

AGM & Symposium 2021
Participant Package

September 21 - 24, 2021



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| OCIC AGM & Symposium 2021 Participant Package |

This year OCIC’s AGM & Symposium and Fall Dialogue Series focusing on ‘Centering Reconciliation and Decolonization in the International Cooperation Sector’ will begin September 21-24, 2021. These events will create space to unlearn and relearn, to build capacity as a community, and to recognize the complex and diverse histories, lived experience and systemic power relations experienced at the individual, community, sectoral, regional and global levels.

Our AGM will include presentations from our Board of Directors and management on the governance and programs past and upcoming, election of new Board members, ratification of new members, and recognition of key volunteers and contributors to the Council in the past year.

Our Symposium & Dialogue Series seeks to build on two of the recommendations for ‘Emerging Anti-Racist Practise for Canadian International Cooperation’: to create an enabling environment for productive dialogue within organizations; and to collaborate with international partners in the design, development and implementation of new approaches.

We recognize and thank our members and partners for helping to identify and co-create this program.

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\**Please note that some sessions may deal with difficult content, including the unjust treatment of Indigenous Peoples in Canada, racial discrimination and violence, systemic injustice, sexual harassment and/or violence, and the disproportionate effects of inequality. This content, while necessary to discuss, may demand (significant) emotional labour, distress, or trigger participants. We encourage participants to guide their own engagement according to their mental, emotional and physical well-being. Participants are also encouraged to seek additional support to process their feelings and thoughts in a safe space.*

*All events will be held online with Zoom. Closed captions in English will be available at all sessions. Some sessions will also include translation in French, and in French and Spanish. Please see the session descriptions for details.*

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| Land Acknowledgement |

OCIC recognizes that it operates on the traditional and unceded territory of many Indigenous nations, specifically the Haudenosaunee, the Anishnaabe, the Huron-Wendat, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We also acknowledge that our membership, staff, and board operate across Turtle Island, on the unceded territory of numerous Indigenous peoples.

As we reflect on our role within a settler-colonial context, we also acknowledge the importance of naming the Indigenous communities on whose lands we live, work and play. We also underscore the importance of framing our involvement and engagement in the sector and beyond through the lens of Reconciliation; recognizing that through our location and operations on unceded land across Turtle Island, we have a responsibility to stand in solidarity with the Indigenous communities who have and continue to fight for social justice on their own lands.

As such, both as part of OCIC's Anti-Oppression Policy and as a holistic approach to our organization's work, we both recognize and encourage our network to reflect on the role each of us, individually, play in Reconciliation. Through our land acknowledgement we orient ourselves within this context to do better, and to intentionally engage in each and every space in a way that will allow us to take back lessons, tools and knowledge to better support and stand in solidarity with Indigenous people.

Land acknowledgements should go beyond simply naming the lands on which we are located; they should push us to recognize that there is no 'neutral' engagement in our work, rather, setting the intention to do better and work towards Reconciliation in each and every moment.

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| Zoom Engagement |

OCIC AGM & Symposium 2021 sessions will be held on Zoom in Webinar mode (allowing participants to utilize the chat box), or regular Meeting mode (allowing participants to engage with video, to interact in the chat box, and to participate in breakout groups). It is easier to engage with the interactive features on a computer than on a phone, so if you can connect to the sessions by computer, we suggest you do so.

Code of Conduct

OCIC is committed to creating a safe and inclusive space. We ask all participants to commit to the following Code of Conduct, inspired by those of the Inter-Council Network (ICN) and Amnesty Canada, and adapted for OCIC’s content and approach to this event. If you see or experience anything in conflict with this Code of Conduct please do not engage directly; contact an organizer and we will respond appropriately.

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| **1** | **RESPECT**, I COMMIT to being respectful and fair to all participants regardless of language, race, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, ability, and any other identity or belief, throughout this event. Hate, discrimination, or harassment on the basis of race, sex, gender, sexuality, disability, age, class, or religion, will not be tolerated.  |
| **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 be systemically excluded, and to seek out wisdom and reflection from these systemically silenced voices. I recognize that there may be situations in which I can share my experiences and will commit to speaking up, and that it is also my responsibility to make space for those that are more appropriately positioned to contribute. |
| **3** | **HUMILITY**, I COMMIT to participating in this event with a spirit of openness to learn and a recognition that the broad diversity of participants includes experience and knowledge that is beyond my own, and through which I can grow. I also recognize that creating space for lived experiences to inform this space is necessary, that hearing others’ stories is a privilege, and that I am not entitled to others’ stories. |
| **4** | **SAFETY**, I COMMIT to ensuring the physical, emotional, mental, sexual and spiritual safety of all participants in the sessions, including by calling out harassment and discrimination when it is witnessed, whether intentional or not, and reporting such incidents to the organizers. I commit to recognizing that intention does not supersede impact, and to defer to the experiences and feelings of those that are harmed. |
| **5** | **SOLIDARITY**, I COMMIT to the broad goal of strengthening collective international cooperation and recognize that all participants are here because we are collectively invested in achieving this goal, in different ways. In all conversations and forums I will seek to find common ground and inspiration to support collective action.  |
| **6** | **PATIENCE**, I COMMIT to being patient with technology, organizers, and each other. I recognize that everyone is on their own journey of learning, and I will take responsibility for my own continued learning while simultaneously being patient with others, regardless of where they are in their journey. |
| **7** | **OPENNESS**, I COMMIT to bringing an open heart and an open mind to my involvement in these events, recognizing that they will ask for different things from each participant based on our lived experience. In light of this, I also commit to being open to caring for others and myself, including ‘voting with my (virtual) feet’ and taking space to decompress and realign my energy when needed.  |

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#### How to Join the Zoom Meeting

##### **Zoom Meeting Link or Meeting ID**

You can **join the Zoom meeting** by clicking the meeting URL, or by entering the meeting ID into the Zoom Web Portal, your desktop app, or mobile app. The link and meeting ID will be shared with you via an Eventbrite reminder email prior to the specific session you have signed up for. Please sign in 10 minutes before the session is scheduled to begin so we can start the sessions in a timely manner.

##### **Video & Audio Connection**

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| **Video connection** is not required to participate. Feel free to **turn your camera on or off** as you please by selecting “Stop Video” in the bottom left of your meeting screen. | For Meeting sessions you will be able to **mute or unmute** yourself, for this we ask participants to remain on mute unless prompted otherwise by the session host. You can mute and unmute yourself and access other audio settings in the bottom left of your zoom meeting screen.  |

##### **Display Name**

We ask that participants **display name** match your registration details for reporting as well as security purposes. Once you’ve entered the room please **rename yourself** by clicking on the participant list to the right, select “more”, and select “rename”. Please feel free to include your pronouns as well as your organizational affiliation.

##### **Closed Captioning**



**Closed captioning** will be available for all sessions, and can be accessed via the “Live Transcript” button, fourth to the right.

##### **Interpretation**

**Interpretation** is available for the following sessions: “A Year of Anti-Racist Cooperation: Where We’ve Gotten, Where We’re Going”; “Decolonizing Knowledge: Strengthening Academic-CSO Partnerships Through Community-based Approaches”; and “Authentic Partnerships with Indigenous Peoples in Canada and Latin America“. You can access the different language options
in your meeting controls by selecting thebutton and selecting from the languages offered.

All sessions will have interactive **poll questions** asked during the session. The poll questions will automatically pop up on your screen. Make sure to scroll down to ensure you are reaching all the questions in the poll before you press submit.

All **sessions will be recorded**. Participants will be automatically reminded by a zoom prompt upon joining the session, and portions of sessions will be made available to registrants following completion of a feedback survey in the week following the AGM & Symposium.

If you have any **tech related issues**, there will be an OCIC Staff member in the meeting labeled as ‘OCIC Tech Support’. Please feel free to send them a private chat in zoom for support.

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| AGM & Symposium 2021 Full Program & Agenda |

September 21, 2021

**Welcome & Symposium Overview** | 1:00 PM – 1:20 PM ET

Contributors

Kimberly Gibbons, *Ontario Council for International Cooperation*

Aniqah Zowmi, *Ontario Council for International Cooperation*

**A Year of Anti-Racist Cooperation: Where We’ve Gotten, Where We’re Going** | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM ET | English | French

About a year ago, an informal advisory group convened by Cooperation Canada launched a set of sector-wide consultations to co-develop an anti-racism framework, developed by the sector for the sector. The official framework was launched in January 2021 with 71 signatories providing their surveys and in this way helping a group of sector volunteers produce the first baseline report on anti-racism. The baseline report is now live, helping to inform sector-wide initiatives that are being put in place, as well as inspire organizations to trigger their institutional processes of anti-racist change. This session will provide an overview of lessons learned along the way, and offer space for signatory organizations to share their experiences so far

**Resources & Background Reading**

* [Anti-Racism Framework: For Canada’s International Cooperation Sector.](https://cooperation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Antiracism-Framework-3.0-5.pdf)
* [Collective Commitment: Emerging Anti-Racist Practice for Canadian International Cooperation](https://cooperation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ARC-report-2021.pdf) – ARC Report (2021).
* Learn more about [Anti-Racist Cooperation](https://cooperation.ca/anti-racism-efforts/) (ARC).

Contributors

Charlotte Kiddell, *Inter Pares*

Bella Lam, *Jane Goodall Institute of Canada*

Odette McCarthy, *Equitas*

Gloria Novovic, *Cooperation Canada*

Tiyahna Ridley-Padmore, *World Vision Canada*

Aislynn Row, *Cooperation Canada*

Rob Shropshire, *Presbyterian World Service & Development*

September 22, 2021

**OCIC Annual General Meeting | 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM ET**

OCIC’s AGM will include presentations from our Board of Directors and management on the governance and programs past and upcoming, election of new Board members, ratification of new members, and recognition of key volunteers and contributors to the Council in the past year. Join us for an opportunity to learn about and contribute to our work as a collective.

**Proposed Agenda**

9:30 - 9:50 Voting Member Poll Everywhere and Zoom Platform Sign-In & Tech Support

9:50 - 10:00 Participant Zoom Sign-In and Tech Support

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| 10:00 - 12:30 | OCIC Annual General Meeting*Welcome**Land Acknowledgement**Approval of the Proposed 2021 AGM Agenda**Approval of the 2020 AGM Minutes**Presidents Report**Presentation of Audited Financial Statements**Approval of 2021-2022 Auditor**Ratification of New Members**Presentation & Election of Candidates to the Board of Directors**Executive Directors Report**Approval of Candidates Elected to the Board of Directors**Volunteer Recognition**Business Arising**Adjournment of Business Meeting**Member Networking*  |

September 23, 2021

**Decolonizing Knowledge: Strengthening Academic-CSO Partnerships Through Community-based Approaches** | 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM ET | English | Spanish | French

This session will discuss the importance of decolonizing knowledge, drawing upon perspectives, experiences and current research and policy collaborations from panelists working to strengthen academic-CSO partnerships, collaboration and community-based and informed research.

**Resources & Background Reading**

* An ongoing [Study on the Impact of COVID19 on Canadian SMOs with Guelph](https://icn-rcc.ca/en/reports/) using a community-engagement approach. Principal investigator: Andrea Paras, UofG partner.
* Partnership design ([Guide for research partnership agreement](https://idl-bnc-idrc.dspacedirect.org/handle/10625/58810)).
* Approaches to community-engaged research in the global development sector ([latest publication in CJDS available open access](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02255189.2021.1919065)).

Moderator
Leslie Chan, *University of Toronto Scarborough*

Contributors
Andréanne Martel, *Spur Change*
Judyannet Muchiri, *Inter-Council Network*
Karen Villanueva-Paez, *Toronto Centre for Learning & Development*

**Authentic Partnerships with Indigenous Peoples in Canada and Latin America** | 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET | English | Spanish | French

Canadian Feed The Children invites you to a moderated panel with a focus on sharing experiences, best practices, and learning for authentic partnerships that work towards reconciliation and decolonization. Panelists will share knowledge and experiences from multiple perspectives. A panelist based in Canada will share experiences as a member of a First Nation leading programs in their own community. A leader of a First Nation organization in Canada will discuss their work towards reconciliation in Canada, and how they are supporting Indigenous-led development internationally. A panel member from Bolivia will bring the perspective of a Bolivian organization working with multiple Indigenous communities and with international partnerships. Canadian Feed The Children takes a community-led approach to development by working through local partners to help people achieve long-term change for children, families and communities. They focus on food security and education as catalysts of change, and capacity-building that ensures sustainability.

Moderator
Elizabeth Dyke, *Canadian Feed the Children*

Contributors
Deidre Chegahno-Millar, *Kikendaasogamig Elementary School*
Larry McDermott, *Plenty Canada*
Alejandro Barrios Noya, *Instituto Politécnico Tomás Katari*
Jacqueline Wright, Canadian Feed the Children

September 24, 2021

**Connecting for Change: Intersections and Opportunities for Leaving No One Behind** | 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM ET

Join the Kawartha World Issues Centre for thought provoking presentations on how we connect global issues to local initiatives through an intersectional, decolonial lens. Speakers will present their work on localizing the Sustainable Development Goals through the principles of ‘leaving no one behind’, and centering Indigenous Leadership through community education partnerships and engaging youth in schools. They will also share their work on the Equity Index Project and Black Art Archive to help create a shared understanding of ‘racial equity’ in administrations.

KWIC is a community-based global education centre working in Nogojiwanong/Peterborough since 1989. They connect people to global issues and local initiatives that change how we understand the world and foster equitable and sustainable communities.

Contributors

Eliana Fleifel, *Ontario Council for International Cooperation*
Shaelyn Wabegijig, *Kawartha World Issues Centre*
William Ward, *Kawartha World Issues Centre*
Margaret Zou, *Kawartha World Issues Centre*

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| Minutes of OCIC Annual General Meeting 2020Held virtually on Zoom October 6, 2020 |

Welcome & Introduction

1. OCIC Board Secretary, Emily Leung-Pittman, gave a land acknowledgment.
2. OCIC Board President, Jessica Ferne, welcomed the membership to the OCIC’s 2020 Virtual AGM, called the business meeting to order, and explained the voting procedure.
3. Quorum was met allowing us to proceed.
4. Voting members did a test motion using the Poll Everywhere voting platform.

Business Meeting

1. **Approval of the Proposed 2020 AGM Agenda** (Jessica Ferne)
	* 1. *Motion to approve the proposed 2019 AGM Agenda moved by Gesine Freund (WUSC). Seconded by Jackie Wright (Canadian Feed The Children). All in favour, motion carried*.

1. **Approval of 2019 AGM minutes** (Jessica Ferne)
	* 1. The minutes from the 2019 AGM were presented to the membership.
		2. *Motion to approve the 2019 AGM minutes as presented moved by Luke Stocking (Development and Peace). Seconded by Jackie Wright (Canadian Feed The Children). All in favour, motion carried.*

1. **President’s Report** (Jessica Ferne)
	* 1. OCIC President, Jessica Ferne, provided an overview of the work of the Board and its Committees this year.
		2. Highlights:
2. The OCIC Board met 10 times this year (including six virtual meetings) and focused on Board engagement, capacity and resiliency, finances, and sustainability. The Board supported staff through changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, communicated with and about WE Charity to the membership, and reflected on how to better engage racialized colleagues.
3. Finance and Sustainability Committee: The Committee supported staff in understanding compliance regulations for the new GAC contribution agreement, and in implementing internal changes (payroll, online processes, and new group benefits). They advanced Sustainability Task Force priorities and organized Board training on financial and risk management.
4. Membership and Nominations: The Committee reviewed new member applications and the Membership Policy (including simplifying auto-renewal processes and invoicing), and are developing guidelines to acquire new members and increase membership outside the GTA and Ottawa. They led the Board in its annual member engagement and renewal process, and its outreach to members for potential candidates to the Board of Directors.
5. Personnel Committee: The Committee supported the management team in its transition into the new GAC program with new roles and increased staff, and the revision of the Personnel Policy.
6. Governance Committee: The Committee changed the preamble of all Committee TORs to include reference to OCIC’s Women's Rights and Gender Equality Policy and Anti-Oppression Policy, and supported development of OCIC’s new Communications Policy, and revisions to the Personnel Policy. They are developing a new Accessibility and Inclusion Policy and a Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) Policy and Code of Conduct, and are supporting staff in updating OCIC’s Anti-Oppression Policy and Monitoring Framework.
7. **Presentation of Audited Financial Statements and Approval of 2019-2020 Auditor** (Nabil Ali)
	* 1. OCIC Board Treasurer, Nabil Ali, provided highlights of the audited financial statements for the 2019-2020 fiscal year (as of March 31, 2020). This was OCIC’s third year using Pennylegion/Chung LLP as its auditor. The auditor found no concerns during the audit and endorsed the financial health of the organization. There were no questions concerning the audited statements from the membership.
		2. *Motion to approve Pennylegion/Chung LLP as auditors for the 2020-2021 financial year moved by Bella Lam (Jane Goodall Institute). Seconded by Ashley Rerrie (Casa Pueblito). All in favour, motion carried.*

1. **Ratification of New Members** (Kristin Douglas)
	* 1. OCIC Board Director, Kristin Douglas, introduced one Organizational member, three Network/Institutional members, and 40 new Associate Members to be ratified:

Organizational Member: *Partners in Health Canada*

Network/Institutional Members: *Canadian Christian Relief & Development Association (CCRDA), Keys of Health, SoChange*

Representatives of two of the Network/Institutional member candidates were in attendance and briefly presented their respective organizations (Emily Antze for *Partners in Health Canada,* and David Peck for *SoChange)*. Kristin said a few words about each of the other candidate organizations and pointed attendees towards the participant package for the list of Associate Member candidates and written descriptions of the candidate organizations.

* + 1. *Motion to ratify Partners in Health Canada as an organizational member moved by Luke Stocking (Development and Peace). Seconded by Ashley Rerrie (Casa Pueblito). All in favour, motion carried.*
		2. *Motion to ratify Canadian Christian Relief & Development Association (CCRDA) as a network/institutional member moved by Courtney Mollenhauer (Transforming Faces). Seconded by Tina Sweeney (Cuso International). All in favour, motion carried.*
		3. *Motion to ratify Keys of Health as a network/institutional member moved by Esperanza Mosalve (YMCA of Greater Toronto). Seconded by Emily Antze (Partners in Health Canada). All in favour, motion carried.*
		4. *Motion to ratify SoChange as a network/institutional member moved by ­­­­­­­­­­­­­Jackie Wright (Canadian Feed The Children). Seconded by Kent* *Schroeder (Bhutan Canada Foundation). All in favour, motion carried.*
		5. *Motion to ratify the full slate of Associate Members moved by David Barth (World Accord). Seconded by Matt Legge (Canadian Friends Service Committee). All in favour, motion carried.*
1. **Presentation & Election of Candidates to OCIC Board of Directors** (Kristin Douglas)
	* 1. Kristin explained the OCIC bylaws regarding the composition of the Board of Directors and presented the current Board of Directors in-term:

Organizational Members: Nabil Ali (IDRF), Kristin Douglas (Ethiopiaid Canada), Roshelle Filart (Results Canada), Dr. Maggie Zeng (Firefighters Without Borders)

Associate Members: Aysha Dawood (OikoCredit Canada), Mitra Manouchehrian (Associate Member)

* + 1. Kristin presented the five (5) nominations for four (4) possible Organizational Member seats from Martina De Ruyte (World Renew), Hansika Gunaratne (comdu.it), Courtney Mollenhauer (Transforming Faces), Christina Muia (TakingITGlobal), and Jacquelyn Wright (Canadian Feed The Children). The five candidates shared their credentials and motivation in becoming members of the OCIC Board of Directors.
		2. Kristin asked voting members to submit electronic votes for their top four Organizational Member candidates and announced that the results of the election would be shared after the ED Report.
		3. Kristin presented the two (2) nominations for two (2) available Associate Member seats from Jessica Ferne (Associate Member), and Dr. Vida Shehada (Centennial College)
		4. The two candidates to the Board shared their credentials and motivation for continuing to serve as members of the OCIC Board of Directors.
		5. *Motion to acclaim and ratify the slate of two candidates for the two available Associate Members seats moved by Ashley Rerrie (Casa Pueblito). Seconded by Bella Lam (Jane Goodall Institute).*

Kristin asked voting members to submit electronic votes and explained that results would be shared after the ED Report.

**I. Executive Director’s Report** (Kimberly Gibbons)

* + 1. OCIC Executive Director, Kimberly Gibbons, presented a summary of OCIC results in 2019-2020. OCIC spent the year bringing up its new programs as part of its new GAC contribution agreement.
		2. Highlights:

Capacity-building:

* OCIC hosted 7 Collaborative Capacity Building Activities attended by more than 300 participants (ICN Women Deliver; Tapestry 2019; Demystifying Partnership with GAC workshop; Engaging Media 101; National Training on Data Collection; CBPAR Summer Institute; and the five-week Advocacy for Sustainable Development bootcamp). In September 2019 OCIC joined the UNESCO Knowledge for Change (K4C) Toronto Hub, which provides new opportunities for collaboration with the academic community.

Increasing multi-stakeholder dialogue:

* OCIC launched its Gender Equality Hub and held 18 multi-sectoral Dialogues with more than 300 participants, including one roundtable for OCIC’s Youth Policy Makers Hub and capacity building programs; one communications-focused member chat; four member roundtables; two member lunch and learn sessions; one multi-sectoral Solutions Lab. A key milestone was the ESDC-funded National Strategy Consultations on Canada’s 2030 Agenda. By identifying priorities within CSOs and diaspora, disability-inclusion and Indigenous communities, OCIC generated 43 recommendations to inform Canada’s national strategy and approach to implementing Agenda 2030.
	+ 1. Julian Muturia, OCIC Gender Equality Hub member and gender specialist from World Renew, provided an overview of the OCIC Gender Equality Hub COVID-19 storytelling project. The Hub presented a short video featuring participants from the Global South and reviewed next steps of the project.

Influence and inspire:

* OCIC engaged more than 1,800+ participants through key PE events and activities and reached over 2 million Canadians via OCIC’s community engagement, capacity building and communications.
* The Youth Policy-Makers Hub engaged 30 young leaders and 15 allies, which led five Youth for Basic Income events, and two youth mental wellness workshops.
* During International Development Week (IDW) 2020, OCIC hosted and supported 10 events that amplified member voices and directly engaged more than 700 Canadians in developing global awareness.
* ICN highlights included the youth delegation to Ottawa, the launch of the Fund for Innovation and Transformation (FIT), and the new Spur Change program.
1. **Approval & Ratification of Candidates elected to the OCIC Board of Directors** (Kristin Douglas)
	* 1. Kristin returned to share results of the vote. The slate of candidates for the two available Associate Members was acclaimed and ratified. Jessica Ferne (Associate Member) and Dr. Vida Shehada (Centennial College) will continue to serve onthe OCIC Board of Directors.
		2. There was majority approval in the ballot for the following three Organizational Member candidates as Board Directors: Martina De Ruyte (World Renew), Courtney Mollenhauer (Transforming Faces), Christina Muia (TakingITGlobal)
		3. A run-off election was held to break the tie between the following two other Organizational Member candidates: Hansika Gunaratne (comdu.it), Jacquelyn Wright (Canadian Feed The Children)

Jacquelyn Wright (Canadian Feed The Children) received majority approval in the run-off ballot.

* + 1. *Motion to approve the results of the election and acclaim the presented roster of Board Member candidates moved by Gesine Freund (WUSC). Seconded by David Barth (World Accord). All in favour, motion carried.*
		2. *Motion to delete the digital tracking of election results within 30 days moved by Bella Lam (Jane Goodall Institute). Seconded by Gesine Freund (WUSC). All in favour, motion carried.*
		3. Kristin welcomed the new Board of Directors and invited all AGM participants to join for a virtual networking session in the afternoon.
1. **Volunteer/Staff/Board Recognitions** (Dr. Maggie Zeng, Elisa Chang, Kimberly Gibbons)
	* 1. Maggie offered thanks to outgoing Board Directors Isabelle Hachette, Emily Leung-Pittman and Jennifer Naidoo for their service and contributions to the Council.
		2. Elisa recognized and thanked all of OCIC’s volunteers from various programs and events over the course of the year.
		3. Kim thanked OCIC staff and partners for their impactful contributions over the year.
2. **Adjournment of Business Meeting** (Jessica Ferne)
	* 1. *Motion to adjourn the business meeting moved by Gesine Freund (WUSC). All in favour, meeting adjourned.*

 AGM minutes taken by OCIC Board Secretary, Emily Leung-Pittman

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| Audited Financial Statements |





PROFILES OF NEW MEMBERS TO BE RATIFIED

**Organizational Member**

**Good Neighbors Canada**

Good Neighbors Canada is a registered charity in London, Ontario, and is part of Good Neighbors International. Since 1991, Good Neighbors International (GNI) has specialized in international community development projects in 40 field countries involving health, education, advocacy, and socioeconomic development. It has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. GNI received the Millennium Development Goals Award for its achievements in the development of universal primary education. Good Neighbors Canada supports the important work of our colleagues across the globe through fundraising, monitoring and networking. Projects are carried out in five different sectors: emergency relief, water and sanitation, income generation, health and medical, and education. Working in these five sectors allows our organization to be well-rounded and incorporate sustainable solutions in various manners and locations. We achieve this through working together with local community leaders, to build a sustainable community and environment where children’s basic rights are protected. Good Neighbors Canada also supports neighbors near and far through Goods4Causes.ca. Our online shop sells sustainable, handcrafted items from co-ops and social enterprises across the globe, as well as from local, Canadian social enterprises who want to support our work.

# **Individual Associate Members**

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| Ardra Reba SamCherisse DiaramElena BonicelliEmily GilfillanGelila GebruHomira ZakyHelen RayJessie Li | Krishna KannaiyaKyle KirbyLaura MartinezLeanne LeungMaddy McCarvilleMaggie ZengMegan SierokaMohammed AlgaafariNikita Kapur | Nisrine El AmiriRahel WoldegiorgisRishi KhanSerena YuanSuanny ArangurenTamjid Shah BariVictoria WillesVongaishe Changamir |

BOARD DIRECTORS IN-TERM

**Organizational Members**

**Martina De Ruyte, *World Renew***

Martina De Ruyte currently serves as a Grant Writer at World Renew, contributing to the design and development of project proposals, reporting, and strategic planning for her team during the COVID-19 pandemic. She also is the Co-Chair of World Renew’s Anti-Racism and Reconciliation Team, working to promote racial justice and equity in her organization. Martina has worked in International development for the past 8 years for organizations, including five years with Plan International Canada in fundraising, public engagement and in a gender technical role, a year with World Vision Canada as a Program Officer developing grant proposals, and two years at World Renew as a Grant Writer. She holds a Bachelors of Arts in International Development from the University of Guelph, and an International Development Postgraduate Certificate (formerly IPMP) from Humber College.

Martina’s passions include human rights and social justice issues – particularly around gender and racial injustices – and a deep conviction for active participation in global movements. Her expertise includes program design and development, as well as partnership building and collaboration with consortium INGOs, local implementing partners, and institutional donors. She has experience in gender transformative programming, risk management, anti-oppression analysis, strategic planning, communications and public engagement, and human resource management. She has helped to develop gender policies and strategies for both Plan International, World Renew and OCIC. She has worked overseas in Mozambique during the cyclone Idai response, as well as in India and Kenya supporting local women’s empowerment and livelihoods organizations. Throughout all these experiences, she has focused on designing and developing strong, impactful, gender-transformative community development programs to reach the most vulnerable and marginalized people in the developing world.

**Courtney Mollenhauer, *Transforming Faces***

Courtney Mollenhauer is a Senior Program Manager at Transforming Faces, a long-time OCIC member organization and children’s health NGO focused on comprehensive care for children born with cleft lip and palate. She oversees Transforming Faces’ regional programming in Asia and Africa and provides leadership in program development, design, monitoring and evaluation, strategic planning, grant writing and capacity building. Courtney has an undergraduate degree in International Development from the University of Guelph and a graduate certificate in International Project Management from Humber College. She has worked with health, education and advocacy non-profit organizations in Canada, South Africa and Vietnam with a focus on underserved communities. Courtney joined OCIC’s Board of Directors in 2020 and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Finance & Sustainability Committee.

**Christina Muia, *TakingITGlobal***

Whilst growing up in Kenya, Christina Muia witnessed a clear gap between the haves and have-nots. From those early years to her young adulthood in Canada, Christina has been passionate about poverty alleviation. This has led her to work and volunteer with the United Nations and several Canadian international non-profits on youth employment, women empowerment, food security, sustainable agriculture and climate change projects. Her experiences sparked interest in how youth from marginalized and poor communities are involved in poverty reduction, which was explored in her Masters thesis and led to co-founding BiaSHEara, a multifaceted enterprise that showcased stories of Canadian women entrepreneurs of East African descent and engaged youth volunteers to support documentary production. Christina was recently part of the OCIC Youth Policy-Makers Hub, and is currently working at TakingITGlobal as the Partnership and Outreach Lead and Data Administrator for the #RisingYouth program, where she supports youth to take up leadership and make positive changes they would like to see in their communities. Christina has worked and volunteered with five Canadian international development organizations in research, policy monitoring and analysis, public engagement, partnership building and brokering, advocacy, anti-oppression work and capacity building. The organizations include World Renew (OCIC member), Mennonite Economic Development Associates, TakingITGlobal (OCIC member), Canadian Samaritans for Africa, and Paradigm Shift Project. She has also served as a Board advisor for the Canadian Samaritans for Africa. As a part of her Board commitment to OCIC, Christina currently serves on the Membership Committee.

**Jacquelyn Wright, *Canadian Feed The Children***

Jacquelyn (Jackie) Wright brings a depth and breadth of international development and humanitarian experience to the role of President & CEO of Canadian Feed The Children, where she has been for the past three years. Prior to this, as CARE Canada’s Vice President, Partnerships for Global Change, she built a diversified program portfolio by strengthening strategic partnerships and growing revenue through evidence-based best practices, innovation, and future-ready programming. Prior to that, as Vice President, International Programs, she led CARE Canada’s development and humanitarian programming in 35 countries and strategically positioned CARE with key stakeholders, including the Government of Canada and the academic and civil society communities. Prior to joining CARE in 2013, Jacquelyn spent more than 25 years in humanitarian response and international development with the Red Cross in Canada and with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) internationally. She served as the Canadian Red Cross country representative in Indonesia for nearly four years, where she oversaw country operations and humanitarian and disaster risk reduction programming. Throughout her multi-faceted career, Jacquelyn has managed emergency relief and development programs in some of the most challenging conflict and post-conflict regions, including Sudan, Uganda after the Rwandan genocide, Sierra Leone and Somalia. Strongly committed to the study and practice of leadership, Jacquelyn has a Master’s Degree in Leadership and Training from Royal Roads University in Victoria, BC, where she is the past co-chair of the Advisory Council of the School of Humanitarian Studies. Currently Jacquelyn is in her second year as a Board member of OCIC.

**Associate Members**

**Jessica Ferne**

Jessica Ferne currently serves as Director, Global Health Impact, with CanWaCH (Canadian Partnership for Women and Children’s Health). In this role, Jessica leads CanWaCH’s strategic efforts to strengthen Canadian monitoring and evaluation processes, capacity, and collaborations, in order to drive evidence-driven programming and decision-making, with the ultimate aim of improving the health and lives of women, children, and youth. She is also a part-time professor at Centennial College in the international development program. A passionate health rights advocate, Jessica has also worked in diverse senior program management, technical expert, research, and evaluation capacities in Canada and abroad, with a particular focus on humanitarian action, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and youth engagement. Her work has taken her to multiple countries across South Asia, the Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Americas. Jessica currently serves as President on the Board of Directors for OCIC, having previously served in both Secretary and Vice-President roles as well. She holds a Master of Public Health degree from the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, as well as several post-graduate certificates in policy, humanitarian response, and project management.

**Dr. Vida Shehada, *Centennial College***

Dr. Vida Shehada is a professor and coordinator of the International Development Postgraduate Program at Centennial College. She develops and teaches courses on different issues of international development including Gender equality, Human Rights, Poverty, and Monitoring and Evaluation. In addition to her teaching portfolio, she provides academic leadership in the development and coordination of the program courses. She is also responsible for internal and external liaison as well as team leadership and facilitation. Vida has been with OCIC’s Board of Directors since June 2016 and has served on the Governance Committee, Membership Committee and Strategic Planning Committee. Vida accomplished her PhD in Public Affairs as a Fulbright Scholar at Rutgers University in the United States. She also has a Master’s Degree in Democracy and Human Rights. Before joining Centennial College, she was a faculty member at Rutgers University and the State University of New York (SUNY). She served as an advisor and committee member of numerous Master’s theses. She also worked in programs funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) (formerly CIDA and DFATD), Austcare, Danida, CGAP (World Bank), UNESCO, UNRWA and USAID. She is also involved with several research, curriculum development and community development activities.

CANDIDATES TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Organizational Members**

**Nabil Ali, *International Development and Relief Foundation***

Nabil Ali is the Director of Programs at the International Development and Relief Foundation (IDRF), where he leads humanitarian and sustainable development projects across several continents. Nabil also developed IDRF's Canadian programs, which supports youth through job readiness training and educational support across Canada. Before joining IDRF, he worked in Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia as a research consultant for several INGOs and UN agencies. During his time in East-Africa, he led the UNICEF Rapid Education project which evaluated the overall education infrastructure across 6,000 schools. Nabil holds a B.A. in International Development from York University, and Postgraduate certificates from Humber College in International Development, and the University of Toronto in International Project Management. He currently serves on the Board of Licensed to Learn (L2L) and provides support to L2L's operations across 100 school programs nationally. Nabil also sits on the Board of Cooperation Canada, where he represents OCIC.

**Kristin Douglas, *Ethiopiaid Canada***

Kristin Douglas is a committed, enthusiastic professional with more than eight years of experience in the non-profit sector. She is currently the Executive Director at Ethiopiaid Canada and has held management positions at Plan Canada, Cystic Fibrosis Canada, and the Welcome Centre Shelter for Women & Families. She graduated with a BA in Philosophy, Minor in Social Justice and an MSc in Human Rights & International Politics which has led her down a career path in which she is focused on positions that give back to the local and the global communities that she works in. She specializes in fund development, fund diversification, preparing budgets, monitoring & evaluation, relationship management, as well as community engagement. She is currently the Vice-President on the OCIC Board.

**Bella Lam, *Jane Goodall Institute of Canada***

Bella Lam (she/her/elle) has over 20 years of experience in international cooperation, amplifying the work of local partners across regions of Latin America, South Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. Bella joined the Jane Goodall Institute of Canada (JGI) in 2016, leading a team to address the convergence of three crises: climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental inequity. She has in-depth experience with community-centred conservation and climate change adaptation/mitigation in the DRC, Republic of Congo, Uganda, Tanzania and Senegal; promoting the “One Health” approach recognizing that the well-being of people, animals and the environment are deeply interconnected. In Canada, Bella has experience working with youth across the country, building the capacity of young leaders to take actions on sustainability issues that respect the lens of Indigenous perspectives. Her expertise in program management incorporates a strong focus on inclusiveness, gender equality and applying a rights-based approach to development. Bella holds a Master of Science in Environment and Development, and is currently the Director of Programs at JGI Canada. Bella has sat on a number of board committees and is knowledgeable of governance models. She is a strong advocate of authentic collaborations and working in a multi-stakeholder environment. Prior to her current role, Bella has worked with Canadian Feed The Children, Plan Canada and Presbyterian World Service and Development. She has a solid understanding of the different needs of SMOs and larger NGOs, and appreciates their respective added value in coalition work and membership-based platforms. Bella is the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) focal point at JGI Canada and has been taking the lead in monitoring and evaluating its progress towards addressing systemic racism within the organizational structure and improving its policies, practices, partnership approach and program implementation. Supporting an anti-racist and anti-oppression framework is one of Bella’s priorities at her own organization, and she hopes to contribute to the broader dialogue in the sector.

**Ruth Taylor, Heart-Links Lazos de Corazón**

Ruth Taylor is operations coordinator and sole staff person of Heart-Links Lazos de Corazón, a small charity based in London, Ontario, that supports community development in northern Peru and engages people in southwestern Ontario to see themselves as part of a global community and act accordingly. She has held this part-time position for five and a half years. Responsible for the day-to-day management of the organization, Ruth has a permanent seat on the Executive and Fund Development committees and takes part ex officio in Heart-Links board meetings. She also offers support to any other committee (Community Engagement, Finance, Solidarity Trip, Peru Projects) that needs it. Fluent in Spanish, she is the lead liaison with Heart-Links’ partners in Peru, providing interpretation when needed and organizing and leading visits to Peru for on-the-ground evaluations of projects and in-person partnership building. Communications and volunteer management fall within her responsibilities as well. In addition to non-profit management skills, the challenges small organizations in our sector face (and their remarkable contributions), and first-hand experience with our sector’s work outside major centres such as Toronto or Ottawa, are perspectives Ruth would bring to the OCIC Board.

Ruth has long been active in international solidarity and in initiatives that support Indigenous rights and title in Canada. Alongside her work with Heart-Links, she is a freelance copy editor with a specialization in Indigenous history in Canada, and a writer. She also worked for many years as a historical research consultant for two west coast First Nations. Previous to moving to London in 2004, she spent almost a decade in Guatemala, first as a journalist for a Guatemalan agency and then as communications officer for a coalition of campesino organizations. During this period, which took place during the last years of the war in Guatemala and the first years of peace, Ruth developed close relationships with members of grassroots movements, learning greatly from their views on development, justice, and international solidarity and cooperation. This experience underscored for Ruth the primacy of supporting community-led development and initiatives, of investing in relationships of trust and respect with partners and collaborators, whether in Canada or outside it, and of amplifying the voices of people in the Global South and from marginalized populations. Ruth holds a BA with a double major in Latin American studies and history from Simon Fraser University, where she was active in student-to-student solidarity with Central America. Ruth embraces the vision, mission, and mandate of OCIC. She is eager to contribute, as Heart-Links’ representative, to the further development of a community of practice that is inclusive, feminist, anti-racist and decolonizing. She is a strong believer in collective action and collaboration that respects the autonomy of individual and organizational actors and the legitimacy of different approaches. Her strongest area of expertise is communications and public engagement but through her work she also has some experience with fund diversification, financial management, charity law, and partnership building and brokering. If invited to join the OCIC board, she is happy to serve where she is most needed.

**Associate Members**

**​​John Abraham, *St. Paul’s University College***

John Abraham is a political economist with research and teaching interests in international development, environmental policy, social entrepreneurship, international experiential learning and South Asian studies. At the University of Waterloo, he is a Continuing Lecturer in the International Development program which is delivered as a partnership between the School of Environment, Enterprise and Development and St. Paul’s University College. In this role, he teaches undergraduate courses and manages the capstone international work placements of senior undergraduate students. He currently serves on the Academic Senate of the University of Waterloo as a representative for St. Paul’s University College and on the President’s Advisory Council on Environmental Sustainability (PACES) as a representative of the University’s Affiliated and Federated institutions. His appointment as Academic Dean of St. Paul’s University College will commence in Spring 2022. He currently serves on the Board of Mennonite Central Committee as chair of the Policy and Bylaw Committee.

He was formerly Assistant Professor of Global Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University where he led the CityStudio initiative, co-led the C3 Innovation Labs and ran a field course in Kerala, India. In previous roles, he has worked as a Program Officer at the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, a bilaterally funded organization which promotes research and cooperation between India and Canada, as the International Research and Development Facilitator at Dalhousie University, and as the Coordinator of two global environmental research partnerships based in the UK (Royal Holloway, University of London) and in Canada (Saint Mary’s University). John was born in New Delhi, India and grew up between Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Kerala, India. Living in the commercial hub of the Arab Gulf and travelling throughout Kerala and India provided a rich experience of cultural diversity and stimulated his academic and professional interests in development issues.

**Aysha Dawood**

Aysha Dawood is an advocate for both local and global scale social equality, with a focus on affordable housing, and sustainable finance. This ambition stems from her intersectional identities, and the transformative experiences gained while working with populations made vulnerable in the UK, Southern Africa, and Canada. She is fuelled by research, attempting to unravel the root systemic drivers of poverty. Aysha works as an operational and strategic consultant with non-profits, and is currently coordinating research and operations with Canada Forum for Impact Investment and Development (CAFIID). Aysha's previous placements have included Oikocredit and the Centre for Affordable Housing Finance in Africa. Aysha holds a master's degree in Local Economic Development, a bachelor’s degree in Urban and Regional Planning, and diplomas in Architectural Technology, and GIS (Geographical Information Systems) and Urban Planning. She is currently Secretary on the OCIC Board and Chair of the Board’s Governance Committee.

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Symposium Contributor Bios

**A Year of Anti-Racist Cooperation: Where We’ve Gotten,
Where We’re Going**

**Charlotte Kiddell, *Inter Pares***

Charlotte is Co-Executive Director of Inter Pares, sharing the role with Samantha McGavin. Charlotte got her start in social justice work through student politics. Before joining Inter Pares, Charlotte held elected positions with the Canadian Federation of Students. Charlotte is passionate about feminism, anti-oppression, and grassroots movement building.

**Bella Lam, *Jane Goodall Institute of Canada***

Bella is the Director of Programs at the Jane Goodall Institute of Canada. She has over 20 years of experience working in international cooperation and community-centred conservation. Bella works collaboratively with local partners, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa in different sectors, including health, food sovereignty, economic empowerment and climate action, incorporating the lens of “One Health” approach.

**Odette McCarthy, *Equitas***

Odette joined the Equitas team in June 2020 as Executive Director. She is a gender equality specialist and a seasoned manager with more than 25 years of international cooperation experience. She was Director of the Uniterra Program, a CECI and WUSC program that strengthens women’s economic power empowerment in 14 countries. For eight years she taught a Gender Equality course as part of the Université de Montréal’s certificate in international cooperation. Over time, Odette has demonstrated the ability to collaborate effectively with diverse stakeholders in Canada and the Global South. She is also an active member of the Board of Directors of Cooperation Canada its Anti-racist advisory committee.

**Gloria Novovic, *Cooperation Canada***

Gloria is Cooperation Canada’s Policy Lead, overseeing the organization’s strategic policy portfolio and acting as the main liaison with Global Affairs Canada. She holds a PhD in Political Science and International Development and specializes in feminist policy and global governance. Passionate about creative and lasting solutions at a systems-level, Gloria’s work revolves around disrupting traditional development paradigms to strengthen collective approaches to social justice. Gloria has been leading Cooperation Canada’s anti-racism efforts and convening the sector-wide advisory group with the goal of setting up an independent Anti-Racism Hub for the sector as a whole.

**Tiyahna Ridley-Padmore, *World Vision Canada***

Tiyahna Ridley-Padmore is a policy advisor at World Vision Canada specializing in social inclusion. She co-chairs Cooperation Canada’s Anti-Racism Taskforce and facilitates several other community-based initiatives for the advancement of human rights, equity and inclusion. Tiyahna holds an MA in Public Policy, Administration and Law from York University and a BA in Political Science from the University of Ottawa.

**Aislynn Row, *Cooperation Canada***

Aislynn manages Digna – the Canadian Centre of Expertise on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, hosted by Cooperation Canada. She is a champion of gender equality with a passion for making systems and structures more inclusive and effective. Aislynn holds a masters degree in Development Management from the London School of Economics, where she specialized in the gendered dimensions of humanitarian assistance for refugees. Aislynn has been an integral part of Cooperation Canada’s sector-wide group on anti-racism since its inception and is looking forward to future progress towards this crucial sector transformation.

**Rob Shropshire, *Presbyterian World Service & Development***

Rob Shropshire began working with Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) in Toronto in March 2013, responsible for policy and planning, and for coordinating refugee sponsorship by Presbyterian Church in Canada congregations. In January 2020, he handed over the sponsorship work and assumed responsibility for development and emergency programs in Asia and the Pacific. He serves as PWS&D’s PSEA focal point and is leading efforts on Anti-Racist Cooperation. Rob’s work in refugee response, international development, and human rights includes fourteen years with PWRDF, seven years with Equitas, and interim positions with the Canadian Council for Refugees and Action Réfugiés Montréal. He also volunteers with a local refugee sponsorship committee.

**Decolonizing Knowledge: Strengthening Academic-CSO Partnerships Through Community-based Approaches**

Moderator | **Leslie Chan, *University of Toronto Scarborough***

Leslie Chan is Associate Professor in the Department of Global Development Studies (formerly the Center for Critical Development Studies) and the director of the Knowledge Equity Lab at the University of Toronto Scarborough. Leslie’s teaching and professional interests center on the geopolitics of knowledge production and circulation, with a focus on how networking technologies are enabling new forms of open collaborations, while also amplifying and reproducing embedded power relations and inequality. In particular Leslie has been exploring the dynamics of university community partnership and the patterns of meanings around knowledge co-creation, participatory research, and how community engaged modes of knowledge production may contribute to different frameworks of valuing diverse knowledges and their dissemination.

**Andréanne Martel, *Spur Change***

Andréanne Martel is the Director of the Spur Change Program for the Inter-Council Network (ICN), a coalition of the eight Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation in Canada. Prior to joining the ICN, Andréanne was the lead of the Next Generation: Collaboration for Development program, a joint initiative between Cooperation Canada (formerly known as CCIC) 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 recently co-edited a special issue for the Canadian Journal of Development Studies on CSOs-Academic collaborations in the Canadian global development sector.

**Judyannet Muchiri, *Inter-Council Network***

Judyannet Muchiri’s work sits at the intersection of gender equality, civic participation, and digital advocacy. She has experience doing advocacy work with non-profits in African countries, researching and writing on these areas. Her most recent research focuses on safe spaces for young women’s civic participation in Kenya. Currently, she is completing a PhD in Sociology, co-leading the Africa Community Engagement Hub, and doing policy and research work with the Inter-Council Network of Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation (ICN). The ICN’s research project aligns with the sectoral-wide shift towards more feminist, anti-racist and decolonial approaches in international cooperation work. Increasingly, organizations are proactively interrogating their principles and practices; a positive step towards decolonizing the sector. However, this reflexivity exercise and the actions that result from it need to be done in a way that does not propagate the same harmful practices and/or produce new forms of harmful practices. Following the principles in Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Policy and in the UN’s Agenda 2030, this research brings together different CSOs, feminist activists, and youth leaders to explore feminist, anti-racist and decolonial approaches in public engagement. Learn more about the research project here.

**Karen Villanueva-Paez, *Toronto Centre for Learning & Development***

Karen Villanueva-Paez is a Colombian community worker currently based in Tkaronto, Kanata (Toronto, Canada). She graduated from York University with an HBA in International Development Studies and is currently pursuing a Master in Social Work at the University of Toronto. Karen currently holds the portfolio of Supervisor of Programming at the Toronto Centre for Learning & Development. For the past 6 years, through her community development practice, Karen integrates her passion for popular education, activism and visual arts to support immigrant and newcomer populations living in underserved communities. Karen collaborates with grassroots stakeholders to create programs that serve their own communities and foster their capacity to enact social change.

**Authentic partnerships with Indigenous Peoples in Canada and Latin America**

Moderator | **Elizabeth Dyke, *Canadian Feed the Children***

Elizabeth Dyke has been a health and social development consultant for the past 12 years, working in Canada and internationally with governments, NGOs, universities, and private organizations. Her consulting work includes evaluation, research, writing/medical writing, strategic development, capacity development, policy analysis, knowledge translation/synthesis, and facilitation. Prior to becoming a consultant, Elizabeth held a number of senior executive roles in not-for-profit and public service, including Director of the Canadian Population Health Initiative of the Canadian Institute for Health Information and Director of the Health Charities Council of Canada (a membership-based organization of 53 national health charities). Elizabeth has a Master of Arts in Sociology from Dalhousie University, and a PhD in Population Health from University of Ottawa.

**Deidre Chegahno-Millar, *Kikendaasogamig Elementary School***

Deidre Chegahno-Millar is a member of the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation and lives in beautiful Neyaashiinigmiing, ON – located on the Bruce Peninsula. With over 17 years experience working with her community’s children and youth – “DeeDee” (as she is known to students and families) has helped to lead numerous food security initiatives – which includes home, school and community gardens as well as, the elementary school’s edible/beneficial landscapes. She has been the Coordinator for the Neyaashiinigmiing “Mino-biimaadiziwn” Healthy Living Program for the past 8 years. DeeDee is a firm believer that lasting change will come as a result of young people being given opportunities to learn about food sustainability and to become active participants in their community’s discussions about food sovereignty. “Our young people have been our greatest champions and activators for change! They take what they have learned and passionately share it with their families and others in our community. They are unafraid and believe that anything is possible when we set our minds to it and work together. We’d all do well to take their lead!”

**Larry McDermott, *Plenty Canada***

Larry McDermott is Algonquin from Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation, and is the Executive Director of Plenty Canada. Larry is currently a member of numerous organizations including the International Indigenous Forum for Biodiversity, the Conservation through Reconciliation Partnership (CRP), Ontario Biodiversity Council, the Ontario Professional Foresters Association, the Healing Place partnership, the Indigenous Circle of the Canadian Biosphere Association, and serves as co-chair of the Lanark County Safety and Well-Being Plan. A former three-time Mayor and long-time council member of Lanark Highlands, was the first Chair of the Rural Forum of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, was a Commissioner for the Ontario Human Rights Commission, and was on the Ontario Species at Risk Public Advisory Committee and provincial and national recovery teams for the American Eel. Larry also served as a comprehensive claim representative for Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation, is a certified tree marker and butternut assessor, and holds other environmental certifications. He has also received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Guelph. Larry was a humble student for many years of the late Algonquin Elder, Grandfather William Commanda, who created the Circle of All Nations organization. Larry lives in a 170-year-old log home on 500 acres of biologically diverse Algonquin land along the Mississippi River with his wife Nancy.

**Alejandro Barrios Noya, *Instituto Politécnico Tomás Katari***

Alejandro Barrios Noya is the Director of the NGO Instituto Politécnico Tomás Katari (IPTK). He is a Bolivian economist with postgraduate degrees in Business Management and Administration, Public Policy and Ethics for the Global South. Alejandro brings years of experience in the non-profit sector and grassroots groups movements. He was the Latin America Director of IBON International, Executive Secretary for People’s Coalition on Food Sovereignty (PCFS) for Latin America and the Caribbean and General Secretary for the rural sector of the Alliance of Civil Society Organizations for the Effective Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. He was part of the Bolivian state representatives who participated in the Conference of the Parties at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 19). In the subsequent conferences, Alejandro represented groups of civil society. He participated in the discussions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development while coordinating the regional campaign of the Peoples’ Goals for Sustainable Development. As a professor, he taught Sociology at the University of San Francisco de Asis and Climate Change at the University Cordillera, both in La Paz, Bolivia.”

**Connecting for Change: Intersections and Opportunities for Leaving No One Behind**

**Shaelyn Wabegijig, *Kawartha World Issues Centre***

Shaelyn Wabegijig (she/her/kwe) is the Program and Outreach Coordinator for KWIC. From March 2020-2021, she coordinated for the partnership project with GreenUP: Advancing the SDGs 2030 Agenda in Nogojiwanong/Peterborough. She is currently the program coordinator for the project called Advancing Gender Equality in Nogojiwanong/Peterborough. Her family is Algonquin from Timiskaming First Nation, Caribou Clan, also Irish and German, and she grew up in Rama First Nation. She graduated from Trent University with a BAH in Indigenous Studies and Philosophy. You can reach her via email at shaelyn@kwic.info.

**William Ward, *Kawartha World Issues Centre***

Will Ward (he/they) is the Educational Program Coordinator for the summer. He is usually reading, writing, speaking or playing music. He completed three certificates, over a couple summers, in Molecular Biology & Genetics, Pharmacology & Toxicology and Microbiology in Epidemiology at U of T. In 2018 he attended the UN Youth Conference on the SDGs at the United Nations Headquarters as a delegate. He was one of the inaugural graduates of the Youth Leadership in Sustainability (YLS). Currently, He does advocacy work for BIPOC and marginalized students, as well as various research projects centering accountability and social consciousness. Their work is directed by listening to lived experiences and perspectives. He loves collaborating and finding points of intersection, if you would like to connect reach out to them: will@kwic.info.

**Margaret Zou, *Kawartha World Issues Centre***

Margaret Zou (she/her) is excited to be working at KWIC as a Program Facilitator. She is passionate about engaging youth and students in the wider community. Her interests include climate change, food security and health. Prior to joining KWIC, she worked at several NGOs in both US and Canada. She holds an MSc in Environmental Management from the University of Liverpool and an MSc in Public Health specializing in Environmental Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. In her spare time, she enjoys travelling and exploring new places. If you have any questions, you can reach her at kwicliaison@gmail.com.

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OCIC AGM 2021 REGISTRANTS

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| **Racha Abou Chakra****John Abraham****Dulce Aguilar****Mohammed Algaafari****Nabil Ali****Samson Ambaye****Aurélie Arilsc****Heather Arnold****Yakexis Barr****Ishtiaq Bashir****Marilyn Bastedo****Anupkamal Bishwakarma****Temisan Boyo Fanou****Maria Carmona****Erick Carreras****Dana Corfield****Jennifer Corriero****Julie Cosgrove****Nemanja Davidovic****Aysha Dawood****Christina Dendys****Martina DeRuyte****Kristin Douglas****Kevin Dunbar****Margaret Dunsdon****Shorouk Elzayat****Jessica Ferne****Roshelle Filart****Eliana Fleifel****Gesine Freund****Kimberly Gibbons****Kaitlyn Gilham****Geetanjali Gill****Nihad Gohar****Sonja Grosse-Broemer****Isabelle Hachette****Susan James****Yiyang Jiang****Kandace Keeney****Ammara Khan****Allison Kingston****Kyle Kirby****Cecile Klerks****Nick Kootnikoff****Bella Lam****Dinah Laprairie****Leanne Leung****Jessie Li****Megan Lowthers****Maria Malik****Mitra Manouchehrian****Tegra Matondo****Maddy McCarville****Abrar Mechmechia****Marie Meloche****Natalia Mercado****Courtney Mollenhauer****Esperanza Monsalve****Christina Muia****Alice Ng Bouwma****Ogesanmola Omitayo****P. Papel****Earl Phillips****Rajesh Pisharody****Leah Polonenko****Sascha Priewe****Vishnu Ramcharan****Muhammad Rasool****Aditya Rayala****Ardra Reba Sam****Laura Sewell****Heather Shapter****Dr. Vida Shehada****Heather Smith****Victor Luiz Stembrock Nascimento****Lisa Swainston****Tina Sweeney****Nidhi Tandon****Ruth Taylor****Fuad Tonmoy****Lucero Tsui****Ray Veary****Melissa Williams****Jacquelyn Wright****Dr. Maggie Zeng****Aniqah Zowmi** | *Associate Member**University of Waterloo**CARE Canada**Ontario Tech University / Associate Member**International Development and Relief Foundation (IDRF) / OCIC Board Director**Canadian International Development Foundation (CIDF)**CMETrust**Transforming Faces**Canadian Red Cross**Ontario Council for International Cooperation**Dalit Welfare Association (DWA)**OCIC Personnel Committee / Associate Member**Associate Member**Yamagata Prefectural Board of Education / Associate**Equip KIDS International**TakingITGlobal**Kawartha World Issues Centre**Centennial College / Associate Member**OCIC Board Director / Associate Member**Results Canada**World Renew / OCIC Board Director**Ethiopiaid Canada / OCIC Board Director**Canadian Feed The Children**CanWaCH / OCIC Board Director / Associate Member**Results Canada / OCIC Board Director**Ontario Council for International Cooperation**World University Service of Canada (WUSC)**Ontario Council for International Cooperation**University of the Fraser Valley, Global Development Studies**CARE Canada**Indigenous Teachings of the Land Consulting**World Accord**KAIROS / OCIC Personnel Committee / Associate Member**Canadian Association for Global Health**Ontario Council for International Cooperation / Associate**Good Neighbors Canada**Jane Goodall Institute of Canada**Good Neighbors Canada**Ontario Council for International Cooperation / Associate**Associate Member**Oxfam Canada**Plan International Canada / OCIC Board Director / Associate**Associate Member**ABRAR Trauma and Mental Health Services**Jane Goodall Institute of Canada**Transforming Faces / OCIC Board Director**YMCA of Greater Toronto**TakingITGlobal / OCIC Board Director**World Renew**Freelance**Toronto People With AIDS Foundation / Associate Member**University of Toronto Scarborough**Associate Member**Ontario Science Centre**International Development and Relief Foundation (IDRF)**Ethiopiaid Canada**Centennial College / Associate Member**Mercy Corps**Crossroads International**Centennial College / OCIC Board Director**Rayjon Share Care of Sarnia Inc.**Ontario Council for International Cooperation**Cuso International**Networked Intelligence for Development**Heart-Links Lazos de Corazón**Centennial College**Casa-Pueblito**Beautiful World Canada Foundation**Centennial College**Canadian Feed The Children / OCIC Board Director**Associate Member**Ontario Council for International Cooperation* |

# THANK YOU

This event would not have been possible without the efforts and contributions of numerous members, partners, collaborators and participants. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to all for contributing to much-need diagogue on centering reconciliation and decolonization in the international cooperation sector, and inspiring participants and the broader OCIC community to further collective efforts to towards anti-racist and decolonial practise.

We would also like to thank the OCIC board, staff and volunteers for facilitating this event online, and helping to extend these events to people from coast to coast to coast in Canada, and across the world.

This initiative was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada.

