

# Peace beyond **THE ABSENCE** OF WAR



## CONFERENCE PACKAGE

Spur Change 2022 National Conference  
May 17-19, 2022 | Tiohtià:ke (Montréal)

PREPARED BY



Capacity-Building  
& Knowledge Sharing  
for Small and Medium  
Organizations (SMO)



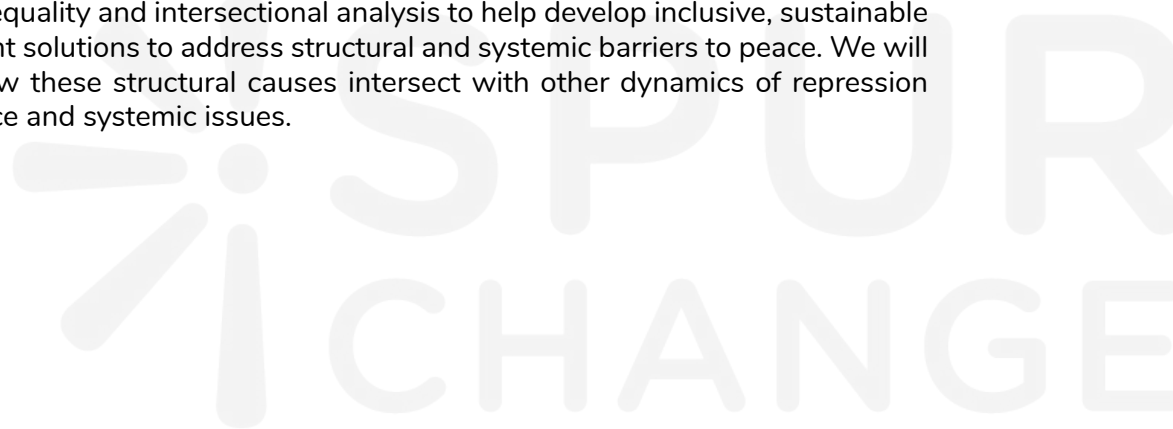


# About the 2022 Spur Change Conference

In order to create a learning and networking opportunity for Canadian Small and Medium Organizations (SMOs), educators and youth, Spur Change seeks to annually convene representatives from these groups from coast-to-coast-to-coast to learn from peer-to-peer experiences, approaches and best practices.

This year's conference will focus on Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP) Action Area 6: Peace and Security. Peace is more than the absence of war or armed conflict. To build sustainable peace, should we not also urgently take into consideration social and environmental justice, food safety and sovereignty, freedom of movement, respect for human rights and decolonization? Moreover, we cannot ignore that the pandemic has significantly intensified inequalities threatening peace around the world. From May 17-19, 2022, the "Peace: Beyond the absence of war" conference will reunite over a hundred small and medium-sized organizations, teachers and youth to consider these questions, explore solutions and share possible courses of action to build a peaceful world.

Through discussion panels, training, peer sharing workshops and artistic content, we will delve deeper into the notion of peace and explore ways in which a culture of peace can be nourished within international solidarity, small and medium organizations and global citizenship education. We will also focus on the importance of gender equality and intersectional analysis to help develop inclusive, sustainable and efficient solutions to address structural and systemic barriers to peace. We will explore how these structural causes intersect with other dynamics of repression and violence and systemic issues.



## SMOs

### can expect to:

- **Discover** innovative practices, including feminist, intersectional, and decolonial approaches;
- **Discuss** the role or contribution of small and medium-sized Canadian organizations peace efforts here, and internationally;
- **Share** knowledge, good practices and resources on building a world of peace;
- **Identify** potential synergies and establish partnerships and/or alliances;
- **Share** experiences and knowledge about existing training, awareness, research, mobilization, and advocacy activities;
- **Collaborate** in the exploration of solutions and avenues of action for building a world of peace in the face of the challenges identified;
- **Collaborate** with teachers and school communities to explore partnerships to better engage young people as global citizens

## School Representatives

### can expect to:

- **Share and discover** tools for education for peace, non-violence, and ways to act in solidarity with groups and communities fighting for peace;
- **Participate** in specific workshops to put educational tools into practice to encourage young people to engage in building a world of peace;
- **Facilitate** relations and dialogue between civil society organizations willing to learn and to work with schools and teachers;
- **Discover** the latest thoughts and responses to global issues related to peace from industry leaders, guests from the South, as well as civil society organizations;
- **Share** experiences and knowledge about existing training, awareness, research, mobilization and advocacy activities to engage young people;
- **Collaborate** with and help civil society organizations to create relevant resources for schools to better engage young people as global citizens.

## Youth Champions

### can expect to:

- **Testify** on behalf of Canadian youth regarding actions and activities for peace (what are the possible links with other urgent crises of the 21st century?) and how to amplify youth voices in them;
- **Share and discover** tools for education for peace, non-violence and ways to act in solidarity with groups and communities fighting for peace;
- **Participate** in a training workshop on processes to integrate an anti-oppression lens in public engagement activities;
- **Exchange** critically with a positive, sustainable development perspective on international cooperation ;
- **Collaborate** and help civil society organizations and teachers with creating relevant resources for schools to better engage young people as global citizen;
- **Network** with other youth champions and SMOs.

# Code of Conduct

Spur Change is a program of the Inter-Council Network and hosted by the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation. It is our mission to ensure the conference is conducted in the spirit of ACGC's core values: Respect, Inclusiveness, Equality, Empowerment, Human Rights, Collaboration, Accountability, Transparency, Sustainability, Mutual Learning

At ACGC, we have a zero tolerance for hate speech and harassment and wish for the conference to remain a safe space. Please remember to remain respectful in your comments and questions.

This Code of Conduct applies to the session organizers, speakers, and participants within and outside the sessions on any used conference-related platforms. This also includes all communications pertaining to the conference (e.g. on social media).

## All participants commit to:

### 1. RESPECT

I COMMIT to being respectful, candid, transparent, and fair to all participants regardless of language, race, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, ability, etc. throughout the conference.

### 4. HUMILITY

I COMMIT to participating in the forum with a spirit of openness to learning, and a recognition that the broad diversity of participants includes experience and knowledge that is beyond my own, and through which I can grow.

### 2. INCLUSION

I COMMIT to creating space for all in attendance to contribute and participate, to give prominence to the voices and stories of those who might otherwise be excluded, and to seek out the wisdom and reflection of those who may feel silenced.

### 5. SOLIDARITY

I COMMIT to the broad goals of strengthening Canada's global leadership and recognize that all participants share those goals. In all conversations and forums, I will remember that we are on the same side and will seek to find common ground and inspiration.

### 3. EQUITY

I COMMIT to encouraging a forum in which the varied experiences of participants are given equal weight.

### 6. SAFETY

I COMMIT to ensuring the physical, emotional, sexual, and spiritual safety of all participants in the conference, including by calling out harassment when it is witnessed and reporting incidents to conference organizers or other authorities as appropriate.



# Schedule At A Glance



## Tuesday, May 17

### Youth Champions

9:00 - 10:00	Welcome & Icebreaker	Salon Bonaventure
10:00 - 10:15	Break	
10:15 - 12:00	Workshop: Anti-oppression	Salon Bonaventure
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch and Networking	Salon Bonaventure
13:30 - 15:00	Workshop: Call to Action and Not About Me	Salon Bonaventure
15:00 - 15:30	Break	
15:30 - 16:30	Workshop: Planning Public Engagement Activities	Salon Bonaventure
16:30 - 17:15	Discussion on Conference Roles	Salon Bonaventure

## Tuesday, May 17 (everyone)

17:15 - 18:00	Travel to Opening Night Event	
18:00 - 22:00	Opening Night Event (off-site with all participants)	The Studio TD

**\*Please note:** Tuesday, May 17 programming is focused on the Youth Champions Program participants with the notable exception of the Opening Night Event in the evening.

# Wednesday, May 18

8:00 - 9:00	Welcome & Registration	Foyer
9:00 - 9:45	Opening Ceremony	Mtl 4-5
9:45 - 10:45	Opening Panel: Peace Beyond the Absence of War	Mtl 4-5
10:45 - 11:00	Break	Foyer
11:00 - 12:00	Essential Roles of Women in Building Peace	Mtl 4-5
	Make your Classroom Fair and Green	Mtl 6-7
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch	Mtl 1-2-3
13:00 - 14:15	Decolonization 101	Mtl 4-5
	Linking Peace and Ecology: A Game of Justice	Mtl 6-7
14:15 - 14:25	Break	
14:25 - 15:30	What have SMOs Learned from Covid?	Mtl 4-5
	Applying Decolonization to Curriculum & Pedagogy	Mtl 6-7
15:30 - 15:45	Break	Foyer
15:45 - 16:45	Feminist Peacebuilding through Livelihoods and Social Services	Mtl 6-7
	Not About Me: Good Intentions. Unintended Consequences. Opportunities to do Better.	Mtl 4-5
16:45 - 17:15	Testimony: Supporting Evacuations of At-Risk Afghans	Mtl 4-5
17:15 - 17:30	Closing Activity	Mtl 4-5
18:00 - 19:30	Eat & Greet	Terrasse du Salon Ville-Marie

SMOs

School Representatives

Joint Session

# Thursday, May 19

8:00 - 8:30	Gentle Morning Yoga	Mtl 8
8:30 - 9:00	Welcome	Foyer
9:00 - 9:45	Opening Session and Testimony from Ukraine	Mtl 4-5
9:45 - 10:45	Obstacles to Peace and the Causes of Armed Conflict: A History of Global Violence and Injustice	Mtl 4-5
10:45 - 11:00	Break	Foyer
11:00 - 12:00	Supporting 2SLGBTQIA+ Communities Amid Violence to Make Lasting Peace	Mtl 4-5
	Supporting 2SLGBTQIA+ Students and Queering Curriculum	Mtl 6-7
	Workshop: Artistic and Collective Approach for Peace (in English)	Mtl 8
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch	Mtl 1-2-3
13:00 - 13:30	No Peace Without the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons	Mtl 4-5
13:30 - 13:40	Break	
13:40 - 14:45	Testing Innovations to Advance Gender Equality	Mtl 6-7
	How to Make the Future a more Peaceful Place: Baby Steps From the Classroom to the World	Mtl 4-5
	Workshop: Artistic and Collective Approach for Peace (in French)	Mtl 8
14:45 - 15:00	Break	Foyer
15:00 - 16:15	Peace Tools and Resources Fair	Mtl 1-2-3
16:15 - 17:00	Closing Activity	Mtl 4-5



# Detailed Program & Speakers

\*Access the full biographies at the end of the conference package or by visiting:  
<https://icn-rcc.ca/en/spurchange/national-conference/2022-speakers/>

## Tuesday, May 17, 2022

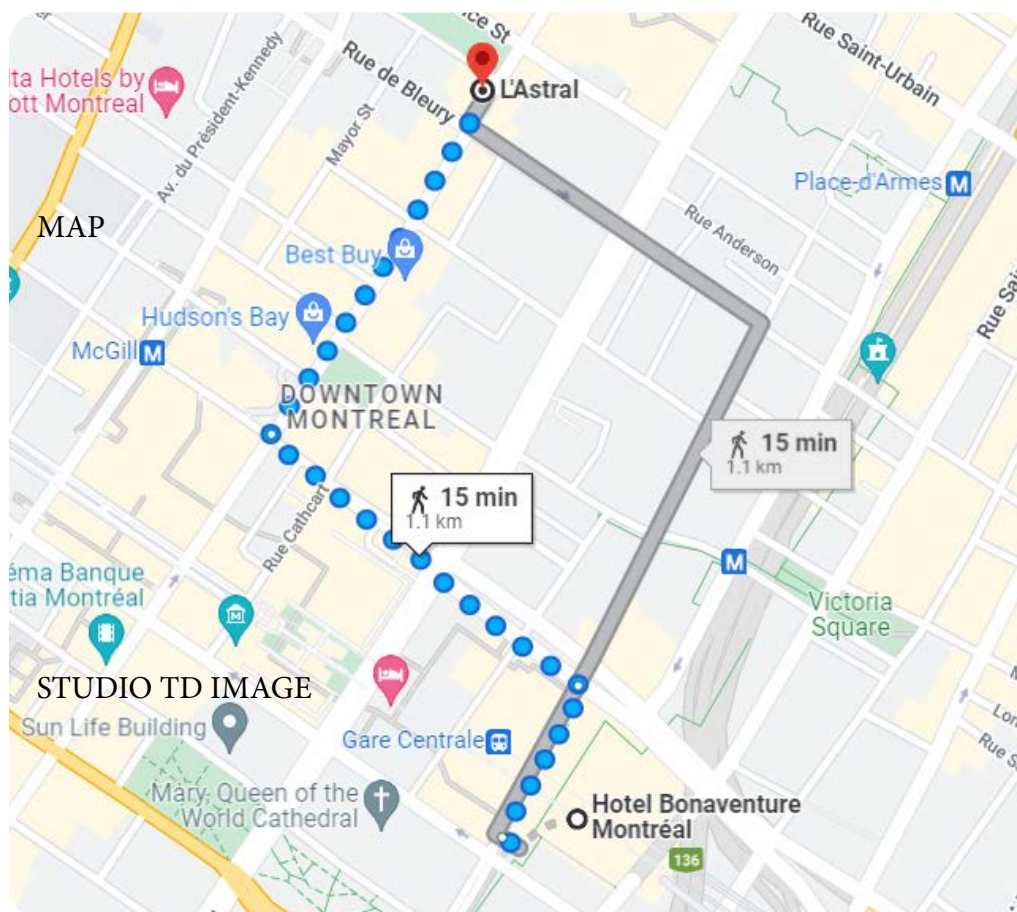
### (18:00 - 22:00) Opening Night Event

**Location:** The Studio TD | Everyone  
Formerly L'Astral, overlooking the Place des festivals.  
305 Saint-Catherine St West, Montreal, Quebec H2X 2A3

Join us to open the 2022 Spur Change Conference with inspiring words, and in good company. On the menu: dinner, beverages, artistic performances with Karen Young, Kathia Rock, and a feminist choir, plus open mic performances from participants!

Meet in the lobby of Hotel Bonaventure between 17:15 and 18:00 to travel in groups to the venue with other participants--be it a 15 minute walk through Montreal or a short taxi if required.

Complimentary meal provided + Cash Bar onsite.





# Wednesday, May 18, 2022

## (9:00 - 9:45) Opening Ceremony

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | Everyone

## (9:45 - 10:45) Opening Panel: Peace Beyond the Absence of War

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | Everyone

We are honored to open the conference with distinguished guests from around the world who are known for their unwavering commitment to peace, life and dignity. And to open the conference in an inspiring and hopeful atmosphere, they will share their vision of peace and we will exchange with them on ways to be in solidarity with communities and groups facing armed conflict or violence, and actions to contribute to peace.

### SPEAKERS



**Ariane Émond**  
(Chair)  
Independent journalist  
and facilitator



**Dr. Kenneth Deer**  
Indigenous Rights  
Activist and Chief  
Officer, International  
Indigenous  
Association



**Fawzia Koofi**  
Movement for Change in  
Afghanistan Leader



**Jeanne-Marie  
Rugira**  
Professor and Researcher  
in the Department of  
Psychosociology and  
Social Work at the  
University of Québec,  
Rimouski

## (11:00 - 12:00) Essential Roles of Women in Building Peace

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | SMOs

In Latin America, the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa and Asia, women play a fundamental role in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, as well as in the establishment and maintenance of an inclusive, lasting and equitable peace. The essential contribution of women to the establishment of peace was recognized in 2000, when the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1325. This resolution recognizes for the first time the specific crimes committed against women during armed conflicts and stresses the importance of their constructive, full and equal participation at all levels of peace processes. Yet to this day, women's expertise continues to be undervalued, their organizations suffer from chronic underfunding, and they remain largely excluded from peace processes. During this session, we will

discuss the essential role and possible solutions put forward by peaceful activists around the world, the issues and obstacles still to be overcome and ways to act in solidarity.

## SPEAKERS



**Gisèle Eva-Côté**  
(Chair)  
Senior Gender and  
Social Inclusion  
Specialist, IMPACT



**Jessica Ramos**  
Podcaster and  
contributor, Comité pour  
les droits humains en  
Amérique latine (CDHAL)



**Dr. Robin  
Neustaeter**  
Assistant Professor,  
Coady Institute



**Thérèse Kulungu  
MBungu**  
President of the World  
March of Women,  
Democratic Republic of  
Congo

## (11:00 - 12:00) Make your Classroom Fair and Green

**Location:** MTL 6-7 | School Representatives

A participatory session to discuss and exchange in depth on ways, tips and tricks to make the school and the classroom fair, inclusive and ecological, by actively involving students in the process. Your contributions on this topic are welcome!

## SPEAKERS



**Utthara  
Wanigasekara**  
Spur Change Youth  
Champion, Ontario



**Sarah Newton**  
Teacher, Begbie View  
Elementary

## (13:00 - 14:15) Decolonization 101

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | SMOs

Decolonization is important for everyone and everything! Knowing the colonial roots and legacy of the International Development sector, decolonization is more important than ever in our work. This workshop will break down the importance, meaning, and practice of decolonization as individuals and as organizations. You will have the opportunity to reflect and discuss difficult but important questions in a safe space where open conversation and sharing is encouraged. This workshop will also guide you in looking at the actions you can take in your own decolonization journeys. These actions should stretch and challenge us. They should unsettle us all. Led by a group of Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders at VIDEA, this workshop will be interactive, engaging, and thought provoking. Come with an open mind and readiness to have your perspectives changed.

### SPEAKERS



**Lili Coyes-Loiselle**  
Manager of Indigenous  
Youth Engagement and  
Reconciliation, VIDEA



**Deena Watson**  
Indigenous  
Governance Officer,  
VIDEA



**Sarah Danks**  
Communication and  
Fundraising Officer,  
VIDEA



**Rachel Barr**  
Head of Youth  
Opportunities and  
Leadership, VIDEA

## (13:00 - 14:15) Linking Peace and Ecology: A Game of Justice

**Location:** MTL 6-7 | School Representatives

Here is a workshop with participatory games and presentations, to explore the links between peace and the protection of the environment, natural resources and territory, all from a perspective of justice and equality. The workshop will begin with a classroom role-play to explore the concept of climate justice and its links to other major issues; followed by an exchange between the participants and two guests who will talk about the struggles of communities in the South for the defense of biodiversity, the environment and the territory, and how this is essential to peace.

SPEAKERS (On next page)





**Marie-Sophie Villeneuve**

(Chair)  
Program Officer in Global  
Citizenship Education  
and Mobilization, AQOCI



**Rosalinda Hidalgo**

Anthropologist and  
activist in defense of  
rivers in Mexico and Latin  
America , Comité pour  
les droits humains en  
Amérique latine (CDHAL)



**Marie Meloche**

Programs Manager,  
Jane Goodall Institute of  
Canada

## (14:25 - 15:30) What have SMOs learned from Covid?

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | SMOs

This interactive workshop will provide an opportunity for SMO representatives to reflect on and share what they have learned during the COVID pandemic. The workshop will begin with a brief presentation of research that has been conducted by a University of Guelph research team in partnership with the Spur Change program, along with an overview of this year's SMO report highlighting SMOs' adaptation throughout the pandemic. Participants will then discuss their own experiences in small groups and collectively document these experiences on a poster. There will be an opportunity for participants to share their successes, challenges, and adaptation strategies, as well as reflect on the future as they continue to adjust to a "new normal."

## SPEAKERS



**Andréanne Martel**

Spur Change National  
Program Director



**Andrea Paras**

Associate Professor,  
Department of Political  
Science, University of  
Guelph



**Heather Dicks**

PhD Candidate,  
Memorial University  
of Newfoundland and  
Labrador



**Asa Coleman**

Master's Student, Political  
Science, University of  
Guelph

## (14:25 - 15:30) Applying Decolonization to Curriculum & Pedagogy

**Location:** MTL 6-7 | School Representatives

Decolonization is a practice that involves everyone, and it is crucial to prioritize it in school environments for students and staff alike. This session will cover the framework to decolonize instructional practices to restore Indigenous peoples as rightful caretakers of the land. In this session for school representatives, learn from other educators who are actively decolonizing curriculum and pedagogy through presentations and reflective group activities. We will begin by discussing the importance of delivering thoughtful land acknowledgments, and examples will be shared on how to implement land-based learning in your own classes. A dialogue and reflection on creating safe spaces for Indigenous and non-Indigenous identifying students will take place to recognize how to support them in their own decolonization journeys. The importance of creating space for voices from students and the wider community while respectfully engaging with Indigenous community members will also be discussed. Decolonizing curriculum and pedagogy are important parts of the process. Join this session to learn more about decolonial practices to implement in your own schools.

### SPEAKERS



**Skaydu.û Jules**

(Chair)

Spur Change Youth  
Champion, Teslin Tlingit  
Council First Nations,  
Yukon Territory



**Arshpreet Gill**

(Chair)

Spur Change Youth  
Champion, Manitoba



**Yvette Jean-Jaques**

Principal and Educator,  
Echo Dene School



**Jessica Rumboldt**

Professor, Faculty of  
Social and Community  
Services, Humber  
Institute of Technology &  
Advanced Learning

## (15:45 - 16:45) Feminist Peacebuilding through Livelihoods and Social Services

**Location:** MTL 6-7 | SMOs

Peacebuilding goes beyond the absence of conflict, and this session will explore just that. Sustainable livelihoods, food sovereignty, and access to social services such as healthcare and education are all critical to ensure peacebuilding in regions experiencing repression, unrest, conflict, or post-conflict reconstruction. Join this session to learn from other organisations about feminist peacebuilding practices through the implementation of livelihoods and social service supports within their projects. In this session, participants will have the opportunity to ask questions, and discuss topics such as supporting partners during times of conflict, applying informed feminist approaches to sustainable livelihoods, and ensuring gender-sensitive support while implementing social service initiatives. Learn about best practices tied to local contexts while implementing livelihood and social service support in your projects as ways of building peace.

## SPEAKERS



**Isabelle Hachette**  
(Chair)  
Program Manager, World  
Accord



**Yogesh Ghore**  
Strategic Partnerships  
Advisor, Coady Institute,  
St. Francis Xavier  
University



**Dr. Shawna Novak**  
Executive Director,  
Canada International  
Scientific Exchange  
Program (CISEPO)



**Oscar Benavides-Calvachi**  
General Coordinator,  
Projet accompagnement  
Québec-Guatemala  
(PAQG)

### (15:45 - 16:45) Not About Me: Good Intentions. Unintended Consequences. Opportunities to do Better.

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | Anyone

When Morgan Wienberg, a well-meaning Canadian teenager, volunteers at a Haitian orphanage in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake, her plans take a turn. She is part of an army of NGOs and volunteers with billions in promised aid, all rushing to respond to the disaster. But once on the ground, she begins to see their earnest actions have their own devastating impacts. Centered around the Not About Me documentary, this workshop will provide SMO and educator participants with the opportunity to explore important questions about the ethics of development aid through the lens of children's rights. Participants will learn about the issues around international aid, sustainable development, historical reconciliation, and the imperative to "flip the system" through ethical practices. This workshop will explore how to change mentalities and behaviours, challenging us to rethink how we help and give. Panelists will share a study guide developed alongside the film to provide tools for educators along with their impact campaign focusing on #InformedGenerosity. Attendees will receive a private link to watch the film in advance of the session.

## SPEAKERS



**Morgan Wienberg**  
Child & Family  
Advocate, Speaker &  
Facilitator. Co-Founder &  
Executive Director, Little  
Footprints Big Steps



**Amy Lennon**  
Digital Co-Producer,  
*Not About Me*



**Kelly Milner**  
Producer, Director,  
*Not About Me*



## (16:45 - 17:15) Testimony: Supporting Evacuations of At-Risk Afghans

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | Everyone

The journey of a Canadian SMO supporting evacuations of at-risk Afghans, including coming to Canada but also other pathways to support evacuations for people in danger like women, human rights activists – through the pathways like a) third country arrangements; b) scholarships; c) advocacy for safe passage of Afghans in the region.

SPEAKER



**Murwarid Ziayee**

Senior Director,  
Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan

## (17:15 - 17:30) Closing Activity

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | Everyone

## (18:00 - 19:30) Eat & Greet

**Location:** Terrasse du Salon Ville-Marie | Everyone

Come chat with other participants from across Canada in a relaxed atmosphere - enjoying some aperitifs and various food stations- in a spacious room with a terrace.

Complimentary meal provided + Cash Bar onsite.

# Thursday, May 19, 2022

## (8:00 - 8:30) Gentle Morning Yoga

**Location:** MTL 8 | Everyone

Start this second day by gently activating the energy through breathing and movement, thus inviting more inner peace to settle in you and more awareness and concentration for the rest of the day. No materials or experience required.

## (9:00 - 9:45) Opening Session and A Testimony from Ukraine

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | Everyone

SPEAKER



**Olena Suslova**

Founder of Women's Information Consultative  
Center, Ukraine

## (9:45 - 10:45) Obstacles to Peace and the Causes of Armed Conflict: A History of Global Violence and Injustice

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | Everyone

Peace is much more than the absence of war: this takes on its full meaning when we look at the root causes of war and militarization, which are intimately linked to the major issues relating to human dignity, protection of life, and justice. With our guests from several continents, this panel will discuss the obstacles and structural causes of armed conflict and their relationship to the dynamics of violence, repression and injustice: male/female and gender inequalities, North-South inequalities, systemic racism, exploitation of natural resources, human rights abuses by Canadian company working in Southern countries, etc. An in-depth conversation to better define our objectives and our actions in favor of peace.

SPEAKERS (On next page)



**Remie Abi-Farrage**  
Senior Program  
Officer - Global  
Programs, Equality Fund



**Amani Aruri**  
Palestinian women's  
rights activist



**Javier Antonio  
Escamilla  
Hernandez**  
Global Citizenship  
Education Officer,  
Comité de solidarité -  
Trois-Rivières



**Richard Rudashama**  
Mobilisation Officer,  
Development and Peace -  
Caritas Canada

## (11:00 - 12:00) Supporting 2SLGBTQIA+ Communities Amid Violence to Make Lasting Peace

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | SMOs

Why is it essential to support 2SLGBTQIA+ people and communities and defend their rights in a context of armed conflict or high vulnerability to repression and violence? What are some particular issues faced by different 2SLGBTQIA+ people and communities in these contexts? Why is this so important in building peace? How can we properly support 2SLGBTQIA+ partners in such contexts? These questions will be explored in depth with speakers, who will discuss, among other things, the work of partners in Afghanistan, Cameroon, Colombia, Guatemala and Pakistan.

### SPEAKERS



**Libertad Benito  
Torres**  
Gender Advisor,  
Equitas



**Bill Fairbairn**  
Latin America Program  
Manager, Inter Pares



**Pierre Mézama**  
Psychologist and  
President, Chambre  
Camerounaise des  
Acteurs en Psychologie



**Umair Ahad**  
Founder, Pamir  
Canadian  
Multiculturalism  
Council



## (11:00 - 12:00) Supporting 2SLGBTQIA+ Students and Queering Curriculum

**Location:** MTL 6-7 | School Representatives

A key part of peacebuilding includes engaging young people to build a world of peace through encouragement and dialogue in safer and affirming spaces. This session will focus on how to do so by supporting students belonging to 2SLGBTQIA+ communities and breaking gender stereotypes in school environments. Join us for a panel discussion with three educators who are actively Queering classrooms and fostering safer and affirming spaces for Queer students to feel supported and encouraged. This panel discussion will be followed by sharing circles with the selection of one of the following topics to learn more with peers and experts: breaking gender stereotypes at a young age, facilitating Queer-inclusive sexual health education discussions, and supporting Queer students to thrive in safer and affirming spaces. This session provides opportunities to ask questions, share your own experiences, and learn from others to maintain a Queer-affirming environment in your own classroom.

### SPEAKERS



**Danica Derksen**

(Chair)  
Teacher & Member  
of the Conference  
Advisory Committee



**Peter Friedrichsen**

(Chair)  
Spur Change Youth  
Champion, Prince Albert,  
Saskatchewan



**Nichelle Penney**

Secondary Social  
Studies Teacher,  
unceded territory of the  
Secwépemc People



**Gabrielle Rogers**

Classroom Teacher  
and GSA Coordinator,  
Mi'kmaq Territory



**Julie Descheneaux**

Doctoral Student in  
Sexology, Université du  
Québec à Montréal

**(11:00 - 12:00 EN | 13:40 - 14:45 FR)**

## **Workshop: Artistic and Collective Approach for Peace**

**Location:** MTL 8 | Anyone

In the company of multidisciplinary artist, cultural mediator and pedagogue Javier Antonio Escamilla Hernandez, come live and experience an artistic and collective creation: who are we, individually, collectively and socially? What are our relationships? How can we build from this the foundations of a just and peaceful society? For Javier, “art is a visual and universal language which makes it possible to ‘summon’ citizens to reflect and to meet in a dialogue of knowledge in order to build together a society which is not limited to the virtual, but which proposes paths that are participatory and democratic.”

SPEAKER



**Javier Antonio Escamilla Hernandez**

Educator and Multidisciplinary Artist

## **(13:00 - 13:30) No Peace Without the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons**

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | Everyone

Since their appearance in 1945, nuclear weapons have posed a danger to all of humanity. Not only because of their extreme capacity for immediate destruction, but because of the climatic upheavals that their use can cause. Moreover, we have often come close to disaster. All this is known, scientifically established, but almost absent from our consciousness. This danger is not the subject of vast mobilizations, in-depth public debates, or government action plans, as is the case for global warming. And yet, it threatens us just as much. These days, the context of Russia's invasion of Ukraine has reminded us: no real peace is possible as long as nuclear weapons exist.

SPEAKER



**Raymond Legault**

Spokesperson for *Collectif Échec à la guerre*

## (13:40 - 14:45) Testing Innovations to Advance Gender Equality

**Location:** MTL 6-7 | SMOs

The Fund for Innovation and Transformation (FIT) supports Canadian small and medium-sized organizations (SMOs) testing innovative solutions in partnership with local organizations to advance gender equality and empower women and girls in the Global South. From opportunities, to challenges, and lessons learned, discover what FIT-Funded SMOs and their local partners have experienced while testing their social innovations in complex environments: Add to your understanding of community engagement, gender equality initiatives and testing innovative solutions by attending this facilitated session. In Uganda, Embrace International Foundation is working on improving educational outcomes through self-directed e-learning for special needs children and girls. In Nicaragua, Change for Children focuses on improving educational outcomes through a remote digital database or resources and a training program for teachers. Following the main presentations from these SMOs, there will be an opportunity for Questions and Answers.

### SPEAKERS



**Christina MacIsaac**  
(Chair)  
Director of Innovation,  
Fund for Innovation and  
Transformation (FIT)



**Lorraine Swift**  
Executive Director,  
Change for Children  
(CFC)



**Bev Carrick**  
Executive Director,  
Embrace International  
Foundation

## (13:40 - 14:45) How to Make the Future a more Peaceful Place: Baby Steps from the Classroom to the World

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | School Representatives

Between global conflicts and pandemics, it seems impossible to know what might come next week. The future is a Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous place. Roy Norris will take us through an understanding of the VUCA model as it applies to teachers. After this theoretical component, Kevin Lopuck will explore practical ways to create dialogical spaces in classrooms that help foster democratic citizenship and help us move toward a more peaceful place. Let's talk, listen, and learn from each other.

SPEAKERS (On next page)





**Marthe Leclerc**

(Chair)  
Retired Teacher and  
Member of the  
Conference Advisory  
Committee



**Richard Grenier**

(Chair)  
Deputy Director, Comité  
de solidarité - Trois-  
Rivières



**Kevin Lopuck**

President, Manitoba  
Social Sciences Teachers'  
Association



**Roy Norris**

Learning support teacher  
with the Louis Riel School  
Division

## (15:00 - 16:15) Peace Tools and Resources Fair

**Location:** MTL 1-2-3 | Everyone

In this resource-fair workshop, around 10 specialists, educators or representatives of small and medium organizations, will present tools and techniques that they use to promote peace in their school or with the public. During this session, you will be able to choose three to four workshops that you want to participate in to learn more about the tools and resources presented! What a great way to be better equipped to promote peace in your own community!

### SPEAKERS

**Tamara Larson** | Peace Literacy Canada

**Élise Dagenais** | Réseau Outils de paix

**Robyn Dalton** | Love Canada

**Tanya St-Jacques** | CSSMB Enfants-du-Monde School

**Dominique Bernier et Tommy Bureau** | Mouvement ACTES

**Hannah Slomp** | Secondary School Teacher (Vancouver Island)

**Richard Grenier** | Comité de solidarité - Trois-Rivières

**Patrice Labelle, Catherine Durot, Sabrina Lefebvre** | La Mosaïque Elementary School

**Raymond Legault** | Collectif Échec à la guerre

## (16:15 - 17:00) Closing Activity

**Location:** MTL 4-5 | Everyone

Showcasing collective art pieces, call to actions, and participatory evaluation.



## MAIN CONTACT INFORMATION

**Logistical support & Covid-19 focal point:**

John Kunicki | john.kunicki@acgc.ca | (780) 920-8837

**Small and medium organizations support:**

Madalyn Nielsen | madalyn.nielsen@acgc.ca | (902) 301-4300

**School representatives and youth support:**

Marie-Catherine Thouin | mariecatherine.thouin@acgc.ca | (819) 588-6370

**Financial support (subsidization process, expense claim):**

Cedar McRae | cedar.macrae@acgc.ca | (780) 988-0200

**Regarding the conference atmosphere or the Code of Conduct:**

Nancy Burrows | nburrows@aqoci.qc.ca | (514) 773-9075

**\*Conference Emergency Contacts:**

Marie-Sophie Villeneuve | 438-497-3092

Andréanne Martel | 514-318-4121

*\*Review Emergency Procedures (p.g.24)*

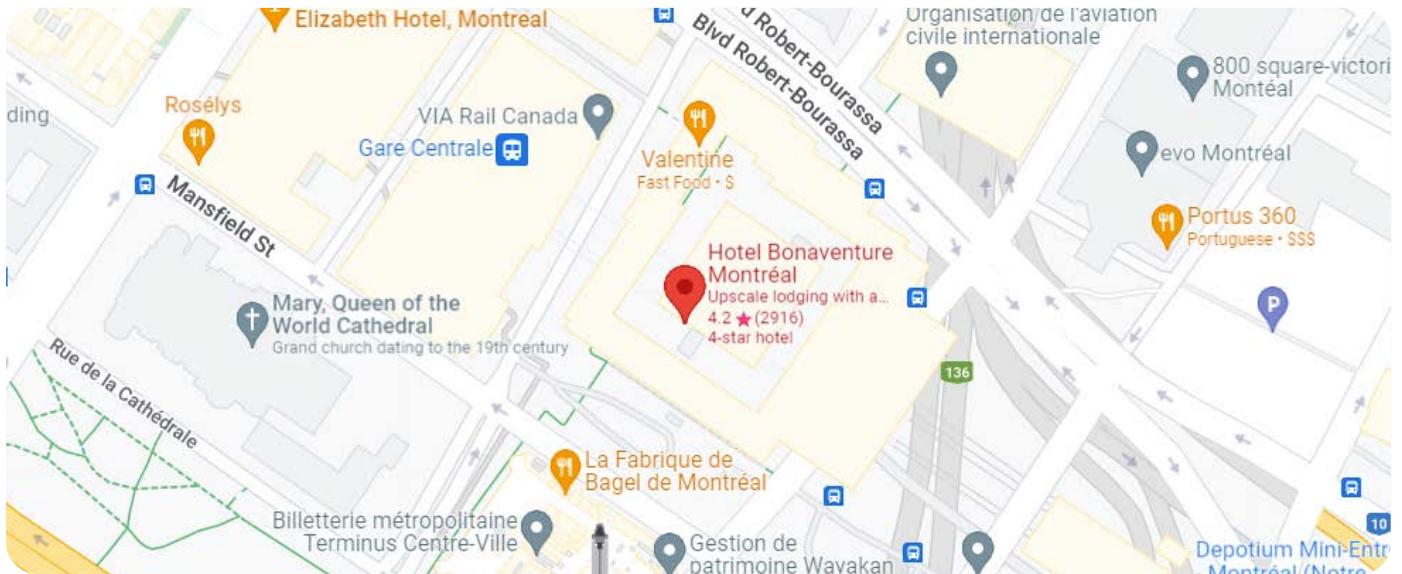
# Conference Venue

## Hôtel Bonaventure

900 DE LA GAUCHETIÈRE O., | MONTRÉAL, QUÉBEC, H5A 1E4, CANADA

Toll-free: +1-800-267-2575 | Direct: +1-514-878-2332

<https://hotelbonaventure.com/>



## Transportation In The City

- Subway and public bus : plan any trip in public transportation here <https://www.stm.info/en> or download the recommended applications.
- Bixi - to go everywhere by bicycle : <https://bixi.com/en>
- Coop Taxi : (514) 725-9885
- Bonjour Taxi / Montreal Taxi : (514) 366-3333
- Taxi Diamond : (514) 836-0000
- Taxi Champlain : (514) 271-1111



# COVID-19 MEASURES: Health and Safety Plan

In the interest of the general health and safety of all participants, we are taking certain precautions to minimize risks which are outlined below.

The conference organizers recognize the importance of creating a safe and inclusive environment for all participants. We encourage participants to follow all preventive measures in solidarity with participants who might not feel fully comfortable in public gatherings or with compromised immune systems.

## Let's keep each other safe!

Physical distancing	Maintain as much distance as possible and be creative while greeting others. When possible, room set up has been planned to allow physical distancing. Alternative seating options are available in each room (chairs along the wall, separate from the round tables).
Masking	Masks must be worn at all times, except when eating, drinking, and speaking at the microphone. Conference organizers encourage participants to wear N95 masks, where possible. N95 masks will be made available at the registration desk for conference participants.
Vaccination	All participants have confirmed full vaccination (through self-declaration, no vaccinal passport will be requested). Full vaccination in Quebec includes two doses of COVID-19 vaccine. The conference organizers strongly encourage all participants to get their booster shot if they haven't yet.
Sanitizing	Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer provided before entering into one of the conference meeting rooms.
Eating and drinking	You may take your food outside the dinner room to eat if preferred. Containers will be made available for take-out.
Daily self-assessment	Please complete the self-assessment provided by the Quebec government before leaving your room/home in the morning:  <a href="#">Government of Quebec Covid-19 Self-Assessment Tool</a>
Rapid-Test	Each participant will receive a rapid test box while arriving at the registration desk. Extra rapid tests will be available for those upon request or experiencing symptoms. Participants are also invited to use a rapid-test before leaving their home.
Covid-19 household exposure prior to conference and/or symptoms at the conference	If you have been in contact with a positive case in your household (or intimate relationship) within 5 days prior to the conference, you will be requested to cancel your participation. If the household contact is out of their 5-day isolation and you are not experiencing any symptoms, you may attend.  If you are developing symptoms* after arriving at the conference (after being exposed to Covid-19 in your household or not), please remain in your room/home and contact the conference Covid-19 focal point: John Kunicki (780) 920-8837.  <a href="#">Government of Quebec Covid-19 Self-Assessment Tool</a>

\*If you are not sure if your symptoms are COVID-19 symptoms, [please refer to this list](#).

# Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency, call 911 immediately. Please contact the Emergency Contacts when able. In the event of a non-emergency incident (eg. non-life-threatening illness preventing conference participation) contact the Emergency Contacts, then refer to other relevant phone numbers below. In the event of an emergency evacuation at the Hôtel Bonaventure, follow the direction of Hôtel Bonaventure Staff members.

## Conference Emergency Contacts:

Marie-Sophie Villeneuve | 438-497-3092

Andréanne Martel | 514-318-4121

## FOR ALL EMERGENCIES: 911

Health Link: 811

Get health advice from a registered nurse.

The Support Network: 211

Single access point to health, human services, community resources and government assistance

Canadian Mental Health Association Distress Line: 780-482-4357

Provides confidential, non-judgmental and short-term crisis intervention, emotional support and resources to people in crisis or distress.

Mental Health Support Line: 1-877-303-2642

Get confidential information and referrals.

The closest hospital emergency room to Hôtel Bonaventure is [Montreal General Hospital](#) (1650 Cedar Avenue | 514 934-1934) and the [CHUM](#) (1000, Saint-Denis Street | 514 890-8000)

The closest clinics to the Hôtel Bonaventure are [Clinique En Route](#) (514-312-7777 - various locations near the hôtel), [Promed Medical Center](#) (514 845-1800), and [Crescent Medical Center](#) ((514) 933-8383). We strongly recommend calling before going to any medical facility, as all listed above can help with minor emergencies, but under different conditions and schedules.

# What to do in Montreal

For any questions, please contact Marie-Sophie Villeneuve : 438-497-3092.

## LIST OF SUGGESTED RESTAURANTS

### Budget Friendly (\$ - \$\$)

- [Aléken](#) : There are some very good Creole restaurants in Montreal. This is one of them and it's located downtown.
- [Au Petit Alep](#) : If you are around the Jean-Talon market, this is the place to try for lunch or dinner (it is strongly recommended to make a reservation for dinner).
- [Café Byblos](#) : One of the biggest and most delicious classics on the Plateau Mont-Royal.
- [Le Nil bleu](#): Authentic and very delightful Ethiopian food
- [Montreal Chinatown](#): Everything is affordable and delicious. Just walk around and check out the menus, or take a look at some very nice suggestions here: <https://www.timeout.com/montreal/things-to-do/best-things-to-do-in-chinatown-montreal>

### PORTUGUESE

- [Chez Doval](#)
- [Ma Poule mouillée](#) - Just in front of the well-known La Banquise (see below).

### POUTINE & QUÉBÉCOIS

- [La Banquise](#): The most famous greasy spoon on the Plateau Mont-Royal with among the best poutines, including delicious vegan ones. If there is a long line-up, you can always try the Portuguese option across the street (see above); or, for a taste from the sea.....
- [Le Pit Caribou](#): famous craft brewers from Gaspésie.
- [Montreal Pool Room](#): The famous greasy spoon that survived the end of the Red Light Era, at the heart of the Quartier des spectacles.
- The best poutines are at [Chez Claudette](#) with great choices of traditional Quebec meals.
- [The Greenspot](#): Near marché Atwater, they feature the best fries and vintage decor.
- [Otto Yakitori Izakaya](#): Japanese pub with affordable and delicious cooking.
- [Satay Brothers](#)
- [Schwartz's](#): Montreal's and the world's best smoked meat. Be prepared to find a line-up at the door.
- [Sumac](#): Delicious Mahgreb cooking.
- [Tacos Frida](#): Authentic Mexican tacos.
- [TRAN Cantine](#): Authentic Vietnamese cuisine.

### JAPANESE



### LITTLE ITALIE

If you go visit the Jean-Talon market, stop by [Little Italie](#), where there are various places to enjoy authentic Italian cooking at various budgets.

### FOOD MARKETS

Featuring local as well as authentic international cuisines, for all budgets.

- [Time Out Market](#)
- [Le Central](#) : The newest one, at the heart of the Quartier des spectacles.

### Eating in Old Montreal / Old Port

There are a lot of restaurants in Old Montreal, walk around and see what you are up for.

We recommend :

- [Olive & Gourmando](#): Now a staple in Montreal;
- [Jardin Nelson](#): The most famous terrace in Old Montreal;
- [Les Soeurs grises](#) et [BreWsky](#): Old Montreal beer brewers with great food;
- [Taverne Gaspar](#): Pub life!
- [Venice](#): A delicious and beautiful place, with a Californian twist.



## Get a Taste of Montreal's Craft Beers

There are a great deal of craft breweries in Montreal. You will find a complete list here (just zoom in on the map of Montreal) : <https://ambq.ca/carte-interactive>

We recommend :

- [Le Cheval blanc](#): The first brewery in the province and among the best beers in Quebec;
- [Ma Brasserie](#): A cooperative that brings together several brewers. The food is very good;
- [Les Sans-Taverne](#): From the famous citizen collective who founded and runs the community center Bâtiment 7 at Pointe-Saint-Charles
- [Dieu du ciel](#): In the heart of Plateau Mont-Royal and among the best beers in Montreal. You can also enjoy a poutine or any Quebec traditional meals at Chez Claudette (very close);
- [Les Soeurs grises](#): An important Catholic community who brew beers with much talent + good food;
- [L'Amère à boire](#): At the heart of the Quartier Latin.

## Vegan Delights

- [Aux Vivres](#): Montreal's classic vegan place!
- [Lov de la montage & Lov McGill](#): Two options in downtown Montreal, stunning places and fancy vegan menus.
- [Lola Rosa](#): Three different locations each with a unique concept, two of them in downtown Montreal, close to the hotel.
- [Resto Vego](#)
- [The Green Panther](#): Also a delicious classic in Montreal.

## Getting Outside - Terrace Time!

- [Café Santropol](#): A big Plateau Mont-Royal classic, among the first cafés that became fair trade and organic in the city. It was founded to save the community building in which it still resides. They also started a well known community and collective kitchen. The backyard is very cute and the sandwiches are incredible.
- [Foufounes électriques](#): A pillar of the underground scene, founded by activist artists in the 80s.
- [Khyber Pass](#): Authentic Afghan cooking on the cute Duluth Street (near Parc Lafontaine) with a very nice backyard. Bring your own wine or beer.
- [Les Rites Berbères](#): Best couscous in Montreal, a restaurant on the Plateau Mont-Royal.
- [Marché des Éclusiers](#): A public market and a restaurant at the Old Port, by the water!
- [Restaurant Hà](#): Two addresses, one downtown and the other in Old Montreal. Real Vietnamese cuisine with lots of flavors!
- [Terrasse Saint-Ambroise](#): one of the biggest terraces, right on the Canal Lachine.

Streets where you'll find a good choices of terraces (as well as bars, boutiques, art galleries, etc.) :

- [Avenue Mont-Royal](#): Montreal's most famous street, from the Mont-Royal itself (starting at Parc Avenue) to Iberville Street.
- [Avenue du Parc](#): The heart of the Mile-End Quarter. A must see if you're a hipster at heart. The religious diversity is pretty amazing. And it's THE place to taste Montreal's famous bagels!
- [Notre-Dame Ouest](#): If you go visit the Atwater Market, you can walk around in two historical working-class neighborhoods, Saint-Henri and Little Burgundy (also a historically Black community). On Notre-Dame Ouest, which crosses the two neighborhoods, you will find a good variety of restaurants and boutiques.
- [Promenade Ontario](#): The heart of another famous working-class neighborhood, Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, with a great mix of new and long term boutiques + restaurants for various budgets.
- [Quartier latin](#): Especially on Saint-Denis street (between Sainte-Catherine and up to Mont-Royal street).
- [Gay Village and Saint-Catherine Street](#) (between Saint-Denis and Papineau Street): In the summer, this is a vibrant area where there are many places to eat and drink.
- The main option, of course, which is [Saint-Laurent Street](#), in the heart of Quartier des spectacles from René-Lévesques to Sherbrook, and until Mont-Royal.

## CULTURAL SIGHTSEEING / EVENTS

First Stop: We invite you to consult this [decolonising tour](#) in Montreal.

### Festivals and Cultural Events in May

- [Accès Asie](#): May 5th to 29th: Pluridisciplinary festival featuring various Asiatic arts and cultures.
- [Arts souterrains Festival](#): April 2nd to June 30th: Art pieces along the 6 km of the Montreal Underground
- [Cité Mémoire](#): Various visual animations can be seen outside after sunset. Travel across the city and through time!
- [Festival international du film d'histoire de Montréal / International Historical Films Festival](#): May 18th to June 1st: There is notably a film about the Donbass region in Ukraine and various historical topics as well as forms (short movie, fiction, documentary, etc.), with a good selection of pieces from Indigenous filmmakers.
- [Mondial of Beers](#): May 19th to 22nd.
- [Nick Cave, the exhibition](#): Located at the art gallery of the Maison du Festival - where there also is the Studio TD, the venue for the opening evening of the conference, on May 17th.
- [Nuits d'Afrique](#): Even if the famous festival is held in July, there is a year round program of shows each week!
- [Route d'eau](#): until May 24th: Multimedia installation at Centre Phi, in Old Montreal, with the words of the famous Innu poet, Joséphine Bacon.
- **Museum Month**: all May (see information below)

### Museums for all Tastes

May is Museums Month in Montreal. Here you'll [find all the museums and exhibitions](#) in Montreal in May. Here are some of our favourites:

#### CITIZEN AND SOCIAL MUSEUMS

- [Écomusée du fier monde](#), unique in Montreal, rooted in a community engagement spirit and the place is beautiful!
- [Centre des mémoires montrealaises](#), with a very nice program of various activities to discover the city's history in original ways.
- [McCord museum](#), especially for the permanent exposition Voix autochtones (the narratives are moving) and the exposition of Queer pictures from JJ Levine.

#### HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE

- [Pointe-à-Callières museum](#) is a must see, with numerous expositions.
- [Montreal Holocaust Museum](#): Holocaust history told by survivors.

#### ART

- [Musée des Beaux-Arts](#) de Montréal (downtown)
- [Musée d'Art Contemporain](#) (Beside the Place des Arts, in le Quartier des spectacles).

[L'Espace pour la vie](#): Jardin botanique, Biodôme, Biosphère, Insectarium and Planetarium.

[Public markets](#), especially Jean-Talon and Atwater Markets

See the outdoor Place des festivals at the center of the [Quartier des spectacles](#); and the program at the [Place des arts](#).

## Best outdoor sights in Montreal:

- [Mont-Royal Parc](#): A must see, with two belvederes for panoramic views with lots to see. This is reachable by foot or by public transit bus.
- **Jardin botanique** and **Parc Maisonneuve**: the Jardin (Botanical Gardens) and its conservation/educational mission makes it one of the best outdoor places in Montreal. It's right beside the Olympic stadium. There is not much to eat in this area, but you can have lunch at the Jardin's restaurant, with its cute terrace.
- **Parc Lafontaine**: Montreal's favorite, kind of like our Central Park, but smaller, still very cute. You can enjoy a meal at the [Robin-des-bois](#), the non-profit restaurant located at the heart of the park.
- **Urban hiking**: You can try the urban hike [From the mountain to the fleuve](#), a 3.8 km pedestrian walk to discover Montreal from Mont-Royal to the Old Port. In general, [Old Montreal](#) is very nice to walk around. Please, beware of fake Indigenous arts and souvenirs that are sold in various shops in this area. They are often presented as authentic but are made in China or the benefits don't go to any Indigenous communities or artists. Here is a good [call to action](#) to support, across Canada, Indigenous artists fighting against this practice.
- [Île Sainte-Hélène](#) and [Parc Jean-Drapeau](#): Two big outdoor sites where the famous Expo 67 was held. Great choices of things to see and activities to do. The best is to discover it by bicycle - you can go there by bus and take a bixi (see information below on transportation).

## Guided Tours

There are plenty of guided tours in Montreal. Here are some suggestions:

- [Ça roule Montreal](#): Various tours on bicycles with original points of view in the city.
- [Dyad](#): Scooter tours!
- [L'Autre Montrea](#): By far our favorite! The topics and angles are very interesting and shed light on forgotten aspects of history, as well as people who were made invisible in traditional historical narratives.
- [Éco Tour](#): Especially le Parc Jean-Drapeau by kayak.
- [Guidatour](#): Very affordable, with a lot of schedules and variety, the most well-known in Montreal.
- [Haunted Montreal](#): If you would like to know more about the city through its plenty of ghost stories! It is known as the most haunted city in North America. Still rooted in social history, they don't keep the oppressions and discriminations under the radar, but bring them into their narratives.
- [Tour de la table/Roundtable Tour](#): Various culinary tours.
- [Tour Kaléidoscope](#): The most affordable option that is very good to represent cultural communities' history - their Chinatown tour, for example, is very interesting. Mostly in French but affordable private visits are available in English.





# SPEAKER BIOS

\*Organized alphabetically by last name.

## **Remie Abi-Farrage**

**Senior Program Officer - Global Programs, Equality Fund**

As Program Officer of the Global Programs at the Equality Fund, Remie (she/her) supports the organization's grantmaking and partner accompaniment strategies. Remie is well-versed in working with social justice, youth, and feminist organizations, with a special focus on the Middle East—a region close to her heart, as she's originally from Lebanon and has visited and lived in the region for years. Remie is deeply connected to feminist and youth movements globally, with valuable local and international experience in human rights philanthropy, advocacy, programming, and social justice organizing. Remie believes in shifting power through flexible core funding and respecting the autonomy and work of local organizations and groups, as the main implementers, while donor organizations act as facilitators. When not working, you can find Remie exploring nature with her fur baby, doing yoga, cooking, engaging in a passionate discussion with friends, or binge watching a series on Netflix.

## **Umair Ahad**

**Founder, Pamir Canadian Multiculturalism Council**

Umair Ahad is the founder of Pamir Canadian Multiculturalism Council Canada, a nonprofit organization giving services in education, environment, project/program management, refugee resettlement, LGBTQ+ and social activism nationally and internationally. Umair is also a former Deputy Director in the Environmental Protection Agency in Pakistan with the Government of Pakistan. He is a Northern Lights Volunteers Award winner from the Government of Alberta. His volunteer work is to educate the community on different issues such as environment, drug addictions, racism, LGBTQ+, human rights, supporting and working on multiculturalism. Umair has an emergency management volunteer role with the Canadian Red Cross (Personal Disaster Assistance PDA Responder) and he is a Peace Ambassador for Canada with the Global Peace Chain. Umair is also a member and volunteer with the UN Association of Canada and an International Public Relations Director with Global Alliance Canada.

## **Amani Aruri**

**Palestinian women's rights activist**

Amani is a Palestinian women's rights activist and a member of the UN Women's Global Youth Task Force on Beijing +25. She is also a member of the Gender Innovation Program AGORA, and a co-founder and member of Bani-Zaid Youth Council. Amani holds a Master in Economics from Birzeit University and has managed innovative programs that help youth and women in the region. Amani's experiences in conflict affected countries like Palestine contributed to her understanding that engaging more people, especially girls and women, as peacebuilders and change-makers is necessary in order to prevent and break cycles of violence, and to achieve peace and justice.

## **Rachel Barr**

**Head of Youth Opportunities and Leadership, VIDEA**

Rachel Barr is VIDEA's Head of Youth Opportunities and Leadership – she lives on the traditional lands of the Lekwungen speaking peoples with her dying plants, which she just can't manage to keep alive. Rachel became part of the VIDEA family in 2015 as an IYIP intern and joined as a staff member in 2018. She is a collaborator on a number of VIDEA programs, including the International Indigenous Youth internships and the Journey from the Heart programming. Rachel feels lucky to work within a local and international context, alongside her friends, colleagues, and partner organizations, who are always teaching her new things about the global issues that connect us all. You can catch Rachel listening to reggae and knowing everything is trending on TikTok... pop culture references are her speciality.

## **Oscar Benavides-Calvachi**

**General Coordinator, Projet accompagnement Québec-Guatemala (PAQG)**

Colombian, a lawyer by profession, and a specialist in human rights and gender studies, Oscar Benavides-Calvachi has dedicated his entire professional career to the defense of human rights across diverse institutions and experiences on the local, national, and international scale. From his wide range of expertise, Oscar has worked as a coordinator with the office of Life, Justice, and Peace – Human Rights of the Dioceses of Pasto in Colombia ; provided legal support and aid to organizations helping victims of forced displacement and women; piloted and implemented a program promoting peace and supporting women affected by domestic abuse in Brazil; and assured the continued work of an agency focused on international development in Mexico by providing legal representation.

## **Libertad Benito Torres**

**Gender Advisor, Equitas**

Libertad joined the Equitas team in March 2020 as a gender advisor. She recently worked for the Center for International Studies and Cooperation as well as for World University Service Canada as Regional Advisor on Gender and Social Inclusion, where she developed great expertise in capacity building in gender mainstreaming and the intersectional approach. She is a graduate in Political Science and Law and holds a Master's degree in International Relations and Women's Studies. She strongly believes in social justice and gender equality!

## **Bev Carrick**

### **Executive Director – Embrace International Foundation**

Bev Carrick has 45 years international experience working in humanitarian relief, post-conflict rehabilitation and sustainable development programming. Her overseas experience has been focussed on Central America and Africa. In 1984 Bev co-founded CAUSE Canada, where she worked for 36 years. Bev's educational background is in public health (BScN) and leadership (MA) although she also has significant experience in Education, Gender & Microfinance. Bev and her husband co-founded Embrace International Foundation (Embrace) in 2017. The organization focuses on maximizing the potential of children living with disabilities. Embrace is currently conducting research in Uganda through a Fund for Innovation and Transformation grant. The project is measuring the impact of E-Learning on rural Ugandan students.

## **Asa Coleman**

### **Master's Student, Political Science, University of Guelph**

Asa Coleman (he/him) is a Master's student pursuing a degree in Political Science at the University of Guelph. His area of specialization is International Development, with his research focusing on education in the Inuit community of Nunatsiavut.

## **Lili Coyes-Loiselle**

### **Manager of Indigenous Youth Engagement and Reconciliation, VIDEA**

Lili (she/her) works at VIDEA as the Manager of Indigenous youth engagement and reconciliation where she is privileged to facilitate and collaborate on a number of VIDEA programs, including the Cwelelep – Journeys From the Heart program, the International Indigenous Youth internships, and the Silenced and Stolen, Human Trafficking Awareness Project. Born and raised on Treaty 6 Territory in Amiskwaciwâskahikan or Edmonton, Alberta, she is a proud member of the Métis Nation of Alberta. Lili is passionate about addressing issues connected to gender inequality, climate justice, colonial violence, and the intersections between them all.

## **Sarah Danks**

### **Communication and Fundraising Officer, VIDEA**

Sarah Danks is VIDEA's Communication and Fundraising Officer. She started off with VIDEA as a summer student in 2016. Sarah heads VIDEA's annual fundraiser, the Global Solidarity Challenge, and is a part of the Education and Engagement team. She also runs VIDEA's social media. Sarah has her BSc in Psychology with a Minor in Professional Communication from the University of Victoria and she lives on the traditional and unceded territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən speaking people (also known as Victoria, BC). Sarah is passionate about learning, human rights, photography, and accessibility.

## **Dr. Kenneth Deer**

### **Indigenous Rights Activist and Chief Officer, International Indigenous Association**

For the last 20 years, Dr. Kenneth Atsenhaienton Deer has worked as a political activist and newspaper publisher and editor of the weekly newspaper The Eastern Door. Giving the community a balanced platform of information they could depend on. Kenneth was on the Board of Directors for the Quebec Community Newspapers Association. Using his own community based in Kahnawake, he has engaged and educated business people and international communities on Indigenous Peoples' Human Rights. Mr. Deer's involvement in the Indigenous people's international movement led him to the United Nations in Geneva. In December of 2000, he served as the Chairman/Rapporteur of the UN Workshop on Indigenous Media in New York. Mr. Deer was one of the first Indigenous people to ever hold this role in the UN. He was an active participant at the meetings of the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations since 1987; and the UN Working Group on the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples since 1995. Having spent over 16 years in the educational sector, he has been a school counselor, high school principal as well as co-chair of the National Indian Education Council in Canada.

## **Danica Derksen**

### **Teacher & Member of the Conference Advisory Committee**

Danica Derksen is a Grade 8 Humanities teacher in Calgary, Alberta. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Social and Cultural Anthropology and International Development Studies from the University of Calgary. Danica is a lifelong activist who seeks to empower others, she is passionate about making a difference wherever she finds herself. Danica is currently working on a student-led mural project about Indigenous Reconciliation.

## **Julie Descheneaux**

### **Doctoral Student in Sexology, Université du Québec à Montréal**

Julie Descheneaux is a doctoral student in sexology at the Université du Québec à Montréal. She is a sexuality educator for children, adolescents, and young adults. She specializes in the development and implementation of programs for positive and inclusive sexuality. In addition, she has been involved in the development of professional skills for sexologists and teachers since 2017, including teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in sexology at UQAM.

## **Heather Dicks**

PhD Candidate, Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador

Heather Dicks is a PhD candidate within the Sociology Department at the Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador; her present research is centered on the nexus between International Development and Migration. Prior to starting her PhD, Heather spent over a decade working in the field of International Development. This included work with the Canadian government, the United Nations, and several non-governmental organizations. Heather is currently working with the University of Guelph as a Research Assistant on a SSHRC-funded research project exploring the impacts of COVID-19 on Small and Medium-sized Organizations working in Canada's foreign aid sector.

## **Catherine Durot**

Teacher, La Mosaïque School, Ontario

Catherine Durot began her professional career as a technical writer and translator in France, before branching out into teaching. Her dual training in teaching, first in France and then in Ontario, allowed her to appreciate the difference between the two approaches and to discover her vocation and passion: teaching as a complete discipline that aims to develop both knowledge and skills. Catherine worked for the Conseil scolaire catholique Mon Avenir in Toronto for 10 years, before joining the Conseil scolaire Viamonde in 2017. In her spare time, Catherine is a member of an adult francophone vocal ensemble in the Toronto area, and also facilitates the elementary choir at her school.

## **Ariane Émond**

Independent journalist and facilitator

A seasoned writer and presenter, Ariane Émond was a host, commentator, and reporter with Radio-Canada for 25 years and with Télé-Québec (1974-1987). She was also a columnist at Devoir (1990-1995) and at Alternatives (2001 to 2008). Ariane likewise worked extensively in documentary filmography having received numerous awards for her work in journalism and film. Co-founder of the feminist magazine La Vie en rose (1980-1987), she notably published Les Ponts d'Ariane (VLB), et Les Auberges du coeur : L'art de raccrocher les jeunes (Bayard Canada), in collaboration with the photographer Dominique Lafond. Her interest in cultural and social issues (inequality, discrimination, education, city problematics) resonates throughout her work. As commissioner at the Office de consultation publique de Montréal (OCPM) from 2008 to 2021, Ariane continued to advocate on matters of public consultation. While also being vice-president of the Théâtre Outremont, she considers herself godmother of the organization 60millionsdefilles.org, having been closely involved with the organization for 15 years, which supports projects aimed at women's education in areas where they are most marginalized. For the last ten years, Ariane, along with other well-known personalities, has supported the white poppy campaign started by the Collectif Échec à la guerre.

## **Javier Antonio Escamilla Hernandez**

Global Citizenship Education Officer, Comité de solidarité - Trois-Rivières, Educator, and Multidisciplinary Artist

Multidisciplinary artist and cultural mediator, originally from Colombia, he has been living in Quebec since 2002. He graduated in plastic arts at UQTR and in education in Colombia. He promotes and participates in participatory artistic creation projects and intercultural exchanges with communities, organizations and educational institutions in the region and internationally. He considers his artistic work as an approach to the power of art in contemporary society in the construction of a living and participatory culture. His works encourage reflection on the contemporary world, individual, as well as collective and social responsibility. His artistic projects link art, education and culture by allowing citizen participation in the process of artistic creation. Recipient of several awards and grants in Quebec and Canada. Awarded by Les Arts et la Ville and the Conseil des arts du Québec as artist in the community 2018

## **Gisèle Eva-Côté**

Senior Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist, IMPACT

Gisèle leads IMPACT's gender work, developing, implementing, and overseeing gender equality strategies in consultation with local communities. She trains staff members, stakeholders, and community groups on women's rights. Gisèle also leads our research on gender and liaises with stakeholders to develop recommendations on women's empowerment in the extractive industry for policymakers at all levels of government. Gisèle has over 25 years of international experience, including designing and managing projects that address human rights, women's rights, and indigenous rights, as well as rights to land and natural resources. She is skilled in program evaluation and alliance building and has extensive field experience with grassroots and non-profit organizations in Latin America and Africa (in particular, in Democratic Republic of Congo). Gisèle's research has focused on crimes of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict contexts and examining mining issues through a gender lens.

## **Bill Fairbairn**

Latin America Program Manager, Inter Pares

Bill Fairbairn is a graduate of the University of Guelph where he specialized in international development and French literature. He became deeply involved with solidarity work after spending time with Argentinian and Chilean refugees fleeing the military regimes in their countries in the late 1970's and studying in Guatemala in the early 1980s during the Lucas Garcia dictatorship. Since then, his work has largely focused on the defense of human rights in Latin America and the promotion of Canadian solidarity. He has worked with the Inter-Church Committee on Human Rights in Latin America (ICCHRLA), KAIROS, York



University's Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLAC) and Horizons of Friendship. Bill joined the staff at Inter Pares in 2011 and is part of the Latin America team with main responsibilities for Inter Pares' work in Peru and Colombia. Bill has taken part in many electoral observer missions and led various fact-finding missions to a number of countries in Latin America. He is the author of numerous human rights reports. Bill has also worked as a volunteer with several organizations including the AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT) and Peace Brigades International-Canada (PBI), serving as the latter's representative on PBI's International Council.

## **Peter Friedrichsen**

### **Spur Change Youth Champion, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan**

Peter Friedrichsen (he/him/il) is the General Manager of the Prince Albert Model Forest Association (PAMF) living in kistapinânihk, or Prince Albert, Saskatchewan (Treaty 6, Homeland of the Métis and the Dakota). His work includes supporting community-led research in Saskatchewan's northern forest communities, and engaging local youth in environmental stewardship and land-based education. He is a cis-male gay man who is actively engaged in the small but mighty queer community in north-central Saskatchewan.

## **Yogesh Ghore**

### **Strategic Partnerships Advisor, Coady Institute, St. Francis Xavier University**

Yogesh Ghore leads the Inclusive Economies thematic area at the Coady Institute where he provides leadership to its educational programs, research initiatives, and capacity strengthening efforts globally. He also offers strategic and thought leadership to Coady's partnerships initiatives with a range of global partners, including linking them with the small and medium organizations (SMOs) in Canada. As a practitioner and educator Yogesh has over 20 years' experience working in South, East and Central Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and North America. His current research and capacity strengthening work focuses on market systems/value chain development, gender and social inclusion, social enterprise, and future of work and workers.

## **Arshpreet Gill**

### **Spur Change Youth Champion, Manitoba**

Arshpreet Gill studies at the University of Manitoba. While studying, he works part time at a local law firm in Winnipeg, and at a local MLA's constituency office. In his free time Arshpreet is working towards studying International Law and trying to accomplish his bucket list such as getting a motorcycle license, learning to fly, and saving money to travel. Arshpreet strongly believes that there needs to be selfless global leadership to solve our current global issues. Arshpreet's career plans are to work for the UN and Global Affairs Canada to help and work with global citizens to find and implement the solutions to the global issues.

## **Isabelle Hachette**

### **Program Manager, World Accord**

Isabelle Hachette has over twenty years' experience working on international development and emergency relief programs in countries of Africa and South-East Asia, the Caribbean and more recently in Central America. She has worked with international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), United Nations agencies as well as the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. She collaborated in the creation and implementation of community mobilization projects that integrated gender and community health components. She has Bachelor degrees in Education and Political Sciences, a Certificate in Journalism as well as a Masters in International Development. Isabelle joined the World Accord (WA) team in 2015. She brought her experience in monitoring and evaluation as well as project coordination and her knowledge of international development issues to the Program Coordinator role at this small NGO based in Ottawa. Isabelle, now as manager with WA, is contributing to strengthen their partners' capacities and build new partnerships in Canada. She is also looking at how the climate crisis is impacting partners' participants, particularly women and girls, and how all crises are affecting the achievement of their programs' goals. Presently, WA has three partners based in three countries in Central America and one in Nepal. All four focus mainly on sustainable agriculture with agro-ecology and forestry as well as human rights with prevention of sexual and gender based violence.

## **Rosalinda Hidalgo**

### **Anthropologist and activist in defense of rivers in Mexico and Latin America**

Originally from Mexico, having studied rural development, Rosalinda's work as an activist centers on aiding organizations and grass-root movements in defending their territory from hydroelectric or mining projects through education. Rosalinda was a former member of national networks such as REMA, which focuses on those affected by the mining industry in Mexico, and MAR which aims to help those in defense of their rivers and those impacted by dams.

## **Yvette Jean-Jacques**

### **Principal and Educator, Echo Dene School, Fort Liard, Northwest Territories**

Yvette Sasha Jean-Jacques is a principal at Echo Dene School of The Dehcho Divisional Education Council. She is a Haitian-born immigrant raised in Calgary Alberta. Yvette received her B.Ed from the University of Alberta, Master in Leadership from the University of Gonzaga, and Graduate Diploma in School Leadership from the University of Alberta. Her Vision is to unapologetically re-center Indigenous knowledge. She aims to create engaging learning experiences through a culturally responsive framework. In addition, she has worked to decolonize the educational system for the past four years. She has developed various Land-Based learning courses. Most recently, she developed a culturally relevant visual composition curriculum that she is currently teaching to her students and conducted at other schools in the district. In July, she will be the new Curriculum

Coordinator at the District Board Office, allowing her to shift pedagogies, transform curriculum using a Land-based learning model, and influence policy toward empowering Indigenous students. She seeks to remove academic achievement barriers and end hidden intergenerational traumas they experience.

## **Skaydu.û Jules**

### **Spur Change Youth Champion, Teslin Tlingit Council First Nations, Yukon Territory**

Skaydu.û yu xhut duwasakh, Autum Jules dlet ka xanaxh. My Tlingit name is Skaydu.û and my English name is Autum Jules. Daxhlawedi I ya xhut. I belong to the eagle clan. I am from the Teslin Tlingit Council First Nations in the Yukon Territory. I was lucky to grow up living off the land and water, harvesting berries and medicines, and subsistence hunting and fishing on my first nations traditional territory. I was taught by my elders at a young age how important environmental protection, equality, and respect is to the prosperity of all living things on this earth. The quote that guides me is, "who speaks for the ones who can't speak for themselves?" I work for the Teslin Tlingit Council Heritage Department and am passionate about learning and teaching my First Nation language, Tlingit. I have completed a fashion design diploma and the Coady Institute's Indigenous Women in Community Leadership Program. I was fortunate to participate in both the City of Whitehorse's exchange program in Japan and the International Internship for Indigenous Youth Program in Cambodia. I hope to show future generations that anything is possible if you put your mind and heart to it.

## **Fawzia Koofi**

### **Movement for Change in Afghanistan Leader**

Fawzia Koofi was a member of the peace negotiation team representing Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Fawzia was elected as the first woman Second Deputy Speaker of Parliament in the history of Afghanistan. She tabled many progressive laws protecting women and children including laws on violence against women, anti-harassment for women and children, and the child act. She promotes women and girls' education, by advocating for access to good schools, and created opportunities for non-formal education in Badakhshan province. Fawzia holds a bachelor's degree from Kabul University law and political sciences faculty and her Master on International relations and Human Rights from Geneva School of Diplomacy. In 2021, the Taliban put her under house arrest when they captured Kabul, and she eventually managed to flee Afghanistan. She is now the leader of a newly established political party called Movement for Change in Afghanistan. She continues to lobby for full protection of women's rights and warns world leaders on the security consequences of ignoring women and people of Afghanistan. She was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020.

## **Thérèse Kulungu MBungu**

### **President of the World March of Women, Democratic Republic of Congo**

Thérèse KULUNGU Mbungu holds a law degree from the University of Kinshasa (UNIKIN); Individual Rights and Judicial Law Specialization and she is a lawyer in the Democratic Republic of Congo. She is also President of the World March of Women in the DR Congo, National Coordinator of the Working Group on Transitional Justice in the DR Congo and, among other civic commitments, is the President of the NGO Encadrement de la Jeune Fille/Femme Désœuvrées en milieu Rural (EJFR) and RODECOM, a network of community development NGOs. Thérèse has accumulated numerous other accolades and experiences that bear witness to her undeniable commitment to peace and justice. In addition, she works as a consultant at the Fondation Panzi-RDC (2018 Nobel Peace Prize Foundation) which she represented, on their behalf, in Kinshasa in 2018. Also she has worked as coordinator for "Chemin de la paix", fighting against impunity for international crimes as well as Project Report Mapping. Having experience as the Gender and Administrative Assistant at the Office of Gender Affairs at MONUC, the UN branch located in the DR Congo, Thérèse is an author of many publications and research studies on peace-making, human rights, and transitional justice with her most recent work being entitled "Les piliers de la justice transitionnelle, cas de la RD Congo" (Paris, Villeneuve, Fédération de Femmes pour la paix, 2019).

## **Tamara C. Larson**

### **Educator & National Chair, Peace Literacy Canada**

Tamara C Larson is an educator, community leader, mentor, and visionary with a heart for servant leadership. Growing up in a home with a family business, she has developed an entrepreneurial spirit that is reflected in all that she does. As a believer in lifelong learning, Tamara has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alberta, and a Masters degree in curriculum development from St. Xavier University in Chicago and continues to pursue learning opportunities in all that she does. Human rights and peacebuilding are at the forefront of all that she does. In June 2021, Tamara launched Peace Literacy Canada – a national organization focused on creating peace education for learners of all ages. <https://peaceliteracycanada.org>. In January 2022, Tamara launched Grow Leaders, a consulting firm that offers inspiring and engaging leadership development experiences for lifelong learners that will continue to build strong communities working in partnership with Peace Literacy Canada. <https://growleaders.ca>. Tamara was honored to be nominated for the 2021 Tallberg-SNF-Eliasson Global Leadership Prize and awarded Rotary District 5370's Rotarian of the Year 2017 -2018 for her work as youth chair. Working together, Tamara believes we can achieve positive peace and work that is safe and equitable for all.

## **Patrice Lebel**

### **Principal, La Mosaïque Elementary School, Toronto**

Patrice Lebel holds a bachelor's degree in preschool and elementary education from UQTR and a graduate degree in school administration from the University of Sherbrooke. He is currently the principal of the French elementary school "La Mosaïque" in

Toronto, which is a candidate school for the international network of UNESCO Associated Schools and a certified EcoSchools Canada (platinum) school. Mr. Labelle has more than 30 years of experience in the education sector in Quebec and Ontario. From 2017 to 2020, as principal of the Madeleine-de-Roybon School in Kingston (CEPEO), he contributed through his leadership to the school becoming the first francophone school in Ontario to join the UNESCO Associated Schools Network. With this experience, he has dedicated his recent years to helping students become small citizens sensitive to current global issues and ready to change the world, one action at a time.

## **Sabrina Lefebvre**

Teacher, La Mosaïque School, Ontario

My experience as a teacher in France and Ontario has enriched my view of education by combining complementary approaches. As a mother of three daughters, my vision of education is to awaken the curiosity, expression, well-being and respect of each child and of nature. Guiding each child to blossom, to gain confidence in their abilities in a rich and warm classroom environment is the heart of my daily exchange with the children.

## **Raymond Legault**

Spokesperson for Collectif Échec à la guerre

Currently retired from teaching computing at the Cégep level, Raymond Legault has always been interested in global affairs concerning justice and peace, in particular in the Middle-East. Preoccupied with the often negative role Canada occupies on the international stage – despite trying to cultivate an image of benevolence – Raymond has notably applied himself to actions of solidarity with the people of Palestine and Iraq. He has been a spokesperson for Collectif Échec à la guerre since its creation in the fall of 2002.

## **Amy Lennon**

Digital Co-Producer, Not About Me (documentary)

Amy has a degree in journalism, 25+ years' industry experience and a passion for sharing stories that can ignite social change. Notably, she worked as the lead interactive producer for Knowledge Network (BC's Public Educational Broadcaster) and a senior producer for CineCoup Media, TELUS Storyhive and CBC funding platforms. Amy has spent much of the last two years creating an educational impact campaign for the independent feature documentary, Not About Me. The initiative provides learning resources to explore ideas on social justice, humanitarian aid and ethical volunteering overseas, with a focus on child rights and family preservation. Amylennon.Com

## **Kevin Lopuck**

President, Manitoba Social Sciences Teachers' Association

Kevin Lopuck, M.Ed. is currently the social studies department head at Lord Selkirk Regional Comprehensive Secondary School in Selkirk, Manitoba. For the past 20 years, he has taught a wide variety of social studies courses in the English and French immersion programs. Kevin obtained his Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Manitoba in 2001 and completed his master's degree in Education with a focus on curriculum studies in 2018. His thesis was a qualitative, phenomenological work focused on his implementation of the province of Manitoba's grade 12 Global Issues: Citizenship and Sustainability curriculum. Kevin is the current president of the Manitoba Social Sciences Teachers' Association and is an executive member of the Social Studies Educators Network of Canada.

## **Christina MacIsaac**

Director of Innovation for the Fund of Innovation and Transformation (FIT)

Christina MacIsaac (she/her/elle) brings a wealth of experience to her role as the Director of Innovation for the Fund for Innovation and Transformation. A national innovation initiative of the ICN in support of SMOs, the program launched in 2019. Prior to FIT, Christina worked in community investment with a global insurance company, and engaged extensively with the charitable sector across Canada on issues ranging from psychological health and well-being to social responsibility and sustainability. A past participant of Canada World Youth, Christina is thrilled to be a part of this exciting sector initiative with her enthusiastic team.

## **Andréanne Martel**

Spur Change National Program Director

Andréanne Martel is the national director of Spur Change, a program of the Inter-Council Network (ICN) funded by Global Affairs Canada. Prior to joining the Spur Change team, she was the lead of the Next Generation: Collaboration for Development program, a joint initiative between Cooperation Canada and the Canadian Association for the Study of International Development (CASID) aiming to foster better collaboration between practitioners and academics in the Canadian global development sector. She held a Research Award position in the Policy and Evaluation Division at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) where she led a research on survivor-centric approach for survivors of sexual violence. She conducted programs evaluation for post-earthquake projects and programs implemented in Haiti by humanitarian NGOs and international organizations.

## **Marie Meloche**

Programs Manager, Jane Goodall Institute of Canada

Marie Meloche works with the Jane Goodall Institute of Canada as the Programs Manager. Marie has worked with grassroots



organizations, local and international NGOs in Canada and the Middle East before joining the JGI team in 2018. As the Programs Manager, she supports the implementation of community-centered conservation projects in Africa and Canada. She believes that the key to sustainable development is to build meaningful partnerships with communities and local actors, with women at the center of the locally-led development strategies.

## **Kelly Milner**

### **Producer, Director, Not About Me (documentary)**

Kelly grew up in the Yukon and worked across the North as a journalist before getting drawn into land claims implementation and wildlife co-management. For almost two decades she managed NGOs, government programs and projects before coming back to her storytelling roots and starting Shot in the Dark Productions, a media and communications company that creates meaningful impact through storytelling. She is now a producer, director and writer and her documentaries have won numerous national and international awards. Not About Me is her first feature documentary. [Shotinthedarkmedia.com](http://Shotinthedarkmedia.com)

## **Dr. Robin Neustaeter**

### **Assistant Professor, Coady Institute**

Robin Neustaeter is an Assistant Professor of Adult Education at St. Francis Xavier University and Teaching Staff at Coady Institute. Her teaching focuses on peacebuilding, conflict transformation, adult education, women's leadership, and community development. She leads Coady's peacebuilding programming. Her research focuses on women's peacebuilding leadership learning and asset-based citizen-led peacebuilding. Robin brings 20 years of experience in community education and organizing for peace, community development and social justice in countries around the world.

## **Sarah Newton**

### **Teacher, Begbie View Elementary**

I am a Grade 5 teacher in British Columbia, on the territory of the Sinixt, Secwepemc, Sylix, and Ktunaxa First Nations, in Revelstoke. I worked for nine years in Fort St. James, in the Carrier Sekani Nation. I was born in Halifax, territory of the Mi'kmaq First Nations, to the parents of Italian and English immigrants. I have volunteered in West Africa, Myanmar, and France. I strive to enable students to be forces for good. As a volunteer with the BC Teachers' Federation, I work with the Environmental Justice group on the Committee for Action on Social Justice. My passion is unpacking privilege and making student activists. Currently I am a grade 5 teacher and in my own time I am involved with a 10 month blockade to stop old growth logging in the last inland temperate rainforest in the world, and core habitat of the critically endangered mountain caribou.

## **Roy Norris**

### **Learning support teacher with the Louis Riel School Division, Winnipeg**

Roy Norris is a father, husband, uncle, cousin, and son. Beyond these critical roles, professionally he supports teachers who are interested in literacy, numeracy, arts education, and educational leadership. As a learning support teacher with the Louis Riel School Division in Winnipeg, Roy supports many teachers and school administrators within the 40 schools of the LRSD. Roy's research into the ways that secondary teachers think about the future showed that hopeful and optimistic teachers are better positioned to help students to deal with the complexity of our current times. Roy is a graduate of Brandon University, the University of Lethbridge, and the University of Calgary, earning a Doctorate in Education with a focus on Curriculum and Learning in 2017.

## **Dr. Shawna Novak**

### **Executive Director, CISEPO**

Shawna Novak has spent over 20 years working with The Canada International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO). CISEPO is a registered charitable organization that works at the intersection of global health and peacebuilding to support health equity and conflict mitigation. CISEPO programs improve quality of life through health systems strengthening and capacity building. Shawna studied Medicine and Conflict Resolution and is also a graduate of the Global Health Delivery Program at Harvard Chan School of Public Health. Her work is supported by Ashoka Changemakers and she was a previous recipient of the YMCA Women of Distinction Award for her social justice work in healthcare. Shawna lectures frequently on approaches to conflict management in healthcare, innovation in health systems, health diplomacy, and the application of CANMEDS competencies to Global Health. She serves as a board member for Women for Dignity and Development Foundation and on Save a Child's Heart Canada Medical Advisory Committee.

## **Andrea Paras**

### **Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Guelph**

Andrea Paras is an Associate Professor in the Department Of Political Science at the University of Guelph. She has conducted research on the history and politics of humanitarianism, including *Moral Obligations And Sovereignty In International Relations: A Genealogy Of Humanitarianism* (Routledge, 2019). Her current SSHRC-funded research investigates the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Canada's foreign aid sector, with a specific focus on how Small and Medium NGOs have adapted to the pandemic. Dr. Paras teaches and supervises in the area of international development, international relations, human rights, religion and politics, community-engaged research, and intercultural competence.

## **Nichelle Penney**

Secondary Social Studies Teacher, unceded territory of the Secwépemc people (Kamloops, British Columbia)

Nichelle Penney (she/her) is a Secondary Social Studies teacher on the unceded territory of the Secwépemc people, colonially known as Kamloops, and has been teaching for nine years. As a straight, cisgender settler, she is committed to infusing Indigenous and Queer content into all courses and has recently completed her Masters in Education in Curriculum and Instruction, in which her final project was a creation of a Queer inclusive sexual health program for high schools. Nichelle is also an active member in her community and union, volunteering locally with Kamloops Pride, and working provincially to advocate for disability justice.

## **Jessica Ramos**

Podcaster and contributor, Comité pour les droits humains en Amérique latine (CDHAL)

She was born in Bogotá, Colombia in 1989. She obtained a degree in social sciences at the National Pedagogical University of Colombia. She is a public policy specialist for Latin America at CLACSO and holds a postgraduate degree in university teaching. Militant and worker of the CDHAL Committee for Human Rights in Latin America, Militant of the Colombian Communist Party. Professor of History and Philosophy. Some of her published texts: Social Memory and Recent History as Key to the Political Claim of the Patriotic Union, Pages of Our America Magazine 2013. We Will Not Change the Gun for a Pan, The Voice of the People Newspaper 2016. Women Weavers: Alternatives to the plundering system with Yira Urzola, young Colombian social leader, CAMINANDO magazine vol.33, 2018.

## **Gabrielle Rogers**

Classroom Teacher and GSA Coordinator

Gabrielle (She/her/elle) is a high school teacher on Mi'kmaw territory in Riverview, New Brunswick. She teaches French, Social Studies and an interdisciplinary program. She is the teacher coordinator for the school's Gender and Sexuality Alliance and works on several projects related to diversity and inclusion. She is the New Brunswick representative for Canadian Geographic Education. Gabrielle is passionate about creating safe, affirming school environments for all youth. She also enjoys cooking, fermenting and gardening.

## **Jeanne-Marie Rugira**

Professor and Researcher in the Department of Psychosociology and Social Work at the University of Québec, Rimouski

Jeanne-Marie Rugira is from Quebec but is from Rwanda originally. She has lived in Rimouski for 29 years where she works currently as a professor and researcher within the Department of Psychosociology and Social Work at the University of Québec. With a doctorate in Education sciences, Jeanne-Marie applies her interests particularly to ethical dilemmas in education in the context of violence and suffering as well as supporting individual and collective resilience development. Her practices, be it teaching, researching, or consulting work within organizations, are based at the crossroads of life stories, somatic education, and a feminist, dialogue-informed, and intercultural approach. Jeanne-Marie is likewise a poet and a committed decolonial feminist.

## **Richard Rudashama**

Animator, Development and Peace - Caritas-Canada

Richard Rudashama did his University studies in the Economics, Management and Administration option. He then completed them with various training courses and certificates, particularly in Management, Monitoring and Evaluation of projects and programs, in organizational development as well as in advocacy strategies. Mr. Rudashama has several years of experience in the field of development cooperation and international solidarity. For more than 10 years, with various international organizations, he has accompanied and supported development partners and agents of change in post-conflict and/or fragile countries such as Burundi, the DRC and Rwanda. He is particularly interested in the issues and the solutions to be implemented in terms of sustainable development, the defense of human rights, governance, support for citizen participation and political action. For 3 years, Richard Rudashama has been an animator with Development and Peace - Caritas-Canada. In this capacity, he is responsible for campaigns, mobilization and partnerships for Western Quebec and Eastern Ontario.

## **Jessica Rumboldt**

Professor, Criminal Justice - Bachelor of Social Science - Faculty of Social and Community Services, Humber Institute of Technology & Advanced Learning

Jessica Rumboldt (she/her) is in the final stages of completing a Ph.D. in Gender, Feminist, and Women's Studies at York University. Jessica has obtained a master's degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice Policy at the University of Guelph. She has also completed a Bachelor of Arts with Honors in Criminal Justice and Public Policy (with minors in Sociology and Family Studies), and a Diploma in Psychology. Stemming from her passion to teach, Jessica has also completed a master certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language. Applying her educational background in criminology and sociology, Jessica's Ph.D. research explores the systemic sexism and racism in a homicide trial involving an Indigenous woman who is a sex worker and victim of a homicide. Jessica has worked in non-profit organizations, government, and post-secondary settings and received the 2017 Lieutenant Governor's Visionaries Prize for Reconciliation. Jessica hopes to further explore her Mi'kmaq ancestry and connect with the community in a meaningful way through professional and personal experiences.

## **Hannah Slomp**

**Secondary School Teacher, Vancouver Island**

My name is Hannah Slomp. I am a secondary school teacher living on Vancouver Island. I was born in the Netherlands and raised by two very socially conscientious farming parents. My mother was part of starting the first rural Amnesty International chapter in Alberta and I attended write-a-thons from a young age. I was fortunate to be able to travel on a budget in my twenties which fostered a deep love of other cultures in me. Through my Bachelor of Arts, majoring in English, I enjoyed literary works of international authors. My minor in World Religions added a new layer of cultural understanding to my worldview. My subsequent Bachelor of Education allowed me to bring my love of learning, history, literature, and social justice into the classroom. I remind myself regularly of my privilege and how this affects my worldview. Through many wonderful teachers, I continue to learn about systemic racism and gender discrimination, which influences my work in the classroom and daily life.

## **Olena Suslova**

**Founder, Women's Information Consultative Center, Ukraine**

Olena Suslova is a human rights and gender specialist and researcher with more than 25-year experience of gender advising and policy development. Olena is a founder of Women's Information Consultative Center; she worked with UN Women, US AID, CIDA/GAC, and other donors on reforming the security and defense sector gender policies and gender mainstreaming. She is a contributing author of several key analytical and strategic papers, including Human Resources Management – Gender Analysis for the Border Guard Service, Gender Audit of the Ukraine HIV Strategy, Gender Audit of the Ministry on Foreign Affairs, Women as Agents of Change, Peace Building and Conflict Prevention - Mapping of Implementation 1325 NAP in Ukraine, Feasibility study on gender mainstreaming in security and defense sector's universities, and others. Olena is a member of the NATO Civil Society Advisory Panel on Women, Peace and Security. Olena Suslova has around 50 publications on gender issues; she holds a Master's degree in international law.

## **Tanya St-Jacques,**

**Teacher, CSSMB Enfants-du-Monde School, Montreal (LL.B., B.A., B.Ed.)**

I am a full-time teacher at the CSSMB Enfants-du-Monde school in Montreal. I teach 2nd-grade students. In addition, I am the instigator of the NPO Le Choeur des Altruistes which is an apolitical and altruistic collective of volunteers and committed citizens on four continents. It is managed by a board of directors whose mission is to reach people's hearts through its actions.

## **Lorraine Swift**

**Executive Director, Change for Children (CFC)**

Celebrating her 20th anniversary this summer, Lorraine has led CFC through a process of growth and specialization in themes such as technological innovation, renewable energy, gender equality, and Indigenous rights. Prior to working with CFC, Lorraine worked as CUSO Co-operant in Nicaragua for four years promoting territorial rights and self-government with the Miskito and Mayagna indigenous peoples of the BOSAWAS Biosphere Reserve. Lorraine has a bachelor's degree in Native Studies from the University of Alberta, and previously worked with the Little Red River Cree on cultural cartography and land management research.

## **Utthara Wanigasekara**

**Youth Champions Program, Ontario**

I am Utthara Wanigasekara, born in 1993, originally from Sri Lanka. I completed my Bachelor's Degree in International Relations. Currently a post graduate of Centennial College specialized in International Development. As an International Relations scholar my main focus fields of study were SDGs, human security, and peace building. I have done research on the above fields. I served as the cultural ambassador to the United States of America where I got opportunity work for many volunteer organizations on human rights, reconciliation and peace building portfolio and also to work with senior administrations.

## **Deena Watson**

**Indigenous Governance Officer, VIDEA**

Deena Watson (she/her) is VIDEA's Indigenous Governance Officer based on the traditional and unceded lands of the lək̓wəŋən People. She is a proud Nêhiyaw, Anishinaabe, and Scottish woman from Mistawasis Nêhiyawak on Treaty 6 territory and Muscowpetung Saulteaux Nation on Treaty 4 territory. Deena is currently finishing her undergraduate degree majoring in Indigenous Studies at the University of Victoria. Her passions revolve around traditional knowledge, holistic wellness, community building, and supporting the intersectionality theory of Indigenous feminisms that practice decolonization, Indigenous sovereignty, and human rights for all Indigenous women and their families.

## **Morgan Wienberg**

**Child & Family Advocate, Speaker & Facilitator. Co-Founder & Executive Director, Little Footprints Big Steps**

For over a decade, Morgan Wienberg has lived in Haiti, learning valuable lessons about humanitarian aid and international development through first-hand experiences. Originally from Whitehorse, Yukon, Morgan was drawn to Haiti following the 2010 earthquake. In 2011 she co-founded the organization Little Footprints Big Steps, working with local colleagues and authorities to



reunite children with their families – and build the self-sufficiency of those families. Through speaking engagements and advocacy work, Morgan strives to raise awareness about the importance of keeping children in their families; other children's rights issues; and how to ensure international aid is effective. Morgan has spoken at the United Nations Youth Assembly and many other conferences worldwide; her work has been recognized through numerous awards including Canada's Meritorious Service Cross Medal. [Www.Morganwienberg.Com](http://Www.Morganwienberg.Com)

## **Murwarid Ziayee**

### **Senior Director, Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan**

Murwarid Ziayee is responsible for program management, and supporting public engagement outreach and fund development. Murwarid has a BA in Political Science and Law from Kabul University. She has over two decades experience working with various national and international organizations in Afghanistan on policy development, program design and management. Her focus is on gender equality, human rights and women's empowerment. Before joining CW4WAfghan, she worked with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan as a National Gender Affairs Officer and later as a National Human Rights Officer. She has worked closely with the Afghan Ministry of Women's Affairs and served the Afghan Office of the President as Program Officer with a focus on women's rights issues. She is a leader and advocate for women's rights and the recipient of the CW4WAfghan Champion for Education Award (2015). This award is in recognition of her many achievements, her dedication, knowledge and passion for advancing education for Afghan women and girls.



Capacity-Building  
& Knowledge Sharing  
for Small and Medium  
Organizations (SMO)

