

MEDIA RELEASE

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Northland Arboretum Hires New Executive Director

Trevor Pumnea of Priest River, Idaho, was recently appointed as the new Executive Director of the Northland Arboretum. He replaces Candice Zimmermann who moved to a new position.

Pumnea has an extensive background in parks and recreation, most recently serving as the Director of Parks and Recreation of Blue Lake in California. He relocated to the Brainerd Lakes Area this past year with his fiancée, Ashley, to begin their life where his family spent the last 30 summers vacationing. His family owned the Sled Shed Polaris dealership in Aitkin, and he still has many relatives in the Garrison area.

The new executive director holds a Master's degree in Therapeutic Recreation from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and earned a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Idaho-Moscow. Pumnea is the Former Vice President of the Idaho Recreation and Parks Association and taught Recreation, Sport Management, and Tourism courses at the University of Idaho for four years.

"Trevor is uniquely qualified to lead the Arboretum," said Dan Lee, Northland Arboretum Board Chair. "We believe Trevor's wealth of experience paired with his enthusiasm will lead the Arb into the future as it continues to achieve its goal of connecting our community to nature and protecting our natural environment."

"I am thrilled and honored to be joining the Northland Arboretum as its executive director," said Pumnea. "I am looking forward to bringing my enthusiasm and experience to the dedicated team of staff and volunteers. Together, we will continue to build upon the Arboretum's success."

The public is invited to meet the new Executive Director and Northland Arboretum Board members at the second annual Firefly Festival fundraiser on Saturday, June 17, from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Arboretum.

A member-supported, non-profit organization, the Northland Arboretum's over 13 miles of trails fill over 400 acres in the heart of Brainerd/Baxter behind the Westgate Mall. The Arboretum contains a mosaic of habitats including magnificent gardens, a waterfall, garden pond, wetlands, a stream, shrub bog, aquatic plants, native grasses, prairies, Norway Pine plantation and Jack Pine savanna which have been identified for easy viewing. Annual memberships start at only \$30.

For more information, visit northlandarb.org.