

Intrada Brass GM retires

Dominik Kurek, Oakville Beaver

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After 17 years, Doug Field is stepping down as the general manager of Intrada Brass of Oakville.

This news comes several months after the retirement of founding member and music director Bram Gregson, who was with the group equally as long.

"I've been saying to most people, this involves age and energy. I've got too much of one and not enough of the other," the 73-year-old Field said.

"It's time to get out of being on-call for the people who rely on me pretty much seven days a week and take the time to do something else, and really to allow the band to get somebody almost certainly younger with more energy to give them the kind of administrative support they need."

Field, who was a trumpet and piano player (not with Intrada Brass), said it has been a privilege to be with the group, which has become one of Canada's most celebrated brass and percussion ensembles. However, as the band tries to carve out a new direction, it needs some added energy.

"We have a new music director in Kevin Norbury and I've seen his hopes for the band over the next few years and I just don't have the energy to do that anymore," Field said.

"He really does have some very interesting ideas about things the band could do for the future. I'm very excited for the band."

Field, a former CBC music producer, got involved with the group 17 years ago and then took an 18-month-long break before returning to the group.

"I got involved before the band was organized as a concert-giving organization," the Oakville resident said. "They were just a bunch of people getting together to make CDs. I wrote some program notes way back, and one day they decided to do concerts, so they asked me to help."

Some of the more exciting things Field did with the group was one of his last tasks. That was to make the band's CDs available at the iTunes store, some of which already are and some should be soon.

Field is also a volunteer artistic director of St. Jude's Celebration of the Arts concert series. He is also offering professional services to arts organizations and non-profit groups on a project-by-project basis.



Intrada Brass GM retires. Doug Field *Submitted photo*