

Dear friends and supporters,

We have some important news to share with you. This summer will be a season of change for our organization.

After four busy and successful years leading IONS, our Executive Director, Annika Voltan, will move on to a new career chapter. Annika has accepted a tenure-track position at Saint Mary's University and will transition from her current role over the next few months.

Annika leads with purpose, and we have all benefited from her leadership. Annika, with the help of funding partners at the Province of Nova Scotia and countless community members, has been the driving force behind elevating the importance of the community impact sector. The community impact sector within Nova Scotia has been thriving and has played a critical role through COVID, helping to build organizational capacity through research, sharing promising practices and much more. Through Annika's leadership, IONS and team members have been recognized for their work in North American publications. We're excited to continue to make a difference in this vital sector that employs about 19,000 people and the equivalent of 30,000 more in volunteer hours in Nova Scotia.

She has also championed the importance of decent work and worked closely with stakeholders to ensure justice and equity are embedded across our practices where possible. Annika has attracted outstanding talent to IONS and turned it into the well-run organization it is today. Thank you, Annika!

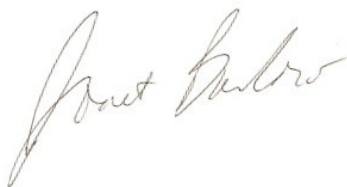
While leadership transitions can be difficult, IONS is a change catalyst at its core. Change is what we do, and we are excited about the possibilities this opening creates for us and the communities we serve.

Over the past few weeks, the IONS Board of Directors has established a Transition Committee, who will lead the launch of a professional search for our next Executive Director. We plan to welcome that new person to our organization in the fall.

As we make this leadership transition, we will provide regular updates about our initiatives and programs through our newsletter and social media accounts. We kindly ask you to share our role description with your networks when it is posted.

Please also feel free to reach out to us at any time. We value your feedback and are always happy to hear from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Janet Barlow".

Janet Barlow (Chair) & IONS Board of Directors

If you have any questions, concerns or comments regarding this change, you can reach out to the IONS team: [hello@ions.ca](mailto:hello@ions.ca)