

## BUSINESS

**Accelerator has new CEO**

MATT WALCOFF

RECORD STAFF

300 words

22 April 2006

Kitchener-Waterloo Record

TKWR

Final

E1

English

Copyright (c) 2006 Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

## WATERLOO

The board of the **Accelerator Centre** has hired Waterloo entrepreneur and consultant Gerry Sullivan to serve as the business incubator's new chief executive officer.

Sullivan, 55, is a former University of Waterloo engineering professor and has helped found several area businesses, including Dantec Corp. and Northern Dynamic Inc.

He replaces Dan Melymuk, who left last month for personal reasons, according to Gerry Thompson, chair of the **Accelerator Centre's** board of directors. Melymuk, who held the title of executive director, was hired last August as the incubator's first chief.

Melymuk's departure left the board scrambling to fill his position before the **centre's** May 18 opening. The board specifically sought out Sullivan because of his entrepreneurial experience and his reputation in the local business community, Thompson said.

Sullivan said he will serve at least until the **centre** is "vibrant and running."

"I don't need the job, but it's something that's close to my heart," he said.

The **Accelerator Centre**, located in the University of Waterloo Research and Technology Park, will help young companies grow their business by providing them with office space, resources and access to a network of experts in their respective fields.

The city, region, provincial and federal governments have pledged about a combined \$10 million toward the **centre**.

Two software companies, Semacode Corp. and Miovision Technologies Inc., have signed agreements to locate in the **centre** when it opens. The **centre** will announce more contracts when it opens, Sullivan said.

Sullivan worked with the **centre's** board as it developed plans for the incubator in 2004. He also helped organize the Canada's Technology Triangle **Accelerator** Network, which provided assistance to budding entrepreneurs, in the mid-1990s.

[mwalcoff@therecord.com](mailto:mwalcoff@therecord.com)

## NEWS

Document TKWR000020060422e24m00027