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For Immediate Release

# Civility Center’s Definition of Civility Accepted by Wikipedia

## Founder Roberts Retires As Executive Director

November 12, 2015: As evidence that society recognizes incivility more readily than it recognizes civility, Wikipedia recently accepted a definition for the word civility. The definition was submitted by a team from the National Civility Center (<http://www.civilitycenter.org>) and the Institute for Civil Dialogue (<http://www.civil-dialogue.com>). Until this entry, readers were redirected to “incivility” when seeking a definition for “civility.”

Russ Charvonia, vice president of the National Civility Center said, “*It is very telling that society is able to wrap its arms around what is uncivil behavior and dialogue, but has a much more difficult time identifying and defining what civility is.*”

In addition, Kent Roberts, co-founder of the National Civility Center, has stepped down at Executive Director, and Lew Bayer has taken on the role effective November 1, 2015. Roberts was instrumental in creating an organization that is at the epicenter of the movement to restore civility in society. Roberts will remain on the board of the Center. Roberts said, "*The opportunity to serve the Civility Center has been very rewarding personally. The fact that our mission is still viable and seen to be relevant in today's complex society speaks volumes for our stated purpose. I am excited and confident that our new leadership team led by our new Director Lew Bayer can achieve even greater success. I am grateful to all who have been associated with the Center for our first 15 years*."

Lew Bayer is president of Civility Experts Worldwide with head office in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. *“It’s a privilege to support the important work facilitated by the Civility Center and I’m proud to be part of the*

*team,” states Bayer.*

About the National Civility Center: A not-for-profit organization established in 2000 to help people make their communities better places to live. The organization holds a belief in a comprehensive approach to improvement – one that engages all relevant stakeholders around shared ideas and a unified plan of action that will allow community members and organizations to become more effective in solving tough social issues.

Given the current context of today’s society, the organization’s mission is critical to building capacity of individuals, organizations, and communities to meet the many challenges society faces. The Center makes available resources and ideas to all who are interested in joining the path to civility.

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