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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COPF Succession in Full Swing!

The COPF Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Victoria Turner Shoemaker as Managing Director. Victoria brings strong management and leadership skills as well as a very pro-active and dynamic attitude. As a Guelph graduate with an MBA from Wilfrid Laurier University and considerable corporate experience, Victoria brings exceptional organizational and business acumen to COPF. Since June 21, she has been onsite in North Bay, Ontario learning the nuts-and-bolts of COPF's operations. Victoria resides with her family in Guelph, Ontario and will be establishing the new COPF office there on August 1. In the interim she will attend the Ohio Short Course and Trade Show in Columbus, Ohio where she will be introduced to the floral industry. In October, Victoria will attend the IPPS meeting in Kentucky and various nursery grower meetings across Canada.



COPF President Philip Thompson commented, "Of course, there is often a bittersweet quality to announcements such as this. It also signifies that after twenty years as Managing Director the transition of Peggy Walsh Craig towards retirement is now a reality. COPF and Victoria will benefit from the rich history and experience that Peggy offers and we are very grateful that Peggy has opted for a gradual transition. Peggy will continue in her role as Managing Director of Plant Watch[®] while helping with the COPF transition over the next year. We thank Peggy for her dedication and vision for COPF."

COPF is a non-profit organization with breeder and grower members across North America and in seven overseas countries. Established in 1964, our mission is "To provide effective solutions in the management of propagation rights to growers and breeders for the benefit of the horticulture industry." To find out more about COPF, go to www.copf.org. Plant Watch is COPF's sister organization in the US. www.plantwatch.org.

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