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(Col.)-Avalanche name Sakic vice president

By: Andrew Lacy Posted at: 05/10/2013 03:20 PM

DENVER (AP) — The Colorado Avalanche are shaking up their front office, with Pierre Lacroix stepping down as team president after 18 seasons and two Stanley Cup titles.

The team announced Friday that Josh Kroenke will replace Lacroix, who will serve as an adviser. Former team captain Joe Sakic is also being elevated to executive vice president of hockey operations.

Over his career with the organization, Lacroix supervised the relocation of the team from Quebec to Denver and was the architect behind the championship teams in 1996 and 2001. He assembled a talent-rich lineup led by Sakic that captured nine straight division titles a decade ago.

The Avalanche have fallen on lean times, missing the playoffs for a third straight season.

The team fired coach Joe Sacco on April 28.