



CANADIAN COMMISSION FOR UNESCO
COMMISSION CANADIENNE POUR L'UNESCO

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PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Christina Cameron appointed Vice-President of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO

Québec City, May 8, 2010. At its 50th Annual General Meeting held in Québec on May 6 – 8, the Canadian Commission for UNESCO appointed Christina Cameron as Vice-President for an initial two-year term.

In 2005, Christina Cameron took up her present position as a Professor in the School of Architecture and holds the Canada Research Chair on Built Heritage at the University of Montreal. Her current research focuses on documenting the origins and early implementation of UNESCO's World Heritage Convention and examining conservation approaches in Canada from 1950 to 2000.

Christina Cameron has been actively involved in World Heritage as Head of Delegation for Canada (1990-2008), Chairperson (1990, 2008) and Rapporteur (1989). She has chaired international expert meetings on strategic planning (1990-1992), historic canals (1994), a global strategy for a representative World Heritage List (1994), cultural landscapes (1998), working methods (1999-2000) and a proposal to establish a World Heritage Indigenous Peoples Council of Experts (2000-2001).

Prior to her appointment at the University of Montreal, Christina Cameron's career as a heritage executive with Parks Canada spanned more than 35 years. As Director-General of National Historic Sites, she provided national direction for Canada's historic places, focusing on heritage conservation and education programs. She also served as the Secretary to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada from 1986 to 2005.

Christina Cameron has written extensively since the 1970's on Canadian architecture, heritage management and World Heritage issues. She has served as a member of the Getty Conservation Institute's conservation grants Committee and a Getty-sponsored international project on values-based management of heritage sites. She was appointed in 2007 to the Canada's Advisory Committee on Official Residences and in 2009 to the Board of the School of Restoration Arts at Willowbank.

At this same meeting Dr. Axel Meisen, inaugural Chair in Foresight at Alberta Innovates: Technology Futures (formerly the Alberta Research Council), was appointed as President of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.

The Canadian Commission for UNESCO operates under the aegis of the Canada Council for the Arts. Its role is to act as a forum for governments and civil society, and to mobilize the participation of Canadian organizations and committed individuals in UNESCO's mandated areas: education, natural and social sciences, culture and communication and information. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is the only member of the United Nations System to have National Commissions performing this role in each of its Member States.

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