

SUMMER 2022

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# PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP

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CARLETON UNIVERSITY



**Carleton**  
University

Philanthropy and  
Nonprofit Leadership



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## AYE AL HASAN

Aye (she/her) completed her bachelor's degree in Information Technology, Information Resource Management with a minor in English Literature from Carleton University in 2022. Motivated by passions of accessibility and inclusion, she focused on aspects of human society for the majority of her final projects. She researched to understand how data and information provided opportunity to marginalized groups. This permitted her to question, develop, and revisit her knowledge on the relationships between information and communities. The desire to pursue a profession that creates a connection between the information sector and humanities led her to the MPNL program.

Through the program, she hopes to hone her nonprofit understanding and policy skills, create connections with leaders within the field, and contribute to the expansion of the scope of philanthropy beyond its traditional ways. As a philanthropist with a unique focus on information and policies, Aye aspires to be a leader in the community that is able to remove the privilege gateway to information and data accessibility for everyone.

During her free time, Aye's hobbies range from doing puzzles to discovering and visiting small cafes around the city. She is also trying to get back into reading, and would love some recommendations.



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# ZAHRA BAPTISTE

Zahra Baptiste is a nonprofit communications professional living in Toronto, Ontario. Originally from Trinidad and Tobago, Zahra combines a love of storytelling with a passion for global social justice. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music with a Minor in Anthropology from McGill University, as well as a Graduate Diploma in Communications Studies from Concordia University in Montreal.

Currently the Communications Manager at Canadian Feed The Children, Zahra has held roles at the Ontario Council for International Cooperation and the Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre in Montreal. She has served on various boards, including for local daycares and with the McGill Black Alumni Association, serving as Vice-President, Communications from 2020-2021. She is a current member of the Public

Engagement Working Group at the Canadian Partnership for Women and Children's Health.

Her focus is on ethical communications in the international cooperation sector, with specific interests in anti-racist, decolonial and ethical fundraising communications and public engagement. She hopes that through the MPNL program, she can contribute to the development of best practices in decolonial and anti-racist communications for the international cooperation sector, building on the work of other researchers in this field, including the authors of the Unfunded report, an MPNL publication.

## PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP



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## SHERI BENSON

For over 25 years, Sheri has brought people together to tackle some of the most pressing issues both at the local level and at the national level.

As CEO for United Way in Saskatoon, she worked with community, labour and business groups to launch Saskatoon's first-ever Plan to End Homelessness and the province's first Housing First Program Journey Home. Journey Home is living proof that, with solid caring leadership, we can tackle homelessness, save lives AND money all at the same time. Sheri also implemented the organization's groundbreaking Indigenous Engagement Strategy.

Sheri was elected Member of Parliament for Saskatoon West in 2015 serving for 4 years. As an MP, she served as the NDP

Critic for Labour, Deputy Critic for LGBTQ2+ issues, NDP Critic for Housing and Vice-chair of the Special Committee on Pay Equity. She collaborated with a local community activist from Alberta to sponsor the first petition in Parliament to end conversion therapy and partnered with LUSH their employees and retail locations to amplify the petition.

So, while searching for her dream job, the Czar of Ending Homelessness, Sheri is excited to finally have the time in her professional and personal life to return to academic study and research as part of the MPNL- her dream academic program!

Sheri loves murder mysteries, Edward Gorey, cats and office supplies, not necessarily in that order.



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# JULIA BIGELOW

Julia is from Cobalt, a small town in Northern Ontario. She graduated from the University of Guelph in 2018 with a Bachelor of Science in Animal Biology. She has always been passionate about animal health and welfare, spending many years volunteering at animal shelters across the country. She currently volunteers at the Northern Animals Rescue and Sanctuary (where she adopted her cat Rosie from) and is a member of their fundraising committee.

Julia was introduced to the field of philanthropy and nonprofits through

working as a Vital Signs coordinator for The Temiskaming Foundation. By working for a nonprofit organization and attending Community Foundations of Canada summits, she learned that nonprofit work can be a career path. This is what led her to the MPNL program. She is excited to discover more about the philanthropy and nonprofit industry and learn from others with experience in the field.

In her free time Julia likes to get outside with her dog Flynn, go kayaking, and do hand embroidery for her Etsy store.

## PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP



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## AREEBA BILAL

Areeba Bilal graduated with a B.Sc. in Kinesiology from the University of Saskatchewan. Her education thus far has instilled in her a respect for preventative healthcare and she enjoys drawing connections between local nonprofits' work and their positive impacts on population health. Even as a full-time student, the empathetic world of community service captured her interest more than anything else.

This interest led to her founding and serving as the President of PennyDrops at USaskatchewan, an award-winning chapter of a national student-run nonprofit which delivers financial literacy education to young people. She is also the Communications Coordinator for The Princess Shop, a Saskatchewan charity

that provides graduation dresses, mentorship, scholarships, and more to female-identifying and 2SLGBTQ+ individuals. Professionally, she has worked with national charities like Let's Talk Science and The Students Commission of Canada.

Her work has predominantly focused on community-building as a means to improve people's health and quality of life. Areeba strongly believes in the responsibility people have towards each other, and the power that instills in us to invoke meaningful change. She hopes that this MPNL program will build on her knowledge of nonprofits and leadership, so she can strengthen and empower the community that shaped her.





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## PAIGE BLACK

After 10 years working in the nonprofit sector Paige (she/her) felt more than any singular issue, she was passionate about how we do community work.

In 2018 Paige graduated with her degree in International Development from Dalhousie University. Throughout her degree, she volunteered at the Red Cross, the United Way and spent time supporting youth engagement in politics. After graduation Paige worked for 3 rewarding years at the Dallaire Institute for Children, Peace and Security supporting training programs and advocacy work, greatly appreciating opportunities to work with remarkable child advocates.

Paige has lived with post-concussion syndrome since 2013. She is passionate about using her experiences to help others, especially students like herself who once thought pursuing a master's degree would not be possible.

Paige is a settler in Mi'kmaq'ki, the traditional land of the Mi'kmaq peoples, also known as Nova Scotia. She lives in Dartmouth and works at Small Economy Works where she loves learning from her amazing colleagues. Outside of work Paige is a basketball referee where she strives to increase women's representation in sports, and enjoys visiting her family in her hometown of Oxford.



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## ANDREA BUTTARS

Andrea Buttars (she/her) has worked for over two decades in the nonprofit sector and is currently the Chief Development Officer at Wesley, a local nonprofit in Hamilton, Ontario, supporting fundraising, communications, and social enterprises.

Andrea graduated from Trent University with an Honours Bachelor of Arts in Women's and Cultural Studies, focusing her studies on the intersectionality of equity in the Canadian context.

Through her own reading and participation in the Philanthropy & Equity Community of Practise, Andrea is interested in learning about how the work of philanthropy and the nonprofit sector can perpetuate oppression and the opportunities for transformational change.

Andrea has several areas of academic interest including the decline of mainline churches and the impact on the charitable sector and what Truth & Reconciliation looks like for nonprofits started by churches that were involved in residential schools.

Andrea is a parent to three pre-teens/teens, is married into a South Asian immigrant family and a member of The United Church of Canada.

Andrea acknowledges the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas and recognizes that we must do more to learn and better understand our roles.

## PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP



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## MARSHA CLYNE

Marsha Clyne is a Saint Paul's University graduate, a branch of the University of Ottawa. She obtained an Honours Bachelor of Arts in Conflict Studies and a minor degree in Social Communications. Marsha knew she wanted more for herself and her community from an early age. After moving to Toronto from the Caribbean, she decided to pursue a career and educational path that would empower her to advocate for social change. During her undergraduate studies, she got involved with many nonprofit organizations advocating for equal opportunity, inclusivity and the elimination of systematic racism. After years of involvement in various causes, she realized that change could only happen through a collaborative effort by everyone fostered by empathy and understanding, which had led her to pursue an education in Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership.

She is now working as a Scrum Master, coaching, mentoring and helping organizations and their employees with self-management, self-organization and to become more cross-functional. She is committed to learning what inspires people to contribute to making the world and our life experiences better.

Marsha's mission is to inspire individuals to embrace something bigger than themselves through compassion, empathy and knowing that every individual is important and equally liable for creating a better world. She hopes to gain a better understanding of philanthropy through the MPNL program.

Marsha enjoys writing, reading, photography, making candles, and travelling in her spare time. She is excited about the program and looks forward to gaining knowledge and new skills.



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# CAROLINE COX

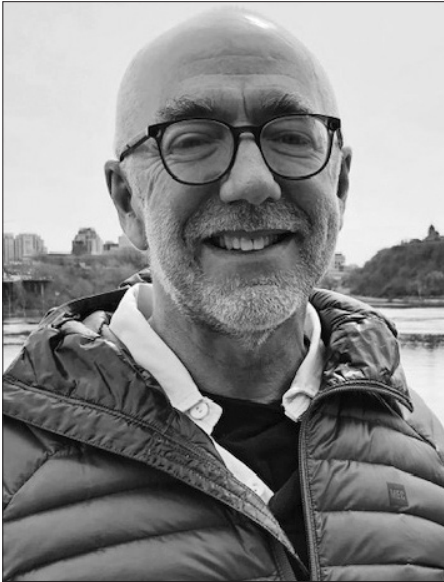
Caroline hails from Timberlea, Nova Scotia, where she was raised with a strong commitment to giving back to her community. Caroline decided to go into social work because she read in a course catalogue that when people face challenging times in their lives, they turn to social workers for help. In retrospect, she had no idea what that meant.

Caroline came to Ottawa to do her Bachelor of Social Work at Carleton, and started working at Shepherds of Good Hope's downtown shelter as a front line worker. Caroline completed her BSW in 2009 and her MSW from Dalhousie University in 2012, but she kept coming

back to Shepherds due to its innovative programming and amazing team. Over the years she has worked in numerous capacities at Shepherds, most recently as Senior Manager of Communications.

Caroline recently transitioned to a new role as Senior Manager of Harm Reduction at Somerset West Community Health Centre in Ottawa. She decided to take the part time MPNL program to further develop her passion for the nonprofit sector and engage with such inspiring instructors and classmates!

Caroline lives in Chelsea, Quebec with her husband, a rambunctious 4-year-old and two equally rambunctious cats.



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## WILLIAM CROSS

Bill Cross has spent the last few decades researching and teaching about Canada's political parties. For the past 17 years he has been a member of the Department of Political Science at Carleton University and prior to that taught at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick. Over the years, Bill has been an active volunteer in both professional and community organizations and is a strong believer in

the importance of non-governmental, nonprofit organizations in building robust, sustainable local communities.

Bill can often be found cheering on both the Carleton Ravens and his beloved University of Houston Cougars sports teams. Bill is very much looking forward to learning from the diverse set of students enrolled in the MPNL program.



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## JULIE DESPATIES

Standing by and raising the voice of those who need to be heard has always been of utmost importance for Julie. An advocate at heart, it was not a surprise that her commitment to supporting permanency for children and youth in families grew from her own adoption journey. After adopting a sibling group of three older children, Julie soon realized that adoptive, kin, and customary care families in Ontario would benefit from more resources, advocacy, and community connections. In forming Adopt4Life – Ontario’s Adoptive Parents’ Association in 2014, Julie created a unified voice and invaluable peer network for adoptive parents and permanent caregivers.

Julie has been a passionate advocate in the nonprofit sector for more than 25 years. A true changemaker, Julie has helped shape legislation designed to strengthen the child welfare system, better protecting some of Ontario’s most vulnerable young people.

Having completed her B.A. in Communications at uOttawa in the early 2000’s, Julie always knew that she would go back to do her Master’s. Her pursuit to continuously meet the needs of an ever-growing community has led her to the MPNL.

She is thrilled to embark on this journey and can’t believe that eventually, all four of her kids will be undergoing a university education while she completes her Master’s!



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## SHANINOMI ERIBO

Shani began his development sector career in 2011 with HOME Fundraising UK leading rotating multicultural teams on door-to-door fundraising campaigns across the entire Northeast of Scotland on behalf of charities such as Oxfam, Marie Curie Cancer Care, and Anthony Nolan. During his time there, he won several personal and team awards including 'Charity Champions' for Oxfam.

In 2013, he joined ActionAid where he drove the launch of its 'Community Sponsorship' initiative; a 'first-of-its-kind' attempt by an international charity to raise unrestricted funds locally in Nigeria. His fundraising experience also extends into corporate and institutional fundraising where he was part of the ActionAid

fundraising team that raised over \$5,000,000 in furtherance of its human rights and anti-poverty programs.

More recently, Shani has been channelling a strong passion for sustainable development into increasing awareness around the role the built environment can play in contributing towards meeting the Paris Climate Summit Targets of 2015 and is emerging as a leading voice around the issue in Nigeria.

He is currently Programs Director at the Association for Research on Civil Society in Africa (AROCSA); an organisation committed to increasing the participation of African civil society scholars and practitioners in the production of knowledge about the sector.





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## NICOLA HANKEY

Nicola has worked for over the last 15 years in global communications, advocacy and as an entrepreneur with a focus on social impact. In her most recent role, she was the Interim Executive Director of the Wangari Maathai Foundation, Africa's first female Nobel peace prize winner.

After graduating from Queen's University with a Bachelor of Honours in History, Nicola moved to England and worked for several years in communications including as Vice-President of PR for Barclays Wealth, raising awareness of the Bank's philanthropy advisory service.

Relocating to Nairobi, Kenya in 2020, she deepened her non-for-profit exposure volunteering with a kindergarten in Mathare Valley, an informal urban settlement; and cofounding Urban Artefacts, a social enterprise collaborating

with low income artisans to produce sustainable jewellery and gift products.

For four years, she led a team of artisans to build the Urban Artefacts brand.

Scaling the business to partner with four retail distributors, producing jewellery from recycled brass and horn and diversifying its product range to include other artisanal products; growing the brand's supply chain and providing market access for a wider group of artisans. Urban Artefacts business attracted support from USAID, East Africa Trade and Investment Hub.

Nicola is interested in exploring the nexus of arts and social change. When she isn't reading or thinking about these topics, Nicola spends time with her dog, Apollo and her family travelling between Ottawa and Johannesburg.





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# JONATHAN HARLINE

Jonathan Harline is a part-time cynic and full-time optimist who sometimes likes to read, write, watch interesting films, and practice drawing. He is husband to a wonderfully dynamic woman who is his example of confidence and success, and father to two rambunctious and amazingly fun boys. Jonathan is a professional communicator, which usually means he pretends to know how social media works. He's worked in nonprofits for his whole career, ranging from symphonies to social agencies, and even volunteered in Nigeria for four months.

He grew up in a Mormon household but has since found various other beliefs and

practices that help him see that the world is one giant ecosystem that we need to collaborate on and protect together, and that includes humanity.

Jonathan's academic career started as a student of statesmanship, then economics, and then finally he found his true love of English Literature. Now he hopes his academic skills can get him through this master's program and to a point in his career where he can help streamline and scale nonprofit organisations to be able to respond to their various issues and interests in the best ways possible.

## PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP



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### ADRIANA HERNANDEZ-SORIANO

Adriana graduated from Carleton University with an Honour Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology in 2019. During her undergrad, Adriana was an integral part of the Sociology and Anthropology Student Association (SASA) as the V.P. of Communication & Creative Design while later becoming the President. She was also a student ambassador for the Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FASS). In 2019, Carleton University awarded her the SOAN Citizenship award, granted to students who have impacted their community and demonstrate excellent engagement with students, staff and colleagues.

Since graduating, Adriana has gained experience in funding, policy development and program management while working

for a well-established century-old nonprofit in Ottawa. Currently, Adriana is expanding her knowledge by immersing herself in different projects for Canada's Building Trades Unions. The current project she is working on is titled "Building it Green initiative" and the objective is to collect and analyze the industry's best practices to help trade workers understand their role in maintaining net-zero construction projects.

Her overall goal is to become a Director within a nonprofit organization. The Master of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership degree will expose her to different methods, fields and perspectives, assisting her journey in becoming a well-rounded leader.



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# KATELYN JAMES

Katelyn is passionate about community development, organizational leadership, and envisioning structures that best serve the mission and values of an organization. She's worked in the nonprofit sector for over 12 years and has been involved in the founding and development of several grassroots organizations. Currently Katelyn works as Operations Director at One City Peterborough, a nonprofit serving people experiencing homelessness and criminalization.

Katelyn believes strong and innovative nonprofits are essential to meeting

growing needs and providing leadership in our communities. She's drawn to the MPNL to deepen her understanding of nonprofit operations and governance, to be challenged to embrace needed change, and to contribute to the development of a vital nonprofit sector in Canada.

When not immersed in nonprofit work and learning, she enjoys playing with her two lively boys and exploring the beauty of the Kawarthas, where she lives with her family.



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## MARLYS JORDAN

Marlys has worked in the not-for-profit world for 15 years. Prior to that, she spent more than 23 years overseeing business operations and corporate finances with work in accounting, real estate, commercial transportation, and logistics. Today, she serves as the CEO of Calgary Heritage Housing. This organization houses low-to-moderate income, functionally independent seniors in subsidized, government-owned buildings.

Marlys has grown the organization from four to nine buildings with a total of 480 suites. The next step is to gain charitable status and begin fundraising for programs/services and development of additional affordable housing stock. She

plans to expand Calgary Heritage Housing to 1,000+ doors in support of its mandate to house vulnerable seniors.

Professional development has been a priority for Marlys throughout her career. She knows that honing her knowledge and skills within philanthropy and the fundraising arena will position her to lead well into the future. While these skills are in demand globally, they remain under-represented in Alberta's seniors housing sector.

Marlys was born and raised in Alberta. She enjoys golf and camping (glamping really). In the colder months you're likely to find her curled up with a blanket and a good book in front of the fire.

## PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP



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## KATELYN MACCORMAC

Katelyn first became interested in nonprofit work at the young age of 16, when she secured her very first job as a camp counsellor at a nonprofit summer camp. Unbeknownst to her at the time, this position would largely end up influencing her career and thus, has led her to the MPNL program at Carleton.

Summers have always been Katelyn's favourite time of the year because from May-August each year she would have the opportunity to immerse herself in nature and make meaningful connections with campers and fellow camp staff. Katelyn dedicated every summer possible throughout high-school and university engaging with nonprofit summer programs that served a variety of populations including at-risk youth, and children and adults living with medical conditions and special needs. She was fortunate to have her skills take her on adventures across Canada to work with notable organizations such as Easter

Seals and CNIB, and some of the most memorable moments from these experiences include rafting trips with campers on the Kananaskis River in Alberta, learning to drive para transport busses, and of course becoming an expert air-band choreographer and campfire song leader!

Katelyn is passionate about lifelong learning and once she finished her degree in Cognitive Science with a specialization in Linguistics at Carleton, she knew she wanted to continue working in higher education industries. Katelyn has always been enthusiastic about connecting with youth and community members, and thus, was influenced to pursue recruitment and admissions roles in post-secondary institutions. She is eager to immerse herself in the MPNL program and is looking forward to learning about how philanthropy influences higher education institutions.



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## ROBERT MICHON

Robert is originally from Winnipeg but spent most of his professional career based in Québec City where he completed close to a hundred consulting assignments with clients across North America. After more than forty years as a management consultant and IT project management professional, Robert is looking for ways to give back to his profession, to society and to the community. He is looking forward to using the knowledge gained through the MPNL program as a way to improve the effectiveness and impact of his efforts.

Robert is a director of the *École des entrepreneurs du Québec*, which provides

courses and coaching to entrepreneurs through a network of eight campuses in the province of Québec. He is also a director and chair of the Finance & Audit committee of Lymphoma Canada. As a lymphoma survivor himself, Robert is particularly motivated to improve the treatment and patient support available to other people who are battling this form of cancer.

Robert now lives in Gatineau with his wife Elaine. He enjoys reading and travelling (over 50 countries and counting). He is also an avid cyclist, skier and grandfather.



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## MUNA MOHAMED

Muna Mohamed (she/her) is an equity based facilitator, convening and mobilizing on unceded Algonquin territory. She has 5 years of experience in grassroots social change, Black-Indigenous solidarity work and anti-oppressive convening.

Muna graduated from Carleton University in 2018 with a Bachelors in Public Affairs and Policy Management. Since graduating, Muna has established a private practice as a group facilitator, worked in the federal public sector and with grassroots nonprofit organizations. She has facilitated groups ranging from 5-200 participants and has worked with diverse clients in the nonprofit and social economic sector. She is recognized for

her ability to tune into shifting group dynamics, address group conflict through the lens of anti-oppression, and utilize facilitation techniques to ensure that every voice gets heard.

Muna is currently working in philanthropy as the Lead of Capacity Building with the Youth Opportunities Fund at the Ontario Trillium Foundation. In her work, she supports grassroots groups build the skills necessary to grow as organizations and leaders.

Muna is the daughter of gurage-Ethiopian immigrants to Turtle Island and is rooted in her commitment to her family, community and ancestral lineage. Outside of her work, Muna loves to spend her time doing pottery and practicing yoga.



## PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP



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## KRISTA O'DONNELL

Krista O'Donnell (CFRE) has over 27 years of advancement experience in the fields of education, health, and the arts. She is an accomplished fundraiser, strategic thinker, and leader with a proven ability to create opportunities, deliver results, and build relationships that inspire support and engagement.

In 2014, Humber College appointed Krista as Chief Advancement Officer to lead fundraising, alumni relations, and its \$50 million *Unlimited Campaign* – the first campaign for the college. During this time, she has also built a strong, comprehensive fundraising and alumni infrastructure and team of twenty-four.

Previously, she served as Chief Development Officer at The Royal Conservatory where she was responsible for managing fundraising and oversaw phase two of *The Building National Dreams Campaign*, and *The Growing Greatness Campaign*. Prior to this post, Krista was the Director of Major and Planned Gifts at the Toronto General &

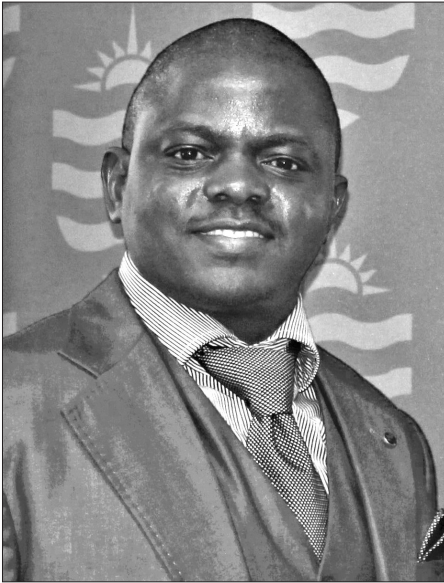
Western Hospital Foundation now known as The UHN Foundation, where she played a leading role with the *Together We Make Life Better Campaign*. Before this opportunity, Krista held several progressive fundraising positions at the University of Toronto, her alma mater, and The Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation. Krista is also a member of several fundraising associations and has volunteered for the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), and Canadian Council for Advancement of Education (CCAEE).

Krista is excited to join the MPNL program to further enrich her experience and leadership skills and is keen on being able to build new networks. She sees it as an excellent opportunity to expand her knowledge and gain new insights into the philanthropic sector that will allow her to contribute and give back to her work and the profession.

Krista is from Toronto, she is a busy mom, and enjoys good music, movies, and books; travelling; and spending time with family and friends.



## PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP



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## ROBINSON ORUME

Robinson holds a master's degree in protected areas management from James Cook University, Australia and a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences from his home country of Cameroon. He has 17 years of frontline experience in the public and nonprofit sectors of environmental management. During this period, he has gained valuable experience from designing, planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating multiple environmental and livelihoods improvement interventions targeting youths, women, and disadvantaged groups in Africa, Australia, and Canada.

Robinson moved to Canada in 2018 due to armed conflict in his homeland of Cameroon, leaving behind a grassroots movement he helped establish in 2009; The Korup Rainforest Conservation

Society (KRCS) had a mission to promote nature-based solutions to environmental and socio-economic challenges facing his region. On arriving in Canada, he has continued pursuing his dream. He volunteered for the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society and Nature Canada in the federal capital region, before joining the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board where he currently provides technical input on wildlife management for the benefit of Indigenous communities in Nunavut.

He believes Canada has offered him a lot and the MPNL will provide him the tools to pursue his dream career in nonprofit leadership and be able to give back to people in need here in Canada and the developing world.



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# KARLEE OUELLETTE

Karlee began her studies at Wilfrid Laurier University in Languages. However, after a conversation with a professional from the IRCC, she quickly made the transition to Global Studies, where she went on to find a passion for immigration, refugees, and citizenship. Through the co-op program at Laurier, she was fortunate to be a recipient of a co-op funding award that enabled her to work for a nonprofit that could not otherwise afford a summer student. After working for the Kitchener-Waterloo Multicultural Centre for both of her co-op terms, she quickly fell in love with the nonprofit sector.

With a passion for helping people, especially youth, Karlee researched

graduate programs that would allow her to pursue a career in the philanthropic and nonprofit sector. Landing on the MPNL program, Karlee was able to move back to her hometown just south of Ottawa. As well, the MPNL program would aid Karlee in the further development of the skills she obtained from working in the nonprofit sector thus far in her career.

Karlee will begin the MPNL program immediately following her undergraduate degree. When Karlee is not learning and attending classes, she enjoys cooking, physical activity, spending time with family, and visiting friends.



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## DOUGLAS PEREIRA

Douglas Pereira is the Supporter Relations Director of ADRA Canada (Adventist Development and Relief Agency). Douglas has an extensive experience and expertise in leadership, communications, fundraising, and building relationships.

Originally from Brazil, Douglas Pereira has worked for faith-based organizations all his career. His educational background includes a Bachelor's in Business

Administration, Bachelor's in Theology, an MBA, and a Master's Degree in Leadership. He has finished his Doctorate program at Fuller Seminary in Pasadena, CA.

Douglas is married to Rebeca and they have one daughter, Olivia Rachel (9), and a son, Christopher James (6).



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## SAVANNA PROCIW

Savanna Prociw (she/her/elle) was born and raised in beautiful British Columbia, and relocated to Lethbridge, Alberta where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology. Shortly after graduating university, Savanna began working with a nonprofit organization, Lethbridge Family Services Immigrant Services, where she began her career welcoming and assisting refugees from all over the world. She is now a program manager for the Resettlement Assistance Program, which helps settle Government Assisted Refugees into the community. The best part about her job is her team of dedicated and talented individuals who

share her passion of helping newcomers. It is this experience that has ultimately drawn her to the MPNL program as she hopes to gain insight into how to become an impactful leader in the nonprofit sector.

Besides having a passion for her work, Savanna is an avid runner and is currently working on a personal goal of completing a marathon in each of the Canadian provinces – only two more to go! She loves to work in her vegetable garden every summer, and loves to cheer on the Toronto Blue Jays with her husband Mike and their two cats Melky and Tilda.



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## MANDY QUON

Mandy has always thrived in building relationships with people and making them feel like family. She grew up in the family restaurant business with over 75 years of history in Edmonton, Alberta, and saw the impact of relations built over generations within the community.

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Alberta, Mandy entered the hospitality industry as a relationship manager with various hotel chains for over a decade. Mandy always wanted to gain more knowledge and obtain a secondary degree; however, building a career and helping out at the

family business, the opportunity never seemed right until now.

Currently, Mandy is the Assistant Dean of Development for the Faculty of Native Studies and the Dean of Students office at the University of Alberta. Her passion includes learning about ethical fundraising practices within Indigenous communities and strategizing on meaningful donor engagement to make long-lasting impacts. Mandy is excited to participate in the MPNL program and looks forward to building relationships with peers for years to come.

## PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP



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## AMY SKINNER

Amy is passionate about impacting the next generation of leaders, children, and families. She pursued a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Calgary, as she thought her impact would be through the classroom. Through her work in children's ministry at Journey Church, she knew that she wanted to be able to holistically support and empower families outside the classroom.

Through her involvement with the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, she was introduced to community investment from a nonprofit perspective through their Passion to Purpose Program. She was able to build from her experience and develop Summer-Camp-In-A-Box, a grant funded community initiative for Kids Cancer Care Alberta for the past two

years. Through this program, she was able to impact over 75 families and give them a fun, portable camp experience in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Amy is excited to be part of the tenth cohort of the MPNL program so she can further expand her community impact. Through the MPNL program, Amy is hoping to develop a greater leadership capacity and learn how to better equip young leaders to make a difference within the community.

Amy is a teacher and Children's Pastor in Calgary, Alberta. In her free time, she enjoys spending time exploring outside, spending time with friends and family, and reading.



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# BRITTANY TAYLOR

During Brittany's undergraduate time at Carleton University, she thoroughly enjoyed the experience and the Neuroscience and Mental health program. Throughout her studies of mental illness, substance use disorders, neurodegenerative disorders and more, Brittany started to imagine an occupation that would allow her to help everyone and began looking at the graduate programs at Canada's capital university.

The Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership program at Carleton will open

the right doors, provide the knowledge and the network that are necessary to be successful in a government and non-government environment. Brittany will be continuing her education in her hometown of Ottawa, Canada while working for the federal government and as a community coach for children.

In her spare time, Brittany operates a small donation service that has been able to partner with various resources in downtown Ottawa and enjoys spending time with her dog.



## PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP



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## MELISSA WALKER

Melissa Walker is an outgoing individual driven by her desire to see real and effective change for marginalized populations in Canada.

Melissa holds an H. BMus from Wilfrid Laurier University specializing in ethnomusicology and anthropology. Her undergraduate research consisted of two major field work research projects; a partnership with international music educators to discuss how music education provides a space for cross-cultural engagement, and a project with the Canadian Arabic Orchestra to understand how music plays a role in creating community and aiding in social integration for newcomers to Canada.

Melissa is a firm believer in education as one of the most valuable tools to enact change. During her undergraduate degree she was Director of Development and Head of the Grant Writing Committee for a student led organization which provided fully funded scholarships to students from countries in conflict. She also worked as an English and Music teacher at a Syrian Refugee Education Centre in Lebanon for the 2021-2022 school year.

In pursuing the MPNL, Melissa hopes to gain skills working with nonprofit organizations aiding in the integration of immigrant populations in Canada. She has hopes to help others learn, grow and build relationships through music.





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# JENNA WILLIAMS

Jenna is a community development communicator, researcher and fundraiser in the making. During her undergraduate degree (uOttawa, International Development 2017-2021), she commenced and led a campus chapter of anti-modern slavery organization International Justice Mission on the uOttawa campus, which won best philanthropic club award by 2021. She has worked for multiple federal parliamentarians on justice related files, including end of life care and anti-human trafficking efforts. She is particularly interested in how nonprofits collaborate with other actors to create social and political change.

Through all of these experiences, Jenna realized that fundraising, event planning and creatively raising awareness of an issue were almost as exciting as the cause

she was fighting for. Looking to put these interests into practice, she began working at Capital City Mission (CCM), a drop-in centre she has volunteered at since 2017, after graduating in 2021.

Above all, she is passionate about human connection and building communities that break down barriers between people. She believes that CCM is doing so tremendously, and she is thrilled to be a part of the work being done to execute the community organization's mission and purpose. She is thrilled to be a part of the incoming 2022 MPNL cohort to develop the skills needed to commence a career in the third sector.

In her spare time you can find her reading historical fiction, biking around the city or being with the people she loves.



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# JEANETTE WILSON

Jeanette is a passionate servant leader with nearly 20 years of excellence in the nonprofit world. After 10 years in a corporate environment, she stumbled into a new career beginning as a humble volunteer and very soon after, discovered her passion for connecting donors to a meaningful cause. She has enjoyed development roles in education and healthcare sectors, and is currently the Director of Donor Relations at a private university in Hamilton.

A lifelong learner, Jeanette explores her passion through various educational and volunteer opportunities. She achieved her Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE)

designation and has been part of the 2019 and 2020 AFP Congress committees.

Jeanette is a wife and mother of three grown children and is thrilled to be taking her Master's degree journey alongside her daughter at Carleton. She enjoys cooking for others in the community and is currently refining her golf game with professional lessons.

Jeanette feels the MPNL program is the next step in her philanthropic journey. She looks forward to exploring different perspectives in the ever-changing landscape of nonprofit leadership.

