PRESS RELEASE
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Executive Director Transition

With deep appreciation for his years of outstanding leadership, the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) Board of Directors announces that Geoff Brosseau will transition from the role of Executive Director to that of Executive Advisor, and Karen Cowan will assume the role of Executive Director, effective January 1, 2021.

“The CASQA Board is indebted to Geoff for his tireless efforts and dedicated leadership to CASQA,” says Amanda Carr, Chair of the Board. “Under Geoff’s guidance and direction, CASQA has become an invaluable resource to stormwater stakeholders throughout California, and continues to lead the advancement of sustainable stormwater management.”

Geoff has been a leader in the field of stormwater management since 1989. As one of the early members of the California Stormwater Quality Task Force, Geoff worked closely with staff from the State Water Resources Control Board on its development of the first-ever stormwater regulations and with local governments and businesses to help California comply with the municipal and industrial National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater mandates of the federal Clean Water Act. Geoff was one of the primary authors of the original California BMP Handbooks (1993), volunteered many hours on Task Force projects, and chaired both the Industrial and Pesticides Committees. The Task Force officially became CASQA in September 2002, and Geoff was selected as CASQA’s first Executive Director in 2004. Over the last 17 years, Geoff has established CASQA as the leading stormwater association in the country.

Geoff notes, “I want to thank all the stormwater quality professionals that have volunteered countless hours over many years to CASQA. Your caring and dedication have made all the difference. It has been an honor and privilege to work with you and to serve as Executive Director of such a high-quality organization. I look forward to contributing in new ways to the continuing growth and maturation of the stormwater management discipline, and I cannot wait to see all that CASQA accomplishes under Karen’s skillful leadership.”

Karen Cowan has over 20 years of experience as a leader in the field of collaborative stormwater management, serving with distinction in both the municipal government and consulting arenas. A hallmark of Karen’s career has been developing and leading multi-sector stakeholder teams to address cutting-edge stormwater science and policy issues. Karen has been engaged with CASQA for over 15 years, and in 2017, she was brought on as CASQA’s first Assistant Executive Director. During that time, she has led key efforts to define and ensure CASQA’s successful future, including the establishment of CASQA’s inaugural Strategic Plan, directing a fundamental overhaul of the Vision for Sustainable Stormwater Management, and ensuring the alignment of our financial and volunteer resources with annual priorities.

Karen says, “It is an incredible honor to be selected as CASQA’s next Executive Director. I look forward to continuing our culture of leadership and collaboration, and working with our members, the Water Boards, EPA, and other stakeholders in charting the path forward to achieve the goal of sustainable stormwater management.”
About CASQA

The California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) is a professional member association that advances sustainable stormwater management protective of California water resources. On behalf of stormwater permittees, CASQA represents over 26 million Californians.

CASQA has been a leader since 1989. From its founding, CASQA has served as an advisor and partner to regulators. CASQA has therefore developed a culture of collaboration and cooperation, working with permittees, regulators, and other stakeholders to develop solutions to complex challenges. For more information, please visit www.casqa.org.