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**Ontario Media  
Development  
Corporation**

**Société de  
développement  
de l'industrie  
des médias  
de l'Ontario**

## ***News Release / Communiqué***

June 20, 2007

### **ONTARIO MEDIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION ANNOUNCES NEW CEO**

*Karen Thorne-Stone to join agency*

TORONTO — Ontario Media Development Corporation chair Kevin Shea announced today that Toronto film commissioner and former economic development chief Karen Thorne-Stone will be the new president and chief executive officer of the agency. She will commence her new responsibilities at the end of July.

"We are absolutely delighted to have someone with Karen's strong economic development and cultural industry background," said Shea. "This appointment will be hugely beneficial for OMDC, our stakeholders in the entertainment and creative cluster and the people of Ontario." Shea added that the six cultural sectors served by OMDC contribute \$6.7 billion annually to the province's economy and employ more than 36,000 people.

"Ontario's cultural industries are key drivers in both our economy and our international reputation, and they are evolving rapidly," said Thorne-Stone. "I am thrilled to have been chosen to help lead the OMDC in its efforts to ensure the continued growth and success of these important sectors. I look forward to working with the OMDC's innovative board of directors and impressive staff team."

Thorne-Stone has been with the city of Toronto for 18 years, where she served in a variety of roles, including film commissioner and executive director of economic development. As film commissioner, Thorne-Stone supported successful negotiations for a new state-of-the-art film studio complex on Toronto's waterfront, developed an innovative economic development strategy for the screen-based sector and worked with the OMDC on the development of a new brand positioning and marketing materials to promote film and television production.

As executive director of economic development, Thorne-Stone led the research and development of a unique brand image for Toronto in collaboration with the provincial and federal governments; established an international marketing strategy to increase Toronto's global profile and positioning as a competitive business and tourism destination; directed the creation and advancement of labour force and strategic plans for critical economic clusters including aerospace, financial services, ICT, biotechnology, film and design.

Thorne-Stone also played a key leadership role in the amalgamation process that formed the new City of Toronto from seven municipalities in 1998.

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**OMDC Board praises performance of acting CEO Kristine Murphy**

OMDC's Board strongly praised the performance of Kristine Murphy, who served as acting CEO during the search process. Murphy will return to her position as director of industry development for OMDC.

**About Ontario Media Development Corporation:**

Ontario Media Development Corporation's mandate is to build Ontario's cultural industries capacity and competitiveness. Through tax credits, programs and services for the film and television, book and magazine publishing, music and interactive digital media industries, OMDC maximizes opportunities for growth and innovation in Ontario and abroad.

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