



ACT announces new Executive Director

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Toronto - The AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT) has appointed **Hazelle Palmer** as the new Executive Director for the agency. Palmer is currently the Executive Director of Planned Parenthood Toronto.

For more than 8 years, Hazelle Palmer has been the Executive Director of Planned Parenthood Toronto, a community health centre that provides primary health care services, therapeutic counselling, and education, training and health promotion in the area of sexual and reproductive health. Hazelle has spent the early part of her professional career working in the area of communications and in the media, where she held a number of middle and senior management positions. She has worked with the Women's Television Network and was a Managing Editor with Healthsharing Magazine, a quarterly national publication focused on women's health issues.

Actively involved in the health and social service and community sectors for over 20 years, Hazelle has served on the Board of Directors for a variety of non-profit organizations including Education Wife Assault (now Springtide Resources), Hassle Free Clinic, the Association of Ontario Health Centres and the Canadian Federation for Sexual Health. She is currently on the Board of the new Women's College Hospital.

Hazelle holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications, post-graduate diplomas in Public Administration, Radio and Television Arts and, most recently, a Master's Certificate in Healthcare Management from the Schulich Executive Education Program (York University). Throughout her career, Hazelle has written a wide range of articles and editorials for a number of magazines, periodicals, journals and newspapers. She is a published author of two books as well as an artist who lives in Toronto with her daughter, Ashae.

"We were fortunate to have a number of very talented candidates in our search. The depth of Hazelle's background in emerging issues in healthcare and leadership and management skills made her the clear choice", said ACT Board Chair Karim Karsan.

"We are confident that Hazelle brings the right combination of skills, vision and passion to lead ACT to continue its exemplary work of helping those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS."

"I'm excited and honoured by the opportunity to work with an organization with such an impressive history and filled with such immense talent," said Palmer.

Palmer will assume her role at ACT in early April. Glen Brown will continue in the role of Interim Executive Director until the transition is made.

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For more information, contact:

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