

New Leadership, Bright Future: Introducing Valley REN's New CEO

March 19, 2024 (Kentville, Nova Scotia) -The Valley REN announces the appointment of Emily Boucher as its new Chief Executive Officer. Boucher will replace Jennifer Tufts, who announced in November 2023 her intention to step down from CEO and accept the new position of COO with the Valley REN.

We are thrilled to announce that Emily Boucher, formerly of Techsploration, will be leading Valley REN as its new CEO beginning April 2nd. With her extensive background in fostering innovation and driving strategic growth for both national and provincial organizations, Emily is poised to guide Valley REN into a new chapter of prosperity and growth. Hailing from the Valley, her proven track record in enhancing collaboration across various sectors positions her as the ideal leader to further our mission of economic revitalization and community engagement in the Valley region.

Board Chair, Paul Dixon, says, "After an exhaustive search for the perfect candidate, the Board is delighted to welcome Emily aboard. We have full confidence that her expertise and passion will serve as a catalyst in advancing our mission towards fostering a thriving, sustainable, and inclusive regional economy in the Annapolis Valley."

"I'm so impressed by the important work and innovative initiatives led by Valley REN to help foster a thriving and sustainable regional economy. I am both honoured and humbled to take on this role and further build on these efforts to drive economic development in such a vibrant region that runs deep with entrepreneurial spirit. I've had the privilege of building my career in areas of industry advocacy and workforce development, which provided me with a profound appreciation and respect for collaborative community and industry engagement. I look forward to working with the incredibly talented Valley REN team, its dedicated Board, and network of diverse partners!"

As we welcome Emily Boucher into her new role, we also extend our heartfelt thanks to Jennifer Tufts for her dedicated leadership as the outgoing CEO of the Valley REN. Jennifer has been instrumental in laying a solid foundation for growth and has steered the organization through numerous milestones with grace and determination. Her commitment to our community and economic development has left a lasting mark on the Valley region, we are happy to have Jennifer staying with the Valley REN in her new role of COO.

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About Valley REN

The Valley Regional Enterprise Network (Valley REN), incorporated in March 2014, is the regional economic development organization for the Annapolis Valley Region. They carry out the economic development priorities of their members, which include Glooscap First Nation, the Municipality of the County of Kings, West Hants Regional Municipality, and the Towns of Berwick, Kentville, Wolfville, and Middleton. Funding for the Valley REN is provided by its members and is matched by the Province of Nova Scotia to support economic development on a regional level.