



Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

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LEADERSHIP CHANGE IN THE WORKS AT LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER *Executive Director Larry Richardson Steps Down From the Helm of the Bay Village Non-profit*

Bay Village, Ohio --- Lake Erie Nature & Science Center Executive Director Larry D. Richardson announced that he is turning over the reigns of the Bay Village non-profit organization to a new leader after more than two decades at the helm. The Center's Board President, Patrick Mazur said, "Larry has had a huge impact on the Center during his tenure and the entire community is grateful for his contributions."

As the Center's Board convenes a search committee to hire a new executive director, Mazur noted that "the Center has an experienced and long-serving management team and staff in place, who are continuing, with the support of the board of directors, to effectively guide the day-to-day operations."

Richardson said, "The last 21 years as Executive Director at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center have been incredibly rewarding for me. I've had the opportunity to work side by side with some amazing staff and volunteers during my time and I'm proud of what we've accomplished together. We inherited and built on a great vision. It's time now to allow a new leader take that vision to the next level. I'm confident I'm leaving the organization in a strong position for the future."

Richardson plans to use his deep non-profit management experience to benefit other organizations as a national consultant for the Association of Nature Center Administrators and through other opportunities he is not yet prepared to discuss. It almost goes without saying that Richardson will also pursue his passion for birding and expects to continue leading birding expeditions, including some through Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. Richardson is an avid birder with a "life list" of 2,014.

Mazur said, "On behalf of all the Center's volunteers, staff and friends we would like to thank Larry for his service and wish him the best of luck as he opens a new chapter in his life and career."

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is a regional center of excellence that features a planetarium, wildlife rehabilitation, more than 100 live animals on exhibit and a wide variety of educational offerings. The \$1.2 million dollar organization employs 25 people and annually serves more than 190,000 people from our region. The donor-funded, non-profit organization is located at 28728 Wolf Road in the Metroparks' Huntington Reservation. For more information, visit www.lensc.org or call (440) 871-2900.