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**The Word On The Street Canada appoints
Alex Moorshead as Executive Director**

The Board of Directors of The Word On The Street Canada is pleased to announce the appointment of Alex Moorshead as Executive Director, The Word On The Street Canada to succeed Colleen O'Neill.

"Colleen's commitment to The Word On The Street Canada for the past eight years has been one of keys to the success of festivals across Canada. We are pleased that she will continue her involvement in a consulting capacity", noted Jamie Broadhurst, Vancouver Board member and past President of The Word On The Street Canada.

"With her success producing three festivals as Festival Director in Toronto, Alex Moorshead brings considerable talent and experience to the national organization", stated Ceta Ramkhalawansingh, Board Chair, The Word On The Street Canada.

"In 2008, a record number of Canadians - 250,000 - attended The Word On The Street Festivals across Canada", continued Ramkhalawansingh. Over 450 authors, illustrators, performers and workshops presenters participated in 400 programmed events in addition to 500 exhibits from publishers, booksellers and literacy organizations.

In 2009, The Word On The Street festivals across Canada will be marking milestones "celebrating reading and advocating literacy". Both Halifax and Vancouver will be celebrating 15 years and Toronto will be holding its 20th festival. Kitchener will be participating for the eighth time. The Word On The Street Canada is a national charitable organization which licenses local organizations to hold an annual book and magazine fair on the last Sunday of September.

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