



260 Spadina Avenue, Suite 500, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5T 2E4  
T 416 593 6998 F 416 593 9028 www.icc-icc.ca

**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **INSTITUTE FOR CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CEO GILLIAN HEWITT SMITH**

**Toronto** – The Institute for Canadian Citizenship is pleased to announce the appointment of its new Executive Director and CEO Gillian Hewitt Smith, effective immediately. She is a corporate communications and corporate affairs professional who has held senior roles with the Royal Bank of Canada, Aeroplan and Edelman Public Relations Worldwide. Over the course of her career, her mandates have included media and stakeholder relations, crisis and issues management, corporate social responsibility and policy development in the private, not-for-profit and government sectors.

Hewitt Smith believes in active, engaged citizenship. To that end, she gives her time as a volunteer to numerous organizations in leadership positions, including chairing the board of directors for The Stop Community Food Centre and co-chairing the Art Gallery of Ontario's Next program. Her commitment to city-building and community initiatives also includes work with not-for-profits in the social justice, education, and arts and culture sectors.

"We are absolutely thrilled to have Gillian on board," said ICC founder and co-chair, the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson. "Her focus will be on dynamic, next-generation leadership for the ICC and her extensive background in volunteer and community work will be a huge asset to the organization. Her vision, enthusiasm and energy will propel our organization forward and continue to build our profile across the country."

"Joining the ICC is an incredible opportunity to work on matters related to citizenship," said Hewitt Smith. "Across the country, Canadians are discussing the value of citizenship and why it matters to Canadians, and to Canada. I am looking forward to leading the ICC's participation in these crucial conversations."

View a welcome greeting from Gillian Hewitt Smith on our [YouTube](#) channel.

The Institute for Canadian Citizenship is a national, non-profit organization founded and co-chaired by the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson and John Ralston Saul dedicated to engaging Canadians in citizenship. The ICC's programs include Building Citizenship, the Cultural Access Pass and the LaFontaine-Baldwin symposium. [www.icc-icc.ca](http://www.icc-icc.ca)

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### **For more information:**

Naoko Kumagai

Director, Communications – The Institute for Canadian Citizenship

416.593.6998 ext: 225 [nkumagai@icc-icc.ca](mailto:nkumagai@icc-icc.ca)