



Monday, November 15, 2004

ARPA Elects New President

(Edmonton, Alberta) – Kay Kenny has been selected to lead Alberta's recreation and parks professionals and practitioners as the new president of ARPA. Kenny was elected to the two-year term as president at ARPA's recent Annual General Meeting and Conference in Jasper, Alberta. ARPA is a provincial, not-for-profit charitable organization made up of volunteers working to improve the health, quality of life and well being of Albertans through recreation and parks, including play, sport, arts & culture, outdoor and physical activities.

Kenny is currently the Superintendent of the Collicutt Centre for the City of Red Deer, a position she has held since June 2003.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to help build healthy, active communities both locally and provincially, as initiatives at both levels will work hand-in-hand," said Kenny. *"I believe that focusing on preventive health and wellness through delivering recreation and parks programs is key to elevating the quality of life for all Albertans. It will be ARPA's intention to advocate for enhanced investment in recreation and parks by all levels of government as well as the private and voluntary sectors"*

With close to 30 years of experience in recreation, including previous management positions in recreation, culture and facilities management for both the cities of Calgary and Grande Prairie, Kenny was a natural pick for president of the Association.

In her address to the 400 delegates at ARPA's President's Banquet in the Jasper Park Lodge, Kenny noted that, *"We, in our profession, put the 'quality' into people's lives through strengthening interpersonal relationships, through the natural peace and tranquility of our green spaces, and through providing positive healthy recreation experiences for our citizens."*

Kenny assumes her role with ARPA at a key time, as the organization prepares to host the country's largest National Parks and Recreation Conference. The conference will coincide with Alberta's centennial year and, with four associated national symposiums, is expected to attract over 1,200 delegates to Edmonton's Shaw Conference Centre, October 12-15, 2005.

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