

Press Release

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## HUBERT T. LACROIX NAMED CHAIR OF BLUE METROPOLIS FOUNDATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Montreal, November 6, 2018 –**

Cameron Charlebois, outgoing chair of the board of directors of Blue Metropolis Foundation, is pleased to announce that Hubert T. Lacroix will succeed him in this position.

After 10 years as chair and having accomplished numerous projects, Cameron Charlebois is delighted that a long-time friend of the Festival, a father who is very involved in his daughters' upbringing, a citizen engaged at a high level, and a passionate reader has been appointed to lead the growing organization that is Blue Metropolis Foundation. *"It is an honour to pass the flame to Hubert T. Lacroix, someone who needs no introduction. The members of the board and the Blue Metropolis team are very pleased with this choice. They already have a strong sense that Blue Met will benefit greatly from the time, energy and care that Hubert will devote to this position, and are looking ahead with confidence and optimism to the organization's development over the next decade."*

A lawyer by training, Hubert Lacroix also holds an MBA from McGill University. He has been, and still is, a member of a number of boards of directors, some of them at major firms. He was President and CEO of CBC/Radio-Canada from January 1, 2008 to June 30, 2018, making him the longest serving president in the public broadcaster's history. He has also been very involved in several charitable organizations, having put his significant talents and strengths to use in associations and institutions that are active in this field, such as Accueil Bonneau, the Fondation Lucie et André Chagnon, and the Montreal General Hospital Foundation, not to mention his current involvement in the educational sphere, with the Fondation Villa Sainte-Marcelline.

*"I am delighted to join this talented team that each year offers Montrealers a major literary event, bringing together great writers from Montreal, Quebec, Canada and the world. Last year, Blue Metropolis International Literary Festival assembled 300 authors, hosts and artists, speaking 15 different languages, from 19 countries. In this, I see a sign that Blue Metropolis has become an important institution on Montreal's literary landscape. In addition, the Festival shows an increasing interest in social issues, which it combines with literature in creative and enriching ways. The public is well aware of this, and Festival attendance is proof. I am proud to become part of this movement and to make my contribution to Blue Metropolis Foundation, following the excellent work carried out by Cameron Charlebois,"* said Hubert T. Lacroix.

Cameron Charlebois has been chair of Blue Metropolis' board of directors since 2008. Over the last 10 years, Blue Metropolis has seen significant growth in attendance as well as in the number of partnerships, while its eight most recent budgets have been balanced.

### **Blue Metropolis at a glance**

Blue Metropolis Foundation is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1997 that brings together people from different cultures to share the pleasures of reading and writing, and encourages creativity and intercultural understanding. The Foundation produces an **annual literary festival** of international calibre and offers a wide range of educational and social programs year-round, both in classrooms and online. These programs use reading and writing as therapeutic tools, to encourage academic perseverance, and fight against poverty and social isolation.

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**Source** : Blue Metropolis Foundation ([www.bluemetropolis.org](http://www.bluemetropolis.org))

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