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Canadian Apprenticeship Forum Announces New Board Chair

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The Canadian Apprenticeship Forum (CAF-FCA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Lionel Railton, RSE, CEB, PPAC as the new Chair of our Board of Directors.

CAF-FCA Executive Director, France Daviault notes "We are incredibly fortunate to secure the leadership of someone with more than forty years of on-the-ground experience in the skilled trades. Having served his union in many capacities, Lionel has a full understanding of the strengths and opportunities that exist and how apprenticeship can play a key role in fueling Canada's economic growth."

A third-generation member of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), Lionel is a respected union representative with a depth of knowledge in executive board and financial management. In his current role as Canadian Director, Lionel is responsible for the oversight and support of the 17 Canadian Local Unions of the IUOE serving 55,000 Canadian members employed in the construction, road building, mining, industrial, healthcare, education, building maintenance and related sectors.

"I am sincerely grateful and look forward to continuing the outstanding work the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum has done for the skilled trades community over the last twenty years. Government agendas around apprenticeship are continually expanding and CAF-FCA is well-positioned as the national voice through its research, discussion and collaboration with stakeholders across the country." remarks Lionel. "I look forward to working with my Board colleagues this fall to develop a new strategic plan which will guide CAF-FCA activities for the next three years. The collective passion and commitment to apprenticeship training among our members, Board of Directors and staff will continue to be the motivating factor for our work on behalf of the national apprenticeship community."

2020 CAF-FCA Board Elections were recently conducted and affirmed at the Annual General Meeting of Members on October 21, 2020. The following Directors were elected to four-year terms in five constituencies:

Jurisdiction - J'Amey Bevan, Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training
Labour - Cordell Cole, IBEW
Equity - Joann Greeley, Office to Advance Women Apprentices
Employer - Rebecca Kragnes, Bird Construction
Education - Frank Rossi, College of New Caledonia

CAF-FCA is guided by a dedicated group of seventeen volunteer Directors drawn from all corners of Canada's apprenticeship community. Their expertise provides strategic direction, allowing staff to provide stakeholders with the resources they need to inform policies and programs that contribute to Canada's world-class apprenticeship system. For more information, visit caf-fca.org.