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Former Boston Bruins star Cam Neely, who was elected into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 2005, will be promoted to president of the Bruins according to Boston.com.

Owner Jeremy Jacobs, principal Charlie Jacobs, senior adviser to the owner Harry Sinden and general manager Peter Chiarelli were in attendance for the team's press conference Wednesday to announce Neely as team president. The Hall of Famer was hired in Sept. 2007 as vice president and has been involved in hockey operations as an adviser to Chiarelli. He also worked with Charlie Jacobs on the business side of operations. The role of president has been open since Sinden became adviser to the owner in 2006.

"Well when I was first offered the position to join the team it took me a while to decide to do it. I certainly welcomed the challenge after I decided to do it," Neely said. "The biggest thing for me was really the commitment that I saw from our ownership group which, at times, everybody had questioned, but they certainly have given our general manager the resources to put a product on the ice that competes for the Stanley Cup and you can see how things have changed because of that.

The Bruins were eliminated from the playoffs this season after letting a 3-0 series lead against the Philadelphia Flyers slip away. The timing is good for Neely, who will be at the front of the War Room during the NHL draft in late June. The Bruins have the No. 2 overall pick.

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