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## **New Director/Curator seeks to connect with community**

Regina Public Library (RPL) is pleased to welcome Alyssa Fearon as its new Dunlop Art Gallery Director/Curator, starting on August 10, 2020.

"We're so pleased to have Alyssa join us," said Jeff Barber, RPL Director and CEO. "She brings a passion for connecting with community that really ties into our vision for Regina Public Library."

Born and raised in Ontario, Fearon comes to RPL from the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba, where she grew to appreciate the community-focused approach to art and art education taken by prairie galleries and cultural institutions, particularly that of Regina Public Library and Dunlop Art Gallery.

"Being in the Prairies gave me the chance to observe how closely Dunlop and RPL work with the community in Regina. It was exciting to see how they build community with their residents, and I'm looking forward to taking that engagement even further."

Fearon views art as a way of understanding the world around us, and brings that principle into her work, encouraging people to engage with art in a variety of ways.

"Contemporary art gives us the opportunity to take in different perspectives. It can be challenging, but it's also a powerful way for us, as an audience, to connect with the heart of the artist. It creates an opening for us to understand and engage with each other in new ways," said Fearon.

She also acknowledges that people come to art from all types of backgrounds and perspective, and looks forward to creating offerings that will allow members of Regina's diverse and growing community to support and uplift each other through engagement with contemporary art and culture.

Fearon is an experienced curator, educator and arts manager who brings a wealth of knowledge to RPL. She was Curator at the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba, and of the inaugural Scarborough zone of Nuit Blanche Toronto in 2018. Fearon has also held positions at the Art Gallery of Ontario and the New York-based Independent Curators International. She holds an MBA from the Schulich School of Business and an MA in Art History from York University. She is also a Salzburg Global Fellow.

All RPL branches, Dunlop Art Gallery locations, and the RPL Film Theatre are now open. Visit [www.reginalibrary.ca](http://www.reginalibrary.ca) for more information on open hours, available services, and program offerings.

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For more information:

Brandi Book, Marketing and Communications Consultant  
Regina Public Library  
306.777.6182