



2 April, 2014

Chad Gaffield, PhD
President
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
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Dear Chad,

On behalf of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences I would like to say a heartfelt thank you and congratulations for your leadership of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council over the past eight years. It is with sadness that we learn that you will be stepping down at the end of August, and we wish you all the best as you return to the University of Ottawa.

As a former President of the Federation, you have always shown a keen understanding of the issues facing the humanities and social sciences community and challenged all of us to shape and grasp the opportunities to contribute to the public good. Your leadership at SSHRC has played an important role in reinvigorating the social sciences and humanities in Canada, in putting our disciplines at the forefront of discussions about the future of research and scholarship, and especially the potential of digital technologies. We've been pleased to see that under your leadership SSHRC has taken on new and exciting roles, developed new partnerships, and become the go-to organization for administering programs on behalf of the tri-Councils, such as the new Canada First Excellence Research Fund. You are leaving at a time of strength and excitement for the future.

We have been particularly grateful for your leadership and active participation in the life of the Federation through our annual Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, our Annual Conference, and as a regular attendee of our Big Thinking on the Hill lecture series. I, like so many of the 85,000 Canadian scholars and students among our members, are proud to have had the opportunity to benefit from your wisdom and contagious enthusiasm.

Chad, it has been a huge pleasure to work with you during my time as President and I look forward to continuing to do for the coming months.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Antonia Maioni".

Antonia Maioni

President, Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

