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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New President & CEO named for Hamilton Community Foundation

Terry Cooke will assume duties January 1, 2010

Hamilton Community Foundation today announced the appointment of Terry Cooke as the Foundation's new President & CEO.

"We are absolutely delighted that Terry will be the Foundation's next President," said board chair Sandra Stephenson. "He brings not only his significant leadership abilities and wide range of experiences to the position, but, just as important, brings his passion for Hamilton. He will be a champion both for HCF and for our city. Our search was a comprehensive and thoughtful process, and we are absolutely confident that Terry is the right choice. We are excited about the potential he brings to the role."

Terry Cooke has been president of Cooke Capital Corporation, a management consulting firm focused on leadership, strategic planning and government relations, since 2005. He previously served as president and chief operating officer with the Foxcroft Group of Companies in Hamilton, and was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth from 1994 to 2000. Mr. Cooke has extensive experience as a community volunteer with a number of charitable and other organizations, and is currently Chair of the Canadian Urban Institute. He is also active as a director with a number of corporate organizations, serving on the boards of Northgate Properties, LPF Infrastructure Fund and Horizon Utilities.

"I am deeply gratified for the confidence placed in me by the board of Hamilton Community Foundation," said Terry Cooke. "I am also awed by the generosity of spirit of the thousands of donors who make possible the work of the Foundation. Each and every day our city is made better through their giving, and enables HCF to make innovative investments in areas as diverse as poverty reduction, education, arts and the environment. I join the Foundation with tremendous enthusiasm, but at the same time, I am humbled by the enormous responsibility."

Terry Cooke will assume his duties with the Foundation January 1, 2010. Annette Aquin, Vice-President of Finance & Administration will continue as acting president until that time.

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(bio attached)

Hamilton Community Foundation was founded in 1954 as Ontario's first community foundation. Like all community foundations, HCF has three main roles: working with donors to build funds for the future of Hamilton, granting to the widest possible range of organizations and initiatives, and fostering community leadership. Since it was founded, Hamilton Community Foundation has made grants to our community totalling more than \$55 million, including approximately \$4.1 million last year.

For further information please contact:

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