of every background for opening and beyond.

“I am pleased to welcome Gilles back to Winnipeg and to the CMHR. He is a creative person with a strong focus on innovation and he is a highly regarded professional in the arts and heritage sector,” said Stuart Murray, CMHR President and CEO. “His unique skills and professional experience as an artist, a curator, a program developer, and an organizational leader are all valuable assets to the Museum team and this wealth of talent and knowledge is sure to benefit the Museum as we prepare to take the national and international stage.

“There is so much excitement in Winnipeg right now with the return of the Winnipeg Jets, the opening of the new airport and the CMHR. I am so thrilled to be coming back to my hometown and for the opportunity to play a lead role in the development of the CMHR,” said Gilles Hébert. “I look forward to building upon that excitement and momentum and hope to take the Museum experience to the next level.”

Mr. Hébert brings more than 25 years of experience as a curator, senior arts administrator, museum professional, and artist. Throughout his career, he has held senior positions with the Winnipeg Art Gallery and the Saint Norbert Arts Centre in Manitoba, the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatoon and the Art Gallery of Windsor in Ontario. Most recently, he served as the Executive Director of the Art Gallery of Alberta (AGA), where he successfully led the institution through the final stages of its renewal – punctuated by the opening of its new facility in the winter of 2010.

Born in Saint-Boniface, Manitoba, Gilles Hébert received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Manitoba. He also studied Fine Art History and has taken Studio Courses at both the Ontario College of Art and Design and the University of Toronto. In 2002, he received the Queen's Jubilee Gold Medal. In 2010, he received the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Arts Celebrated Alumni Award.

Hébert has a solid track record in the national cultural arena where he is known as a 'builder.' Over the years he has established many important relationships within the public and private sectors as well as with artists in various communities and leading curators, critics, and directors in Canada and beyond.

About the Canadian Museum for Human Rights

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR), currently under construction in Winnipeg, Manitoba, was established to provide a place for Canadians, and the world, to explore the subject of human rights and to encourage human rights action. With construction slated for completion in 2012, the CMHR is the first national museum to have been established in over 40 years, and the first national museum to be located outside the National Capital Region. For more information about the CMHR please visit <http://humanrightsmuseum.ca/> or follow us on Twitter: http://twitter.com/cmhr_news and on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/canadianmuseumforhumanrights>.

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