



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Northern Ontario Curling Association is pleased to announce that Laura Forget will be taking the reins from Mike Harris as Executive Director effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Mike will remain with NOCA in an advisory capacity during Laura's transition to the position.

Laura has been working for NOCA as the Competitions Coordinator for the past two years and has had the opportunity to connect with many of the clubs in the NOCA territory. Laura makes her home in North Bay, Ontario and has been an avid curler since she started as a youth. She is passionate about growing the sport of curling in Northern Ontario and is excited to share ideas, programs, and opportunities with NOCA's member clubs.

Laura also participated in the Women in Curling summit held in Prince George, BC in 2021. It was an opportunity to connect with like-minded women from across Canada to focus on increased participation in all areas of our sport. Laura will bring many of the skills and strategies learned at this summit to her new position with NOCA.

From Laura Forget - "I look forward to bringing the experiences from my shared position with NOCA and the Ontario Curling Council to this new position. Having grown up in Northern Ontario and curled in many of our clubs over the last 25 years, I know what an important role each play in their respective community. Supporting clubs through increased communication and collaboration is very important to me. I am excited to continue to give back to the sport that has given so much to me."

NOCA Board President, Hayley Smith stated "the Board of Directors is looking forward to working with Laura in her new position. She has done a fabulous job with the Competitions portfolio and the Board has no doubt that she will bring the same level of attention to detail to the Executive Director duties."

Although the 2022-23 curling season has concluded, Laura is available for anyone who would like information regarding NOCA and its programs and resources. Laura can be reached at <a href="mailto:laura.forget@curlnoca.ca">laura.forget@curlnoca.ca</a>

For more information regarding this announcement please contact Hayley Smith, Board President, Northern Ontario Curling Association at <u>Hayley.smith@curlnoca.ca</u>

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