



**May 17, 2023**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Executive Director, Cindy Messaros, announces retirement**  
*AWES Executive Director transformed a local non-profit to nationally recognized leader in skills development training*

**Innisfail, AB** – With both heavy hearts and warm wishes, AWES announces the retirement of Executive Director, Cindy Messaros, effective September 30, 2023.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Cindy for her instrumental role in AWES' success and her countless contributions to the organization. Cindy has served as the Executive Director of AWES for 15 years. She stepped into her role in 2008 on a part-time basis at a time when AWES was managing only one project per year. Cindy's drive and leadership have directly contributed to the transformation of AWES from a small, local organization to a nationally recognized leader in skills development training, taking on multiple projects each year. This tremendous growth has shaped AWES for the future, and we are grateful for the dedication and innovation Cindy has brought over the years.

To support us through this transition, the Board of Directors has engaged a human resources (HR) firm that will provide guidance and assist with the search for and hiring of a new Executive Director. The search will begin shortly, and we hope to fill the position within the next several months.

We are confident in the AWES team and their ability to adapt and thrive under this change. Cindy's leadership has ensured the team is well situated to continue growing AWES and positively impacting the organizations, individuals, and communities they serve.

Please join us as we wish Cindy all the best in her next chapter. She will be truly missed by the board, her team, and the AWES community she has helped build during her time at AWES.

**Alberta Workforce Essential Skills**  
1-4919 53rd Street  
PO Box 6194, Station Main  
Innisfail, Alberta T4G 1S8  
403-865-0944