

Apr 20, 2023

A New Executive Director



It is with regret that the Board of Directors of COPA National was obliged to accept the resignation of Randa Meshki earlier this year. We thank Ms. Meshki for her profound dedication and commitment to COPA National throughout her 27 years of service. In her time in the organization, she has held various important roles, including for the past five years, that of Executive Director. We wish Ms. Meshki great success in all her future endeavours. The hiring process has resulted in our engagement of Marie-Claude Rioux, who on April 10th will join the COPA National team as Executive Director. Ms. Meshki and Ms. Rioux will work together until Ms. Meshki's departure on April 28. Ms. Rioux has more than 25 years of experience as an executive director of non-profit organizations. A recognized community leader and seasoned manager, she has held a number of senior management positions, including Executive Director of the [Fédération des parents acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse](#), the [Association des juristes d'expression française de Nouvelle-Écosse](#) and the [Réseau Santé Nouvelle-Écosse](#). For the past 10 years, she has held the position of Executive Director of the [Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse](#). Her mandates at the head of these organizations in the service of Francophones in a minority context have enabled Ms. Rioux to collaborate and network at a national level. This will be an asset to COPA National in the pursuit of our strategic objectives, which include a Pan-Canadian mandate. For the past

twenty years, Ms. Rioux has been involved with organizations dedicated to issues concerning women, and she was the founding president of Femmes-action in Nova Scotia in 2004. Ms. Rioux has numerous publications to her credit and has received several honours during her career. The three most recent awards were [the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal](#) (2022), [the Ordre de la Pléiade](#) awarded by the Assemblée des parlementaires de la Francophonie (2019) and [the Ordre des francophones d'Amérique](#) awarded by the Conseil supérieur de la langue française (2018). The Board of Directors of COPA National extends a warm welcome to Ms. Rioux.