



Awareness. Understanding. Action.

October 14, 2020

Dear Colleague,

Since its inception in 2012, the National Initiative for Eating Disorders (NIED) has been hard at work striving to improve the lives of people affected by Eating Disorders.

On behalf of NIED's Board of Directors, I am delighted to announce the appointment of Ms. Michelle D'Amico as NIED's new Executive Director, effective October 5th.

Michelle will serve as the executive advisor to the President and co-founders of NIED. She will be responsible for co-developing and overseeing the management and implementation of NIED's *Strategic Plan*. She will also provide vision, expertise and the leadership needed to strengthen NIED's engagement with stakeholders across Canada.

Michelle brings considerable expertise to the position having spent her professional career working as a manager in the Federal Government in various policy, strategic, learning, and human resources roles, where she was active in advancing discussions around mental health and well-being within federal departments. Michelle continues to be an active community volunteer and works with a number of not-for-profit organizations focusing on improving the well-being of youth and young adults. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Economics), and certificates from Queen's University where she focused on Organization Development and Effectiveness.

"Just a few years ago, I couldn't have imagined the impact that Eating Disorders have on sufferers and their families," says Michelle. "I had no idea that they were serious mental illnesses and that the resources essential to recovery weren't readily available. Over time, I realized that I wanted to play a role in improving outcomes for sufferers and their families. This is why I'm excited to take on the role of Executive Director."

We are excited to be working with Michelle as we look forward to continuing our focus on implementing various recommendations in the *Canadian Eating Disorders Strategy* – in particular developing new educational resources for people affected by Eating Disorders across Canada.

Sincerely,

Mark Ferdinand
Chairperson

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