

30

TOP 30 UNDER 30

2015
4TH ANNUAL

30 YOUTH FROM ALBERTA & THE GLOBAL SOUTH
WHO ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

presented by the



Alberta Council for Global Cooperation

MAGAZINE MANAGEMENT

Chelsea Donelon

MAGAZINE WRITING

Richie Assaly

MAGAZINE DESIGN

Janelle Holod

COVER PHOTO

Aditya Rao; photograph by Amir Ali Sharifi

This project was funded with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD).



Foreign Affairs, Trade and
Development Canada

Affaires étrangères, Commerce
et Développement Canada

The Alberta Council for Global Cooperation (ACGC) is a coalition of voluntary sector organizations located in Alberta, working locally and globally to achieve sustainable human development.

ACGC is committed to international cooperation that is people-centred, democratic, just, inclusive, and respectful of the environment and indigenous cultures. We work towards ending poverty and achieving a peaceful and healthy world with dignity and participation for all.

Members of the Council pursue these goal through supporting global citizenship programs and participatory projects with international partners.

The Council's goal is to support the work of its members through networking, leadership, information sharing, training and coordination, and represents their interests when dealing with government and others. The objectives of the Council are to promote and mobilize greater Albertan participation in assisting international development.

CONTACT ACGC



Suite 205
10816A 82 (Whyte) Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6E 2B3

PHONE 780-988-0200

FAX 780-988-0211

WEB www.acgc.ca



www.facebook.com/acgcnow



[@ACGCNow](https://twitter.com/ACGCNow)



www.youtube.com/acgcnow

Extraordinary young people are creating a more just & sustainable world.

ACGC's fourth annual Top 30 Under 30 Magazine features 30 outstanding young global citizens and explores their ideas and actions as positive change-makers in our global community. Through them, we share in some great stories about what is being done in Alberta and internationally to make a difference in the world.

We received so many incredible nominations for the magazine that choosing only 30 individuals to profile was difficult. As a result of the strong competition, however, those who are highlighted here are truly exceptional. Some of the youth featured are involved with ACGC member organizations, most of which are Alberta-based NGOs. All are doing amazing work, in different fields and communities, to contribute to a just and sustainable world. They work on water issues, environmental sustainability, politics, education, health, community services, and other areas. The Top 30s have all demonstrated action toward creating positive change in the world within their own sphere of influence.

This magazine is meant to inspire – to show the good work that is already being done and the possibility of getting involved at any age, in whatever way you are passionate!

International Development Week

The Top 30 Under 30 Magazine is part of the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation's program for International Development Week (IDW), which takes place February 1-7, 2015 across Canada. For 25 years, International Development Week has provided a unique opportunity for Canadian organizations and individuals to share their successes and achievements in international development.

Visit the Government of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development website to learn more about IDW and nation-wide events:

www.international.gc.ca

ACGC also works together with the University of Alberta to host a Youth Day event for high school students at the end of January during the university's extensive International Week program. Visit the U of A's Global Education website to learn more:

www.globaled.ualberta.ca/InternationalWeek.aspx

25th Anniversary
25^e Anniversaire

International
Development Week

Semaine du développement
international

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About ACGC	1		
About the Magazine & IDW	2		
Letter from the Executive Director	4		
Letter from the Premier	5		
Istanbul Principles	6	Harneet Chahal	23
Addressing the Issues	7	Hasan Hamze	24
Get Involved	8	Jamie Dublanko	25
Top 30 Under 30	9	Julia Rudzitis	26
		Leah Schmidt	27
Aditya Rao	10	Luis Zúñiga	28
Aleah Loney	11	Mahala Morris	29
Amy Smith	12	Nakita Valerio	30
Angalakha Mangwane	13	Nicolas Choquette-Levy	31
Ashton James	14	Rachel Northcott	32
Badeia Jawhari	15	Rebecca Kresta	33
Brianna Olson	16	Rebecca Mesay	34
Carmen Huane Lliuya	17	Sean Bradley	35
Claire Edwards	18	Tatiana Wugalter	36
Douglas Matthews	19	Tim Schwalfenberg	37
Erin Balcom	20	Trina Moyles	38
Eva Manzano	21	Holy Trinity Teens for Change	39
Hannah Gelderman	22		
		MNCH	40
		ACGC Members	41





Message from Heather McPherson
ACGC Executive Director

I want to send my most heart-felt congratulations to the amazing young people selected and profiled in the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation's 2015 Top 30 Under 30 Magazine. Individuals profiled in this magazine are amongst the most impressive, accomplished, and committed youth anywhere in the world. Their commitment to making the world a better, more just place for everyone is inspiring and gives me great hope for the future.

We live in a time that often leads the younger generation to tune out, disengage, and become overwhelmed by the challenges facing us. In a world where issues such as climate justice, inequality, extreme poverty, and gender violence are among the vast, complex challenges the human race grapples with, these young people have chosen to be engaged, hopeful, and active. They have chosen to make a difference.

I am amazed and impressed beyond measure by the strength of character and the goodness of spirit shown by the youth in this magazine, and I look forward to seeing what incredible things the 2015 Top 30 Under 30 recipients will accomplish in the future. Congratulations and well done, all of you!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather McPherson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Heather McPherson, Executive Director
Alberta Council for Global Cooperation



Message from the Honourable Jim Prentice
Premier of Alberta

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, congratulations to the award winners of Alberta's Top 30 Under 30. This award celebrates the real difference you are making in Alberta and around the world.

Helping achieve peace, end poverty, and promote better health are lofty goals, yet you prove they are achievable. Receiving your award from the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation is most fitting because of its exceptional leadership in these areas.

Given what you have done under age 30, I cannot even imagine what you will do in the next 30 years. Through your leadership, you will develop fresh ideas to solve problems, work better together, and inspire lasting, positive change. The result will be an even brighter future for our friends, families, and those around the globe.

Thank you for your passion, dedication, and vision. You have raised the bar for excellence, and I know the best is yet to come.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' and 'P' followed by a horizontal line.

Jim Prentice

ISTANBUL PRINCIPLES

All of the youth featured in the magazine have achieved change by working within **Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)** including NGOs, student associations, and volunteer groups. The **Istanbul Principles** are a set of **mutually shared values** guiding the development of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) worldwide. They were developed in 2011 by the “Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness” with input from thousands of CSOs around the globe. ACCG endorses the eight Istanbul Principles as fundamental values to guide good development work. These principles guide the work and practices of civil society organizations in peace and conflict situations, in fields from grassroots to policy advocacy, and on a continuum from humanitarian emergencies to long-term development.

Find out more about the Istanbul Principles and the work of the Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness by visiting www.cso-effectiveness.org.



Respect and promote human rights and social justice

Develop and implement strategies, activities, and practices that promote individual and collective human rights, including the right to development, with dignity, decent work, social justice, and equity for all people.



Embody gender equality and equity while promoting women and girls' rights

Promote and practice development cooperation embodying gender equity, reflecting women's concerns and experience, while supporting women's efforts to realize their individual and collective rights, participating as fully empowered actors in the development process.



Focus on people's empowerment, democratic ownership and participation

Support the empowerment and inclusive participation of people to expand their democratic ownership over policies and development initiatives that affect their lives, with an emphasis on the poor and marginalized.



Promote environmental sustainability

Develop and implement priorities and approaches that promote environmental sustainability for present and future generations, including urgent responses to climate crises, with specific attention to the socio-economic, cultural, and indigenous conditions for ecological integrity and justice.



Practice transparency and accountability

Demonstrate a sustained organizational commitment to transparency, multiple accountability, and integrity in internal operations.



Pursue equitable partnerships and solidarity

Commit to transparent relationships with CSOs and other development actors, freely and as equals, based on shared development goals and values, mutual respect, trust, organizational autonomy, long-term accompaniment, solidarity, and global citizenship.



Create and share knowledge and commit to mutual learning

Enhance ways to learn from experience, from other CSOs and development actors, integrating evidence from development practice and results, including the knowledge and wisdom of local and indigenous communities, strengthening innovation and their vision for the future they would like to see.



Commit to realizing positive sustainable change

Collaborate to realize sustainable outcomes and impacts of CSO development actions, focusing on results and conditions for lasting change for people, with special emphasis on poor and marginalized populations, ensuring an enduring legacy for present and future generations.

Creating a more just and sustainable world is beneficial to everyone.

The world is a global space and what happens in one area is no longer isolated within borders, nations, or geographic regions. Advances in technology and our ever increasing ability to communicate and connect has shrunk our world and made it more imperative than ever that our actions are positive and contribute to global solutions.

Young Albertans are working with people around the world to find solutions to the international development issues we face today like global poverty, structural violence, environmental crises, and more. Addressing these challenges is vital if we are to find effective solutions and create a just and sustainable world.

Canadians support international development and poverty reduction.

Since the 1960s, Canada has been a leader in international cooperation – this reputation has been a hallmark of what makes us Canadian.

A 2012 Vision Critical poll showed that the majority of Canadians strongly believe that reducing global poverty is our collective responsibility and a human rights obligation.

- 75% of Canadians believe that reducing global poverty will help to fulfill human rights obligations, compared to 56% of Americans and 55% of UK citizens who believe the same.
- Global poverty, the economy, wars and conflict, human rights, and environmental issues (all closely linked) are top global issues most concerning Canadians.
- A majority of Canadians believe that reducing global poverty will have positive impacts in other areas, including reducing global conflict, reducing pandemics, and improving Canada's international reputation.

Read the global poverty study online at www.acgc.ca under "Publications."

Working toward improving our global community matters!

The Alberta Council for Global Cooperation is proud to support and celebrate young leaders who confront difficult global issues and take on these challenges. We believe that the work of individuals and civil society organizations is important to building a more just and sustainable world for us all.



LEARN

Read up

Visit your local library to find books that explore issues of social justice and human rights. Reading can not only make us better individuals but it can also motivate us to effect greater change around us.

Focus your knowledge

There are many issues of global concern, and learning about all of them can be overwhelming. Reflect on which issues you feel most passionate about, and focus on learning as much as you can on that topic. A deeper understanding about an issue can lead to more appropriate and meaningful action.



SHARE

Storytelling

Invite people to share their experiences and stories with you. This can help you understand the issues and your potential role in changing them. And don't forget that you have a story too; share it with others. You'll learn more about the world around you, and the people that surround you. And don't forget you have a story too! Share it with others.

Build networks

Tap into the existing networks in your community and build alliances with individuals, communities, groups, and organizations. Join a board of directors, attend community events, or share your skills. Whether you're good with computers, art, music, editing, mobilizing and recruiting others, or organizing logistics, there is a group that could put your skills to good use!



ACT

Be engaged

Be an engaged global citizen by expressing your ideas and concerns about what is happening in your local and global world. Write letters to your MP or MLA to express your concern about, or to vocalize your support for, a particular issue. Write a Letter to the Editor for your local or national newspaper. Take part in a rally or protest. Sign a paper or online petition. Remember joining forces with others is an incredibly impactful way of being heard.

Vote

Have a voice and make a choice. Voting is an expression of a citizen's right and responsibility to influence decisions made at every political level and is fundamental to a healthy democracy.

Be informed

Connect with mainstream media to learn about local, national, and international issues. Find alternative media sources that offer a different perspective on those issues, and critically analyze the information that is being presented by both sides. Remember that all media has bias.

Understand Canada's role

Visit the Government of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) website at www.international.gc.ca to learn about Canada's position and action on a number of international policy, trade, and development issues. DFATD has great information and opportunities available for people of all ages who are interested in international development.

People power

What are you passionate about? Talk about the issues and brainstorm innovative ways to be a part of the change. Talk to your family, friends, and colleagues, ask questions, and start the conversation.

Connect online

Build positive online connections using social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, learning from and sharing with others on the issues you are passionate about. Social media is a powerful tool to connect and build solidarity with people across the globe. It provides you with a unique tool and more balanced perspective for global issues.

Practice ethical and informed consumption

Inform yourself about the product, goods, and services you use, and the impact they have on the planet and other people. Before consuming, ask yourself if you need the product and if you know enough about the product to make an ethical choice.

Volunteer

Donate your time, money, and skills. Do some research and find out which organizations match your interests and values. Then give them a call! Tons of organizations are looking for committed and engaged volunteers.

Additional information and resources

Check out the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation's website at www.acgc.ca for information on how to support one of our 65+ member organizations in Alberta working towards sustainable human development.

30

TOP 30 UNDER 30

**30 YOUTH FROM ALBERTA & THE GLOBAL SOUTH
WHO ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD**

ADITYA RAO



“Despite all our differences, we will always have in common our collective humanity. So let’s look out for each other.”

Age: 25

Hometown:

Edmonton, AB
Mumbai, India

Living In:

Ottawa, ON

Organizations:

World University
Service of Canada

Canadian Association of
Refugee Lawyers

John Humphrey Centre for
Peace and Human Rights*

*ACGC Member Organization

Aditya Rao has selflessly devoted his life’s work to fighting racism and improving the conditions of some of the most vulnerable people in our country – refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers.

“More than 15 million people worldwide are forcibly displaced from their home countries due to war, conflict, and persecution,” Adi explains. “We have a collective responsibility to address the global refugee crisis by making this world a better, safer place so everyone, especially the most vulnerable, can thrive.”

Born in Winnipeg and raised in Mumbai, Adi moved to the small town of Drumheller during high school. His first-hand experience of global disparity inspired his commitment to social justice and human rights. “Knowing that the talented and gifted friends I grew up with may not reach their potential because of socio-economic constraints in the developing world, I realized how lucky I was to have the privilege of Canadian citizenship,” he says.

During his time as a student of Political Science and Economics at the University of Alberta, Adi co-founded the Edmonton Refugee & Migrant Action Network, which provides a safe space for refugee and migrant

advocates to share information, foster collaboration and discussion, and organize action. Furthermore, he was a leader in the battle against racism as an outreach and education coordinator for the John Humphrey Center for Peace and Human Rights’ Racism Free Edmonton initiative.

Since 2008, Adi has been an active leader with the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) – an international development organization which runs community development and vocational training programs abroad, and sponsors refugees to study on Canadian campuses. Previously the coordinator for the student refugee program, he continues his leadership with WUSC today as an elected board member.

This fall, Adi moved to Ottawa to pursue a dual graduate degree in Law and the Arts at the University of Ottawa through the Norman Patterson School of International Affairs.

He is currently the Research and Advocacy co-chair for the University of Ottawa chapter of the Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers (CARL).

CENTRE FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION AND RESEARCH



Edmonton, Alberta
www.cgcer.ualberta.ca
cgcer@ualberta.ca
780-492-4879



Through research, education, and action, the Centre for Global Citizenship Education and Research (CGCER) heightens consciousness and understanding of global citizenship education issues in order to contribute to the collective development of societies that provide basic social justice and human rights. The CGCER community of University of Alberta researchers, students, and partners play a critical role in harnessing and advancing this vision. The concept of global citizenship suggests developing global citizen knowledge, skills, and attitudes fosters active involvement in local, national, and global institutions and systems that directly or indirectly affect individuals’ lives.



ALEAH LONEY

“Engaging in meaningful solidarity means that we come to this work with a willingness to put our individual or group priorities aside for what the most impacted group in a given situation requires – or doesn’t require – from us.”

Last June, hundreds of First Nations people from Alberta and across North America gathered in Fort McMurray for the 5th Annual Tar Sands Healing Walk. Organized by Aleah Loney and a handful of other environmental activists, the Healing Walk provides an opportunity for communities to share their concerns about oil sands development, and to express solidarity with the First Nations communities affected by resource extraction.

“I remember the sound of the drums coming as First Nations elders led the walkers in the final stretch of the walk,” Aleah recalls. “I was so inspired that I was brought to tears, as I watched the strength, beauty, and peace in their steady determination and perseverance. It is the indigenous-led resistance in this country that gives me hope.”

Hailing from Kelowna, BC, Aleah was raised with a strong moral compass. “My parents encouraged me to harness my curiosity, learn about issues, and form opinions on them based on what I believed to be right,” she says. “Going door-to-door collecting money for the local SPCA at the age of eight didn’t seem optional, it seemed imperative.”

Today, as a leading environmental activist in Alberta, Aleah is encouraging her fellow citizens to join in solidarity with the communities most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. “In Canada, First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples are disproportionately affected by the extraction industry,” she explains. “Climate justice means that we ensure first and foremost that the communities most impacted are the ones making the decisions.”

A graduate of the Next Up leadership program, Aleah works with the Council of Canadians – a network of advocates for clean water, fair trade, green energy, public health care, and a vibrant democracy. Working mainly with university students, Aleah’s work aims to educate and empower citizens to hold governments and corporations accountable for their decisions and actions.

Aleah is also a member of the United Nations Association of Canada, and a board member of the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation. As well, she is a member of the Canadian Youth Delegation, which represents the voice of the Canadian youth climate movement at international United Nations climate conferences. In December, she travelled to Peru to attend the United Nations climate talks in Lima.

“Engaging in meaningful solidarity means that we come to this work with a willingness to put our individual or group priorities aside for what the most impacted group in a given situation requires – or doesn’t require – from us,” Aleah concludes.

Age: 26

Hometown:
Kelowna, BC

Living In:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:

The Canadian Youth Delegation

Alberta Council for Global Cooperation

United Nations Association of Canada*

*ACGC Member Organization

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA



Edmonton and Calgary, Alberta
www.cal.unac.org
www.edmonton.unac.org
info@calgaryunac.org
info@edmonton.unac.org



The United Nations Association in Canada (UNA-Canada) is a historic, national charitable organization providing the leading policy voice on multilateralism in Canada. Established in 1946, UNA-Canada was a founding member of the World Federation of United Nations Associations. The mission of UNA-Canada is to educate and engage Canadians in the work of the UN and the critical international issues that affect us all. UNA-Canada is dedicated to promoting constructive Canadian participation in the United Nations system, and to growing global citizens in Canada who embrace the principles of the UN Charter.

AMY SMITH

Age: 21

Hometown:
Calmar, AB

Living In:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Rotaract Club at the
University of Alberta*

*Branch associated with
ACGC Member Organization

Born and raised in Calmar, AB, Amy Smith understands the dual importance of community and collaboration.

“Growing up in a small town was a blessing and burden at the same time,” she explains. “On one hand, it was excellent gaining the community’s support when trying to organize a fundraiser such as a bottle drive or banquet. Yet on the other hand, it’s hard to feel like you can make a huge impact with limited numbers and resources.”

Today, as the President of the Rotaract Club at the University of Alberta and an advocate for indigenous rights, Amy is building a network of individuals and partners united by a mission to strengthen communities worldwide.

Amy joined Rotary as a teenager and quickly devoted herself to the organization’s maxim, “Service Above Self.” The founder of her high school’s Interact Club, she was an engaged organizer, an efficient fundraiser, and a tireless volunteer. She has worked closely with the Alberta Association for Community Living, and has twice travelled to Belize to support the development of primary schools.

Under Amy’s leadership, the Rotaract Club at the University of Alberta has grown steadily and significantly, while her emphasis on collaboration has resulted in a multitude of projects in partnership with other Rotaract clubs from around the world. “I am so excited to see how our club went from a small group of passionate individuals to a huge family where we now have the numbers and resources to make a substantial change, both in our local community and abroad,” she says. This past year, Amy’s Rotaract club teamed up with members from a local high school and the Emmanuel Foundation to build a playground at Eden Primary School in San Ignacio, Belize.

Amy is currently a student of Political Science and Native Studies, and is working part time with the federal department of Aboriginal Affairs. Proud of her Métis heritage, she has a strong interest in learning how colonialism has affected indigenous peoples across the globe, and is an advocate for the improved socio-economic status of First Nations in Canada.

“We must educate Canadians about the assimilatory history our First Nations have endured, and need to



“Consulting with all concerned parties involved in a project is the key to ensure respectful collaboration occurs and meaningful outcomes are achieved.”

respect and honour the Treaties. We also must ensure that all First Nations have access to high quality education, which incorporates their culture, languages, and customs,” she explains. “Reconciliation for past injustices is vital to building stronger government-Aboriginal relations.”

However, Amy believes that positive change can no longer rely on the conventional top down approach to development and governance. “I strongly believe in consensus-style decision-making models. Consulting with all concerned parties involved in a project is the key to ensure respectful collaboration occurs and meaningful outcomes are achieved.”

ROTARY CLUB OF EDMONTON DOWNTOWN



Edmonton, Alberta
www.edmontonrotary.com
admin@edmontonrotary.com
780-429-3256

Rotary International brings together community leaders to provide humanitarian service locally and internationally. There are 34,000 clubs worldwide with over a million members. The Edmonton Downtown Rotary Club is a member of ACGC. It has programs in Edmonton and Belize, and supports international youth experiences. Become a member of a local chapter for fellowship, humanitarianism, and to engage in “service above self.”



“Everyone is developing their communities in different ways, with sometimes small beginnings.”

She is only 23 years old, but in the small rural community of Hamburg, South Africa, Angalakhla Mangwane is already a trusted community leader and an important activist for change.

Located in South Africa's Eastern Cape, Hamburg is not an easy place in which to grow up. Rudimentary transit, inadequate health and education facilities, and soaring unemployment are just some of the many challenges faced by residents of the remote village. But Angalakhla is optimistic, for she believes in the unique power of community.

“Government often lacks a real understanding of community development; to them, it means big things like building community halls, clinics or hospitals, or even bringing jobs,” she argues. “But I would say everyone is developing their communities in different ways, with sometimes small beginnings. A good foundation of interaction between community developers and community members is important.”

As a teenager and student of music, Angalakhla joined The Keiskamma Trust – a community development organization centered in Hamburg. Creating income opportunities through a number of holistic and creative programs, Keiskamma aims to foster hope and offer support for the region's most vulnerable.

A trained leader, Angalakhla helps to manage three of the organization's after-school care centres, which provide meals, educational assistance, and psychosocial support for over 400 children each day. She also runs Keiskamma's creative development program, which recruits and trains out-of-school and out-of-work youth to facilitate arts activities in schools.

In addition to her work with Keiskamma, Angalakhla is a mentor and role model for the young women in her community. Married at a young age, Angalakhla observes the customs of a traditional isiXhosa marriage – customs normally observed by older women.

“This gives her an air of maturity,” suggests Anne Fanning, the former coordinator of the University of Alberta's Global Health Initiative. “But her youthful energy, lively spirit, sense of humour, and confident outspokenness are not suppressed by her traditional appearance.”

ANGALAKHA MANGWANE

Age: 23

Hometown:
Hamburg, South Africa

Organizations:
Keiskamma Trust*

*Partner of ACGC
Member Organization

SEEDS EAST AFRICA



Edmonton, Alberta
www.seedseastafrica.com
ssmillie@ethiocan.net
780-994-6521

SEEDS' mandate is to serve the most vulnerable impoverished children and families in Ethiopia through assisting children's access to schooling and supporting parents (mainly single female-led families) with generating sustainable sources of income. Improving health through providing for medical costs, the development of clean water sources, and building school latrines are also strategies the organization employs to improve school retention and life outcomes. SEEDS works closely with community and government stakeholders. Central to their philosophy is supporting communities' capacity through partnerships as an essential element in sustainable development.

ASHTON JAMES

Age: 24

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Ceiba Association*

*ACGC Member Organization



“The world will stop and listen to the convictions of our generation because our ideas are propelling movements against social and environmental injustices forward.”

A creative writer in the service of social justice and a leader in community development abroad, Ashton James is truly a global citizen. “Systems of oppression are socially constructed phenomena, which can evolve and change as social pressures demand,” she explains. “As such, our individual choices can either perpetuate or challenge these systems.”

Ashton is currently Team Leader with Project HOPE (Hands Open to People Everywhere) – an Edmonton-based grassroots initiative organized by Ceiba Association that fosters sustainable community development through education, cultural exchange, and youth activism. This year, Ashton’s Project HOPE team will raise \$75,000 to support a comprehensive project focused on the rehabilitation and prevention of child malnutrition in Kabale, Uganda.

“Project HOPE offers youth, like myself, the opportunity to develop leadership skills, practice hands-on sustainable development, experience and understand different cultures, and grow as individuals in the global community,” Ashton explains. “It is an uplifting opportunity to be involved in community-led initiatives that empower women through their roles as caregivers and food providers.” Working in partnership with the Uganda-based Kigezi Healthcare Foundation, the project will support the construction of a child rehabilitation ward, a permaculture demonstration garden at a primary school, a rabbit-breeding centre,

and two medical and dental outreach camps in rural communities. The project will also invest in educational materials regarding nutrition and sustainable agriculture.

Ashton strongly believes that awareness of the impact of our everyday actions is an integral aspect of activism, and the first step towards social justice. *Inspired by Grassroots: A Field Guide for Feminist Activism* – a book by Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards – Ashton decided to create a blog titled “Bra on Fire” that is dedicated to exploring stories of everyday activism through creative writing.

“Creating and consuming art allows us to be active participants in our global community,” Ashton argues. “Awareness of our individual consumerism as a form of activism can have widespread influence through forcing us to recognize the broader social, political, and environmental impact of our choices.”

In other words, everyone has a role to play in the struggle for social justice. Yet for Ashton, the future is in the hands of the youth. “The greatest lesson I have learned over the past twenty-four years is that the world is full of people seeking to collaborate with and invest in the ideas of youth. The world will stop and listen to the convictions of our generation because our ideas are propelling movements against social and environmental injustices forward.”

CEIBA ASSOCIATION



Edmonton, Alberta
www.ceibaassociation.com
ceiba.association@gmail.com



Ceiba is an Edmonton-based non-profit organization that is run by youth, for youth, with the goal of engaging young people in global education and community development. They ignite youth activism and help create tomorrow’s leaders through education and cultural exchange. Locally, Ceiba have facilitated youth and mural arts projects. Internationally, they manage Project HOPE at MacEwan University, in which post-secondary students fundraise for grassroots development projects in Latin America and East Africa. To date, Project HOPE has raised \$500,000 for the construction of schools, health clinics, libraries, alternative art centres, and water infrastructure projects in Latin America.

BADDEIA JAWHARI



“Going against the grain is not a bad thing. It allows for new ways of thinking, it fosters innovation, and it can create an important impact – one that is sometimes bigger than yourself.”

to healthcare, especially in densely populated urban slums around the world,” states Badeia.

Based in Edmonton, Badeia is the Director of Human Resources for Innovative Canadians for Change (ICChange) – an NGO composed of experts and students collaborating to develop and implement innovative strategies to ensure the sustainable future of vulnerable populations. Currently, as the Project Manager of the organization’s Kibera Medical Record Initiative (KMRI), Badeia is leading a team of medical, computer, and health informatics professionals working to improve the utilization of health resources in Kibera, Kenya.

Home to some 800,000 residents, Kibera is the largest urban slum in Nairobi, and the second largest slum in all of Africa. The sprawling community is riddled by extreme poverty, high unemployment, and a prevalence of HIV/AIDS.

Collaborating with local community members and clinics on the ground, Badeia leads a team tasked with the installation and management of electronic medical records in clinics throughout the Kibera region. By refining and standardizing medical reporting, the project aims to improve patient care, create conditions for patient mobility, and develop a system for evaluating and predicting trends in community health.

For Badeia, the ongoing success of the KMRI stems from ambition, and a willingness to take chances. “When our team proposed the idea to bring electronic medical records to a slum in Africa, it was met with disbelief and gentle caution that this might not be the appropriate technology for a poor slum,” she admits. Three years later, the program is set to expand, having been recognized as a successful model by the Kenyan government and multiple international agencies.

“Going against the grain is not a bad thing,” she argues. “It allows for new ways of thinking, it fosters innovation, and it can create an important impact – one that is sometimes bigger than yourself.”

Badeia is currently working towards a Master of Science in Health Informatics at the University of Alberta, and plans to move to Nairobi in 2015 to continue her research.

Age: 28

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Innovative Canadians
for Change

The United Nations estimates that a third of the urban population in the developing world – about 863 million people – live in slums. This number is expected to increase. For Badeia Jawhari, addressing the unique challenges created by slums requires innovation, collaboration, and a little help from technology.

“My passion is to improve the quality of life and security of vulnerable populations locally and internationally, and to focus on how the fusion of health and technology can make a big impact in giving people access

BRIDGES OF HOPE



Lethbridge, Alberta
www.thebridgesofhope.com
info@bridgesofhope.ca
403-380-3844
Toll free 877-460-6036



Bridges of Hope is an international network of relief, development, and advocacy organizations dedicated to working with children, families, and communities to overcome poverty and injustice within the poorest nations of the world. Through partnering with local people in the developing world, Bridges of Hope focuses on facilitating and supporting sustainable enterprises that create employment and prosperity, which will ultimately empower people to transition from beneficiary to benefactors. Implementation is achieved by partnering with local businesses, spiritual leaders, individuals, and indigenous organizations within the region.

BRIANNA OLSON

Age: 29

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
iHuman Youth Society
Stolen Sisters Awareness

“Edmonton has the fastest growing Indigenous youth population in Canada and they are ready to engage in meaningful discussion about their hopes for social justice and for the future.”



“As a woman with strong Anishinaabe First Nations roots growing up in the Edmonton inner city, I have always strived to remain connected to my Indigenous teachings that have guided me since birth,” says Brianna Olson, a social worker, artist, and activist against gender violence. “Holistic and inclusive aspects of First Nations knowledge and experience provide an invaluable learning tool that can apply to the community at large, and contribute to community justice on all levels.”

After completing a diploma in social work at MacEwan University, Brianna began coordinating an educational support group for young at-risk mothers with the iHuman Youth Society – a vibrant arts and social service agency that engages vulnerable youth to foster positive personal development and social change. “Woven Journey” is based on an Indigenous teaching, according to which a community holds a shared responsibility for the upbringing and nurturing of children. Members of the group are provided with holistic parenting skills, and connected to external resources.

Brianna is also passionate about empowering Indigenous women and youth, and addressing the systemic barriers to justice that these populations face. A tireless advocate in the fight against gender violence, she is an important leader with “Sisters in Spirit” – a grassroots initiative that raises awareness and

honours the lives of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, while promoting community healing and safe spaces for individuals vulnerable to violence. In August, Brianna helped organize a vigil for the late Tina Fontaine and other missing or murdered women and girls. The inspiring event gathered together youth, Indigenous communities, and other attendees from across Edmonton.

In 2014, Brianna completed her Bachelor of Social Work with an Indigenous specialization at the University of Victoria. Today, in addition to her work with iHuman, she is a regular guest speaker at the University of Alberta and MacEwan University on social justice and the legal system. She is also a dedicated participant in the First Nations community, contributing to nation building, youth mentorship, and supporting traditional practices through her work as an artist and Jingle dress dancer.

Regarding the future, Brianna is optimistic. “Edmonton has the fastest growing Indigenous youth population in Canada and they are ready to engage in meaningful discussion about their hopes for social justice and for the future,” she says. “Their strength, resilience, and humour are what keep me going. Sometimes social justice work can be difficult and heart wrenching, but at the end of the day, they keep me laughing and hopeful that change is possible.”

GHOST RIVER REDISCOVERY



Calgary, Alberta
www.ghostriverrediscovery.com
info@ghostriverrediscovery.com
403-270-9351

Ghost River Rediscovery offers unique learning opportunities through outdoor education programs. Working together with Indigenous Elders, they strive to create programs that enrich the lives of participants through the teachings of the Elders and a deep feeling of connection with nature and the human family. With base camp located an hour and a half northwest of Calgary, in the Devil's Gap area along the Banff National Park border, participants have access to some of the world's most rugged and strikingly beautiful scenery. It's the ideal place to learn about oneself and one's place in the world.



“Education enriches the culture, the spirit, and the values of a person.”

CARMEN HUANE LLUYA

Carmen Huane Lliuya was in high school when her father disappeared from their rural community of Rivas, Peru. Carmen was left to support her mother and grandmother, who speak a local dialect, and are unable to read or write. Desperate for income, Carmen feared that leaving her community for Lima – a city known by some as dangerous – was her only option.

Fortunately, Carmen discovered the Yurac Yacu Community Centre – an Andean Alliance development project near Huaraz, Peru supported by the Alberta-based Sombrilla International. The community centre, which was built in tandem by local residents and volunteer groups from around the world, houses educational rooms and small community businesses that generate income for local families and help fund ongoing education and skills training programs. Today, as a leader, an ambassador, and an employee with the centre, Carmen is able to support her family without leaving her home, and is empowering women and youth in her community to do the same.

“I saw that the Andean Alliance project, Yurac Yacu, was developed in my community,” Carmen says in Spanish. “I wanted to be involved in the project helping to give the children here the opportunity for education so that they can then defend themselves in the world.”

Over the past three years, Carmen has filled a number of roles at the community centre. She helps school

children with homework, teaches computer skills in the computer lab and library, runs the summer camp program providing recreational activities for children, is a member of the volunteer committee responsible for the Centre’s administration, and also teaches women sewing as part of the Yurac Yacu Crafts Cooperative. The cooperative program provides the women, many of whom are single parents or illiterate, with essential skills for creating marketable handicrafts. Additional income earned by women from the sale of handicrafts is often used to improve nutrition and support education for children.

“Education enriches the culture, the spirit, and the values of a person,” Carmen says. “By learning to sew, women can make positive changes in their lives.”

“Carmen is an inspiring leader in the community, especially for youth,” explains one of her colleagues from the community centre. “In spite of the fact that she is the sole income earner for her family, she frequently goes beyond the expectations of her work and volunteers extra time for the community.”

Age: 19

Hometown:
Rivas, Peru

Organizations:
Yurac Yacu Community Center (partnered project of Sombrilla International* and Andean Alliance)

*ACGC Member Organization

SOMBRILLA INTERNATIONAL



Edmonton, Alberta
www.sombrilla.ca
sombrillahome@gmail.com
780-988-2976



Sombrilla is an Alberta-based civil society organization working in partnership with organizations in Latin America to support sustainable development, social justice, gender equity, and human rights. Sombrilla’s mission is to partner with communities in Latin America to empower them to assert their democratic, economic, cultural, and social rights.

CLAIRE EDWARDS

Age: 20

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
City of Edmonton
Youth Council

John Humphrey Centre for
Peace and Human Rights*

The Downtown Edmonton
Community League

*ACGC Member Organization

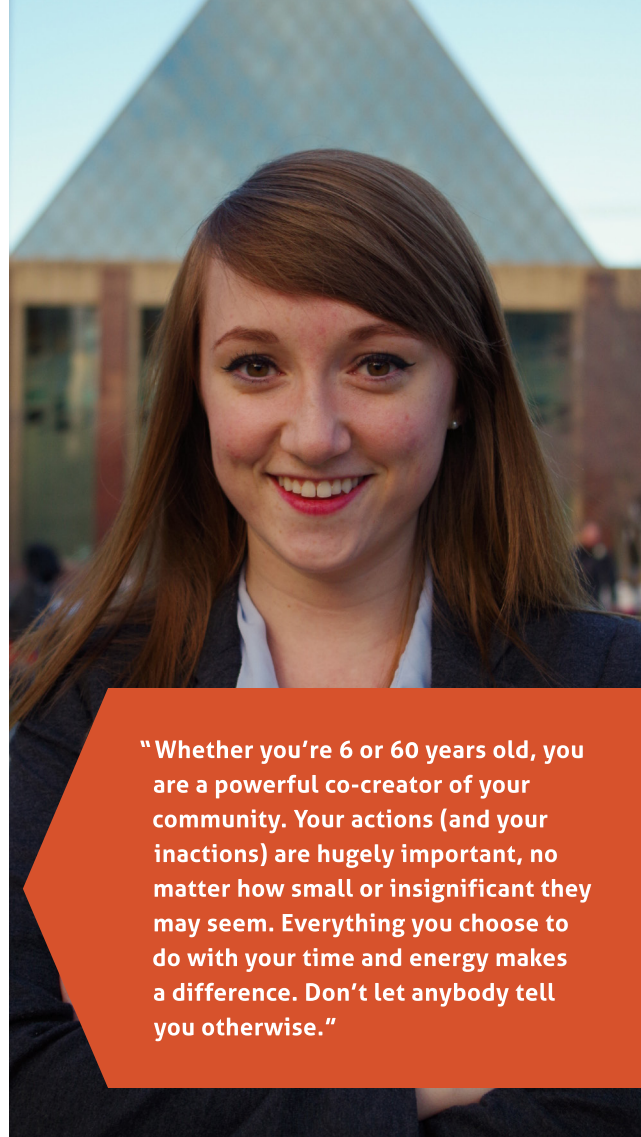
Forget the “leaders of tomorrow.” For Claire Edwards, it’s time for young people to be the leaders of today. With her tireless and dynamic work as an advocate, leader, and organizer, Claire is strengthening – nay, exploding – the voices of youth across Alberta.

“People often say that my generation is apathetic or disengaged,” Claire contends. “That’s not true. My generation has the universe at their fingertips – they are more connected and more literate than any generation in human history. They know what’s going on in the world. They’re not disengaged – they’re disempowered.”

A dedicated activist for international human rights and indigenous water rights, Claire also emphasizes that global citizenship includes the responsibility of addressing the injustices and inequalities that surround us locally. As a board member with the John Humphrey Centre for Peace & Human Rights, the President of the Student Network for Advocacy and Public Policy, a member of Next Up Edmonton, and an executive of the Downtown Edmonton Community League, the aim of Claire’s work in community development is twofold: to improve the representation of youth in all levels of government, and to encourage young people to assume ownership and control of their environments as they work towards positive change.

Claire is also the elected chair of the City of Edmonton Youth Council (CEYC) – an organization that educates and empowers youth to provide meaningful input and to take action on local issues and municipal politics in Edmonton. CEYC provides an organized representation of the interests of Edmontonians between the ages of 13 and 23, on issues ranging from public art to youth homelessness.

“The Youth Council gives young people the tools they need to create the positive change that they want to see in their city. It allows them to identify what matters to them, and figure out how to act most effectively on that issue. It’s powerful because it’s by youth, for youth,” Claire explains. In early December, under Claire’s leadership, the Youth Council voted to publicly oppose Alberta’s controversial Bill 10, demanding that the provincial government engage in immediate and meaningful consultation with youth on the subject of Gay-Straight Alliances. “Wheth-



“Whether you’re 6 or 60 years old, you are a powerful co-creator of your community. Your actions (and your inactions) are hugely important, no matter how small or insignificant they may seem. Everything you choose to do with your time and energy makes a difference. Don’t let anybody tell you otherwise.”

er you’re 6 or 60 years old, you are a powerful co-creator of your community. Your actions (and your inactions) are hugely important, no matter how small or insignificant they may seem. Everything you choose to do with your time and energy makes a difference. Don’t let anybody tell you otherwise.”

JOHN HUMPHREY CENTRE FOR PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS



Edmonton, Alberta
www.jhcentre.org
info@jhcentre.org
780-453-2638



The John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights works to manifest a culture of peace and human rights where the dignity of every person is respected, valued, and celebrated. This work is achieved through educational programs and activities, community collaboration, and relationship building that is guided by the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The John Humphrey Centre’s initiatives are engaging, experiential, and transformative; they encourage diverse participants to build their capacity for respect and reciprocity through knowing their rights and understanding their obligations and responsibilities.



“The way we teach youth is going to be a major contributing factor in how we approach problems, so it’s my belief that we need great teachers to educate and inspire the young students of today.”

Growing up in the rustic mountain town of Jasper, Alberta, Douglas Matthews developed a robust understanding of the concept of environmental sustainability. “Living in a National Park all my life, I’ve had the opportunity to witness and experience a very strict environmental policy that most people can’t say they’ve had the chance to feel,” he explains. Today, Doug is determined to share his unique understanding with the world.

Before pursuing a degree in Engineering Physics at the University of British Columbia, Doug was the

head of the Jasper Environmental Action Club and the Jasper Sustainability Club for Youth (JSCY). He also developed the town’s first youth community garden. In Vancouver, Doug is the Educator and Program Co-Director of the UBC Chapter of Engineers Without Borders, where he teaches his fellow students about issues surrounding water, energy, and global disparity.

Doug believes that the protection of our environment depends on education. “In our current world, we can see that there are numerous concerns we need to address,” he points out. “The way we teach youth is going to be a major contributing factor in how we approach these problems, so it’s my belief that we need great teachers to educate and inspire young students of today.” Over the years, Doug has helped organize four youth conferences on sustainability in Jasper, featuring students from across Western Canada.

In 2012, Doug traveled with the JSCY to a conference in Portland, Oregon, to share their vision of building the world’s first portable and self-sustaining classroom in Jasper, the Sustainable Education Every Day (SEED) Classroom. Inspired by the group’s presentation, an American architect offered to design and help build the SEED classroom, with the aim of having the classroom classified a “Living Building” – the highest building code in the industry. Doug is currently working with the JSCY to raise funds for the classroom’s construction in Jasper.

“When we complete this project, it will reflect the powerful impact that an ambitious group of youth can accomplish. I hope that through this, we can inspire more and more students to get involved with their community.” Powered by renewable water and energy systems, classrooms based on the SEED Prototype have been built throughout Washington State. Doug hopes that in the near future, self-sustaining classrooms will be found around the globe. “Today, we can see that more and more buildings are being built following ‘green building’ guidelines, which is a huge step in helping to reduce the effects of our ecological footprint.”

DOUGLAS MATTHEWS

Age: 21

Hometown:
Jasper, AB

Living In:
Vancouver, BC

Organizations:
Jasper Sustainability Club for Youth

Engineers Without Borders* UBC Chapter

*Branch associated with
ACGC Member Organization

ENERGY4EVERYONE FOUNDATION



Calgary, Alberta
www.energy4everyone.com
info@energy4everyone.com
403-767-3668



In many communities across Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, access to energy is extremely limited and costly. This has a very real impact on the quality and length of life of the affected population. Founded in 2009, and supported by Enbridge, the energy4everyone Foundation works to improve access to affordable, sustainable, and reliable energy for those who need it most. To date, over 80,000 people in five countries on three continents have been helped. energy4everyone is a collaborating partner in the United Nations proclaimed International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies 2015.

ERIN BALCOM

Age: 22

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Women's Empowerment
International Foundation*

Somaiya Action for HIV/
AIDS Support

*ACGC Member Organization



“Listening to and promoting the voices of those who are isolated or silenced by inequality is the most critical step in empowering communities to foster meaningful, permanent change”

As a scientist, researcher, and spirited global citizen, Erin Balcom is dedicated to applying her knowledge of health and disease to improve the livelihoods of communities around the world. “Human health is the great barometer of community development,” she argues.

At the age of 22, Erin already has degree in Biological Sciences under her belt, and has extensive experience in medical research in the Department of Oncology at the University of Alberta. She is currently a Research Technologist at the Cross Cancer Institute, where she studies the biology of retinal, brain, and breast cancer.

But according to Erin, improving global health requires more than just a laboratory. “Research is undeniably important, but nobody is more in touch with the challenges, resources, and needs of a community than someone who calls it home. Listening to and promoting the voices of those who are isolated or silenced by inequality is the most critical step in empowering communities to foster meaningful, permanent change.”

For the past three years, Erin has worked with the Women's Empowerment International Foundation

(WEIF) – an Edmonton-based organization that promotes education, poverty alleviation, health, and gender empowerment in rural regions of Central and South Asia.

Initially hired as a writer and researcher for WEIF, in 2012 she traveled to Dahanu Taluka, India, to assist with the launch of a multifaceted education, health, and agricultural development project. During her trip, she also taught English at the Nareshwadi Learning Centre for underprivileged children, and contributed to WEIF's HIV/AIDS outreach program, which helps HIV-positive women access medical care and social services.

Now an executive board member with WEIF, Erin plays an essential role in developing and bringing to light new development initiatives. In 2015, WEIF will launch a new health initiative in Bihar, India that will involve the construction of a clinic that specializes in women's health, providing obstetric and gynecological care and breast cancer screening to underserved communities. “Our hope is that this clinic will allow women to take control over their health and bodies in an environment where they are comfortable, supported, and protected,” Erin explains.

MAHARASHTRA SEVA SAMITI ORGANIZATION



Calgary, Alberta
www.mssoonline.org
info@mssoonline.org
403-288-0048



The Maharashtra Seva Samiti Organization's (MSSO) vision is to promote sustainable economic and social development of the less fortunate in Maharashtra, India. To achieve this vision, MSSO identifies hardworking and selfless grassroots social workers as partners, working for the empowerment and development of the less fortunate. MSSO strives to empower women to participate as equal partners in achievement of social justice and equitable development.

“Having access to safe drinking water and sanitation not only contributes to people’s health and wellbeing, it is also a matter of dignity and justice.”



EVA MANZANO

Wondering what a global citizen looks like in 2015? Look no further than Eva Manzano.

A chemical engineer from Madrid, Spain, Eva was inspired to pursue development work after volunteering at a refugee camp in the Western Sahara. Her new career path eventually led her to Calgary, where she learned English and joined The Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology (CAWST). Today, you would be lucky to track her down, as she travels through the hemispheres working to improve global access to potable water and sanitation as CAWST’s International Technical Advisor for South America and Laos.

Eva believes that access to clean water is a fundamental and universal human right. In her words, “Having access to safe drinking water and sanitation not only contributes to people’s health and wellbeing, it is also a matter of dignity and justice.”

Collaborating with partners in over a dozen countries in the Global South, Eva provides education and technical support for simple, household technologies that can provide families with clean and safe water. Eva works closely with women, empowering mothers to fulfill their water and sanitation needs at the household level, which ensures a brighter future for their children.

In her role as an International Technical Advisor, Eva also plays an instrumental role in strengthening the capacity of local organizations to deliver water in the global south. She is the lead for CAWST’s Water Expertise Training (WET) Centre in Laos, with experience as a contributor to WET Centres in Honduras, Zambia, Nepal, and Cambodia.

“Education is the most powerful tool that people need in life for success. If people have the knowledge and skills they need, they’ll be able to make responsible and independent actions,” she explains. “This empowerment also has a ripple effect because these knowledge and skills can be transferred to other communities, countries, and future generations.”

Back home in Calgary, Eva draws from her wealth of development experience to encourage youth to not only take action, but to elevate their ambitions to a global scale. When it comes to discovering just where to begin, her advice is simple.

“Travelling is the most rewarding experience in life: keep your eyes and ears open, and learn from every person you meet, and every place you visit. And always try new things – you won’t regret it.”

Age: 29

Hometown:
Madrid, Spain

Living In:
Calgary, AB

Organizations:
Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology*

*ACGC Member Organization

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT LEARNING



Cochrane, Alberta
www.fourworlds.ca/himat.html
anyone@fourworlds.ca
403-932-0882



The International Centre for Development Learning contributes to sustainable peace and prosperity in 120 rural, high mountain villages in northern Pakistan. Their primary strategies are 1) fostering hope and the entrepreneurial spirit, 2) building social activists’ and community leaders’ capacity through virtual college courses, 3) stimulating “quick-win” social and economic projects that demonstrate real pathways out of poverty, 4) strengthening village and area development councils’ capacity to initiate and manage their own development programs, and 5) supporting the creation of integrated rural development plans. They do all this on less than \$1/day per person in the region.

HANNAH GELDERMAN

Age: 25

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Keiskamma Canada*

Our Lady, Queen of Peace

Alberta Association for
Community Living

*ACGC Member Organization

“This world is a ridiculously complex place. The most hopeful thing we can do is navigate these complexities with as much love, respect, and creativity as possible.”

Can art change the world? Hannah Gelderman thinks so. Indeed, Hannah’s efforts at home and abroad are a testament to the transformative power of art. “I am fuelled by the idea that creative and holistic experiences empower people and are a part of creating healthy and vibrant communities. The arts are tools for empowerment and activism; they are expressive and can build self-esteem.”

Hannah is a graduate from the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Alberta, and currently works as an Educational Facilitator with the Alberta Association for Community Living – an organization that advocates on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities. Employing her artistic talents for the sake of community development, Hannah is also an active member with Our Lady, Queen of Peace (OLQP), which provides outdoor recreational experience for youth with special needs.

“As a youngster, I loved going to camp, being outside, making arts and crafts, and meeting so many interesting people along the way. These are simple but powerful experiences, and I quickly learned that they weren’t a part of everybody’s story,” Hannah explains. As a leader and the OLQP Arts and Crafts Coordinator, Hannah has developed unique programming aimed at fostering creative potential within a safe environment of respect and inclusion.

With her sights set globally, Hannah is also a board member, fundraiser, and volunteer for Keiskamma Canada Foundation, which partners with Keiskamma Trust, a non-profit organization serving rural communities in the Eastern Cape of South Africa. She spent six months in Hamburg, South Africa facilitating creative workshops for children, and for HIV positive young people. Hannah also worked closely with local artists, sharing creative techniques and contributing to the tapestries and embroidered crafts that are sold to raise funds for the Keiskamma Trust.

“I was so inspired by the artwork that ranged from small embroideries to massive tapestries, along with wire and fabric sculptures, ceramics, and felt work. There are works that tell the Xhosa people’s history in South Africa, their struggles and celebrations. The art project has become a vital part of the community as the project is a place for skill building, learning, creation, and employment.” Back in Edmonton, Hannah has created an online shop for the handmade crafts and has curated a number of fundraising art shows. She has raised tens of thousands of dollars for the Keiskamma Trust.

“This world is a ridiculously complex place,” Hannah admits. “The most hopeful thing we can do is navigate these complexities with as much love, respect, and creativity as possible.”

KEISKAMMA CANADA



Edmonton, Alberta

www.keiskamacanada.com

keiskamacanada@shaw.ca

Inspired by the stories of the local Xhosa people’s stitched tapestries, the Keiskamma Canada Foundation’s vision is vibrant, healthy communities in the Eastern Cape region of South Africa. The Keiskamma Foundation’s partner, the Keiskamma Trust, is a community organization, which fosters hope and offers support for the most vulnerable. Keiskamma strives to address the challenges of widespread poverty and disease through holistic and creative programmes and partnerships. Since its inception in 2008, Keiskamma Canada has organized fundraisers, raised awareness of the Trust’s work, and provided opportunities for people to purchase the Trust’s renowned and beautiful handmade embroideries.

HARNEET CHAHAL



“Getting involved in community development gives us the power as youth, to directly impact and shape our future.”

who already belong to vulnerable or marginalized groups. Through my work, I want to give these women a voice; I want their stories and struggles to be heard to incite progress in women’s empowerment.”

Harneet’s involvement in maternal health was inspired by her work with the IndoCanadian Women’s Association (ICWA) – an Edmonton-based organization that supports the protection of the rights of immigrants, and offers settlement assistance, skillbuilding activities, and adult education. As a volunteer and employee with ICWA, Harneet advocated against harmful cultural practices that subject women to preventable violence, such as female infanticide and sex-selective abortions.

Harneet is currently working on her Master of Science in the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta. Her research is focused on the socio-cultural and gendered barriers women in Pakistan face in accessing maternal health services. Last year, Harneet grappled with a number of security risks for the opportunity to live in a remote village in Pakistan for four months, where she researched how women’s lives are placed at risk when navigating inequities embedded within health systems. She recently travelled to Uganda, where she worked on a project evaluation, examining the strengths and weaknesses of a community-based antiretroviral treatment and drug administration program.

“Push past the fear that comes with having to travel to a new place,” she advises. “Sometimes the world is not as scary as it’s made out to be. There are kind, generous people everywhere, they can make any place seem like home.”

As a professional consultant with the Alberta Centre for Child, Family and Community Research, she is helping to conduct an environmental scan of gender-based programming in Alberta to address any existing gaps. She is also a key member of the organizing committee for Five Rivers Youth, an organization inspired by Sikh ideals dedicated to community development, youth empowerment, and social justice. As she explains, “Getting involved in community development gives us the power as youth, to directly impact and shape our future.”

With fearless tenacity, Harneet Chahal is going to extraordinary lengths to eliminate the barriers to maternal health and gender equality faced by women around the world.

“In many parts of the world, women are limited in their autonomy and decision making abilities, even in regards to issues as personal as their own reproductive health,” Harneet explains. “A complex network of social, political, and cultural factors often collude to eliminate the voices of women, particularly those

Age: 24

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Alberta Centre for Child,
Family and Community
Research

Five Rivers Youth

Indo-Canadian Women’s
Association

CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE



The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace is the official international development organization for the Catholic Church in Canada, and the Canadian member of Caritas Internationalis. For over 40 years, the organization has supported partners in developing communities who are encouraging alternatives to unjust social, political, and economic structures. In Canada, Development and Peace works toward the mobilization and education of Canadians on issues involving human dignity. The organization believes that all Canadians of all religious beliefs have a responsibility to advocate for the world’s poor and disadvantaged.

Calgary, Edmonton, and Saint
Paul, Alberta

www.devp.org

comm.devp.ab@gmail.com

780-803-6987

HASAN HAMZE

Age: 25

Hometown:
Vancouver, BC

Living In:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Amref Health Africa
Innovative Canadians
for Change

Hasan Hamze's efforts as a global citizen are guided by a simple aphorism: "Never look down on someone unless you are helping them up!"

The 25-year-old from Vancouver, now living in Edmonton, has a background in clinical exercise rehabilitation, and is using his expertise to improve the health and well-being of communities across the world. He's also not afraid to jump into the mix headfirst.

For example, in 2012, as a volunteer at a small hospital in Ghana, Hasan recognized a lack of resources for patients with spinal cord injuries. Without skipping a beat, he designed and manufactured an innovative exercise device for patient rehabilitation.

This past summer, as an intern with Amref Health Africa – a major organization promoting global health in remote regions of East Africa – Hasan developed a methodology to measure the impact, cost-effectiveness, and economic benefit of the organization's cleft lip and palate reconstructive surgery program. Today, he is an advocate for specialized surgery programs in low- and middle-income countries, and has presented at four conferences worldwide to convey his message.

Hasan is currently working with Amref to help develop mobile health technology for community-based disease surveillance purposes.

"Because marginalized and rural communities in Sub-Saharan Africa don't have access to physicians or large health facilities, community health workers gather data and refer rural patients with serious conditions to larger health care facilities," Hasan explains. "Mobile health technology will allow health workers to send the collected data using mobile phones rather than in physical form. This reduces the costs associated with transporting data in paper form to a health facility hours away, and allows for immediate responses to disease outbreaks."

Hasan is also working with Innovative Canadians for Change on the Kibera Medical Record Initiative (KMRI), helping to develop and implement an electronic medical record system in the informal settlement of Kibera in Nairobi, Kenya. The KMRI aims to standardize medical reporting in the region, in order to improve patient care and develop a system for evaluating and predicting trends in community health. "This is excit-



"We often come with a rigid framework or perspective, and a goal of making change, without realizing that there is arguably much more to learn from a community in return."

ing because it serves as a very innovative and timely intervention to improve health care service delivery in informal urban settlements, especially as the rate of urbanization is rising quickly," Hasan says.

Despite his confident personality, however, Hasan is quick to emphasize the importance of humility and collaboration. "Be receptive to learning from others," he advises. "We often come with a rigid framework or perspective, and a goal of making change, without realizing that there is arguably much more to learn from a community in return."

OPERATION EYESIGHT



For All The World To See

Calgary, Alberta

www.operationeyesight.com

info@operationeyesight.com

403-283-6323

Operation Eyesight is an international development organization dedicated to eliminating avoidable blindness, that is, blindness that can be prevented by surgical or environmental intervention. Since its founding in Calgary in 1963, Operation Eyesight has brought sight restoration and blindness-prevention treatments to millions of people in the developing world. Operation Eyesight currently works in India, Kenya, Ghana, and Zambia.

JAMIE DUBLANKO



“The actions of the world today will leave consequences felt by the world tomorrow, making it essential that the global youth voice be heard and treated with significance.”

While only 16 years old, Jamie Dublanko possesses an impressive ability to explore and synthesize complex ideas, creating compelling narratives and persuasive arguments. As a passionate environmentalist and a spokesperson for youth, Jamie is using her unique skills of communication to engage with those in power, and to share her message of climate justice with the world.

“The environment connects every single human being across the globe; no matter what race, sex, or reli-

gion you are, we depend on the environment for every aspect of life, and with each action we shape it,” Jamie says. “This makes dealing with environmental damage more than important, especially because the effects of issues like climate change and deforestation are long lasting, have global implications, and are often irreversible.”

A student and the current Student Council President at Queen Elizabeth High School in Edmonton, Jamie is also the student director for the Centre for Global Education (CGE) – an organization devoted to fostering international relationships between high school students through the use of innovative technology. She has connected her peers with youth from around the world, from Taiwan to Ghana, to facilitate dialogue, and encourage collaborative action on a broad range of social justice issues.

Jamie firmly believes that global change is in the hands of the youth, and encourages creativity and thinking outside the box. “Change doesn’t happen by repeating the past, and new innovative ideas are essential to progress. The kind of thinking that is necessary for change can come from the youth if they are empowered to think critically and have their voice heard.”

Jamie has co-chaired a number of writing committees, producing and presenting public policy proposals for a provincial strategy for water conservation, a national strategy for climate change, and a vision for Canada post-Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In December, Jamie was amongst the three students selected to travel to Peru to represent the youth of Canada at an initiative associated with the COP20 Climate Conference in Lima. “We synthesized a white paper that compiled the voices of youth across Canada on the position we should be taking to reduce carbon emissions, assisting developing nations in sustainable development, and adapting to the consequences of climate change,” explains Jamie, who was Chief Writer and Student Lead for the policy proposal. “The actions of the world today will leave consequences felt by the world tomorrow, making it essential that the global youth voice be heard and treated with significance,” she says.

Age: 16

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Centre for Global
Communication

NAFASI OPPORTUNITY SOCIETY



Edmonton, Alberta
www.nafasi-opportunity.org
nafasi-opportunity@shaw.ca

Nafasi–Opportunity Society (NOS) is an Alberta-based registered charity that creates opportunity for young women in Tanzania by sharing vocational, entrepreneurship, education, and skills. Currently, 22 young women have full scholarships to attend classes at NOS’s partner in Dar es Salaam, The Open University of Tanzania (OUT) and are being trained in their chosen trade of hairdressing. Learn more about Nafasi Opportunity Society and their “Styling the Future” project!

JULIA RUDZITIS

Age: 23

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Women's Empowerment
International Foundation*

Imanta Latvian
Society of Edmonton

The Africa Center

*ACGC Member Organization

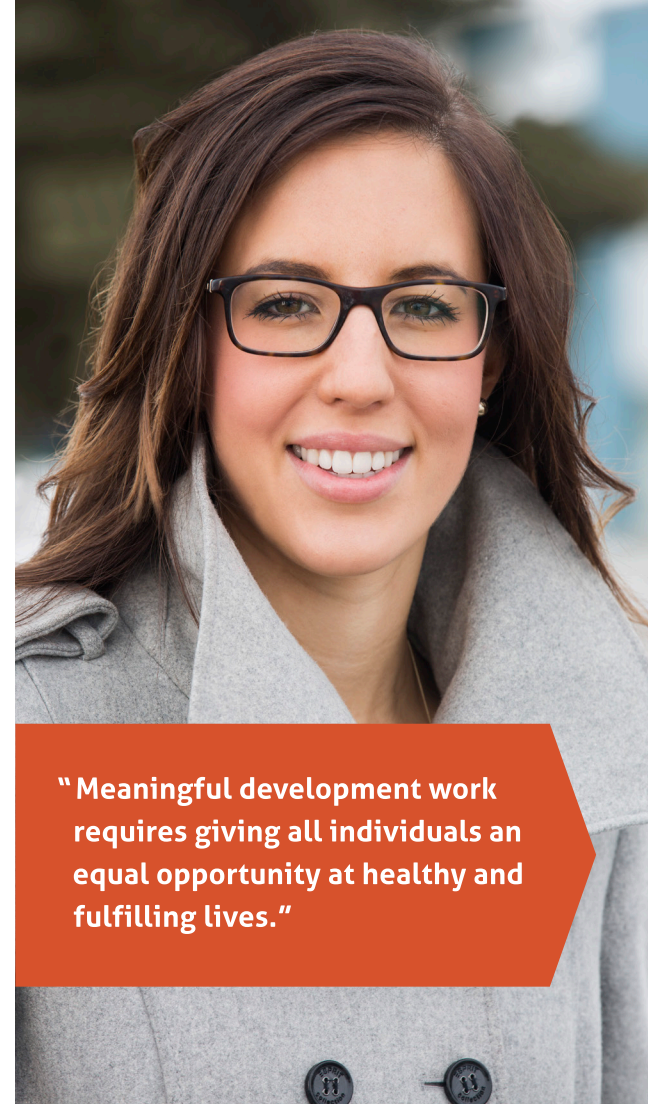
Julia Rudzitis has always found time to immerse herself in local community development. Over the past several years, she has volunteered with Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and the Africa Centre of Edmonton, as a tutor supporting the educational development of Somali children. Proud of her Latvian heritage, she is also involved with the Imanta Latvian Society of Edmonton.

Julia's interest in global social justice was sparked when she learned about international development as a student of Political Science at the University of Alberta. "Inequality is not confined to any one country or group," she says. "Working with a variety of Edmonton-based non-profit organizations inspired me to help improve livelihoods of individuals beyond my immediate vision, while remaining committed to promoting social justice locally."

Specifically, Julia is passionate about improving global health, and reducing disproportionate rates of disease amongst marginalized populations. "Health is a fundamental right of every human being," she states. "Yet poor nutrition, lack of access to clean water, and inadequate living environments deprive millions of people of this right."

Currently, Julia is a researcher and fundraiser for Women's Empowerment International Foundation (WEIF), an Edmonton-based non-profit organization dedicated to poverty alleviation and women's empowerment in Central and South Asia. Julia is currently in charge of securing grants for WEIF's agricultural initiative in Bihar, India, which aims to promote food security and economic opportunity for women, and secure a stable source of nutritious food and clean water for their families.

"Critical to this project's success are local collaborations and community-driven solutions that emphasize long-term sustainability," she explains. "For instance, local experts train women in financial literacy and a staggered three-tier farming plan to facilitate revenue generation, as well as long-term savings. 150 women in the remote villages of Dhanuja, Sukhasan and Lokahi have been incorporated into our two-year program, and are currently initiating their vegetable and floriculture cultivation projects." A diligent and effective fundraiser, Julia has also provided support for WEIF's efforts to provide



"Meaningful development work requires giving all individuals an equal opportunity at healthy and fulfilling lives."

vital services and care to individuals affected by HIV in the Pratiksha Magar slums of Mumbai. WEIF's "Zero Transmission" program provides counselling for adherence to antiretroviral therapy, and resources to prevent mother-to-child transmission of the virus. "Meaningful development work requires giving all individuals an equal opportunity at healthy and fulfilling lives" she says. Looking towards to the future, Julia plans to travel to India to assist WEIF with project implementation, and to attain a graduate degree in public policy in order to better understand how to effect change in the distribution of health services.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION



Edmonton, Alberta

www.weif.org

info@weif.org

780-707-5431

The Women's Empowerment International Foundation (WEIF) is an Edmonton-based charity run by a small team of dedicated board members and volunteers. Through a multi-faceted approach that includes education, health care, and economic opportunity, WEIF empowers communities in Central and South Asia to tackle the root causes of poverty and social inequality. WEIF recognizes that empowering women is pivotal to promoting peace and transforming communities: financially independent women are less vulnerable to abuse and promote gender equality by leading their families in an ascent out of poverty.



“When you encounter a social justice issue, dissect it.”

LEAH SCHMIDT

Leah Schmidt believes that recognizing the complexity and interconnectivity of global issues is crucial for generating positive change.

“Social justice is not simply about thinking of the large-scale or small-scale impact of an action, but thinking of how an action will impact different groups in different ways,” she argues. “When you encounter a social justice issue, dissect it.”

Leah is currently the President of the University of Calgary Model United Nations Team, and a Director for the National Model United Nations in New York. Her role, broadly, is to facilitate opportunities for students from around the world to study and discuss a multitude of global issues, while engaging in the actual processes involved in creating solutions.

“I have had the opportunity to discuss everything from global gender issues, to sustainable development, to maternal healthcare with equally passionate students from all over the world,” Leah explains. “This ability to actively engage in solving issues has motivated me to extend my dedication to social justice into other communities.”

Particularly, Leah is an advocate for community-based gender justice. She is currently a co-coordinator of the “Q Centre,” the Student Union Centre

for Sexual and Gender Diversity at the University of Calgary that serves to create a safe space for individuals in the LGBTQIA community, while advocating and educating on behalf of these marginalized populations. In her role, Leah manages over 40 volunteers, provides peer mentoring support to students in need, organizes events connecting diverse community groups, and educates students and visitors on diversity and sexual education issues.

“Gender issues have been so historically entrenched as taboo, that the literature and discussion surrounding them are still shadowed by stigma,” she explains. “I like breaking through that stigma to have challenging, educational conversations about everything from gender and sexual diversity, to grassroots activism, to the work of international organizations in breaking through institutional bias.”

Leah is also the Academic Executive with the UCalgary Women’s Studies and Feminist Club, the Campus Outreach Coordinator for the Coming Out Monologues YYC initiative, and is also involved in the University’s Peer Mentoring Network. This past year, Leah facilitated an impressive conference on global reproductive rights and maternal care as the Theme Director of the Calgary World Health Simulation.

Age: 21

Hometown: Calgary, AB

Organizations:

Q: The SU Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity

Calgary World Health Organization Simulation

Model United Nations

DEPARTMENT OF PEACE INITIATIVE



Edmonton, Alberta
www.cdpiedmonton.ca
cdpi@shaw.ca
780-454-7505

Given the escalation of violent conflict in Canada, the growth of Canada’s military budgets, the lack of peace related policies in federal government, and the decline of Canada’s role in international peacebuilding, peacekeeping, and diplomacy, there has never been a more compelling time to campaign for a Canadian Department of Peace. The Canadian Department of Peace Initiative (CDPI) seeks to establish a Federal Minister for Peace who would advance an agenda to promote a culture of peace and assertive non-violence within Canada and the world. A Federal Department of Peace is Canada’s missing piece to peace.

LUIS ZÚÑIGA

Age: 23

Hometown:
Trojes, Honduras

Organizations:
Centre for Affordable
Water and Sanitation
Technology*

*ACGC Member Organization



“My passion within community development is giving families an opportunity to live fuller lives through the basic provision of clean water.”

Luis Zúñiga knows water.

Providing education about sanitation and hygiene in over 90 small communities, and improving access to potable water, Luis has empowered and enhanced the lives of thousands of individuals across Honduras. “My passion within community development is giving families an opportunity to live fuller lives through the basic provision of clean water,” he explains.

Based in his native town of Trojes, Luis is a Health Promoter with Agua Pura Para el Mundo (Pure Water for the World) – an organization partnered with the Calgary-based Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology (CAWST). Although a proficient expert trained to install and maintain biosand water filters and latrines, Luis sees himself first and foremost as an educator. “It is important that the communities take ownership of the project and know why clean water and proper hygiene are critical; the organization is really only there for its implementation,” he explains.

Guided by a holistic approach to water and health, Luis works closely with families and young children, who – because of limited access to health facilities – are most vulnerable to waterborne illnesses. The effects of such illnesses, if not lethal, can be severely

detrimental to a child’s mental and physical growth. For Luis, better hygiene means better health, and better health means improved livelihood.

“I saw my friends’ children getting sick from drinking dirty water and wanted to be part of helping to change that. Teaching them key hand-washing times, to use soap and water, how to properly dispose of organic and inorganic trash, personal hygiene like brushing teeth and wearing shoes, are just a few of the things we talk about.”

A compassionate storyteller, Luis also educates other water practitioners across Central America and beyond, primarily as a member of CAWST’s Water Expertise and Training (WET) Centre. By providing support, training, consultation, and sharing best practices, the WET network ensures that Luis’s local efforts create an impact globally. Resourceful and perseverant, Luis has gladly traversed the often-treacherous terrain of his home country, over mountains and through swamplands, determined to provide assistance to even the most remote communities in need.

“Our days at work are always an adventure and we never know what will happen,” he says. “We take every challenge with a great sense of humour.”

CENTRE FOR AFFORDABLE WATER AND SANITATION TECHNOLOGY



Calgary, Alberta
www.cawst.org
cawst@cawst.org
403-243-3285



The Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology (CAWST) aims to see a world where people have the opportunity to succeed because their basic water and sanitation needs are met. To achieve this, CAWST provides technical training and consulting, as well as acts as a centre of expertise in water and sanitation. CAWST’s approach uses education as a catalyst for independent actions that initiate, strengthen, and expand water and sanitation programs for vulnerable populations in developing countries. Since 2001, CAWST has reached 9.3 million people around the world with safe water and sanitation.

“The biggest impacts begin with the smallest drops of change.”



MAHALA MORRIS

One afternoon, Mahala Morris, a teenager from Bragg Creek, Alberta, visited a hair salon in the small town of Black Diamond. But she wasn't looking for a haircut.

“My passion is clean water,” she explains. “Water is a vital necessity for all life, but we are not taking care of this precious resource.” Mahala is the founder of Drops of Change – a student group that consults with local businesses about water consumption, and offers innovative solutions to cut down on their water use. After conducting a water audit on the hair salon, she and her colleagues explained that the business was wasting a gratuitous amount of water doing half-loads of laundry, and by leaving the water running while shampooing. Shocked, the salon quickly adopted a new set of policies, cutting costs and saving hundreds of litres of water each day.

Of course, this work takes place on a small scale. But according to Mahala, “the biggest impacts begin with the smallest drops of change.” Mahala's passion for water was inspired during her time as a youth educator with the Palapa Society in rural Mexico, where she observed the impacts of water scarcity firsthand.

Back home, she joined the Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology (CAWST) as a par-

ticipant in the Youth Wavemakers program. With the support of CAWST, Mahala has developed a unique point-of-use water filter that uses aloe vera and cactus to produce clean water. She has spent several years refining the filter, and hopes to implement it in areas of need in the near future.

Mahala is also dedicated to educating her peers about the importance of clean water and sanitation for creating positive global change. This year, she was awarded a travel scholarship for her speech titled “Water for Life,” allowing her to be part of a speech writing competition that will travel across North America in the coming year. The trip will include a stop at the United Nations General Assembly

Importantly, Mahala never loses sight of the connection between local actions and their global impact. “Millions of people in this world do not have access to clean water, nor simple sanitation. It is imperative that our clean water not be taken for granted,” she emphasizes. As the creative leader behind Drops of Change, Mahala plans to spread this message, and encourage others to do the same – one step at a time. “Everyone needs to do their part in order to guarantee clean water for the future.”

Age: 17

Hometown:
Bragg Creek, AB

Organizations:
Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology*

Drops of Change

The Palapa Society

*ACGC Member Organization

CANADIAN PEACEMAKERS INTERNATIONAL



Edmonton, Alberta
www.canadianpeacemakers.org
d.hubert@acpmi.org
780-462-6234



Canadian Peacemakers International (CPI) collaborates with marginalized communities in Honduras contributing resources, knowledge, and support to create positive change through Computer Assisted Learning, food security, land ownership, and agricultural development. They create models that can be shared with others to address deep-seated problems caused by poverty, low education, and poor people's inability to access land or become involved in the type of production that provides long term economic opportunities.

NAKITA VALERIO

Age: 28

Hometown/Living In:
Edmonton, AB

Working In:
Attaouia, Morocco

Organizations:
Bassma Primary School
American Language Centre

In 2011, under the leadership of Nakita Valerio, a school opened in the rural town of Attaouia, Morocco. Today, Bassma Primary stands an impressive five stories high, delivering essential education to the town's growing population of children.

"I believe that education is the only sustainable and long-lasting way to change the world," Nakita explains. "Currently, the subpar education programs available in this region, often in faraway places, make community development an impossibility, and female participation is very low."

Providing rural children with reading, writing, and communication skills in English, Arabic, and French, Bassma Primary also aims to keep children connected to their families and communities. On weekends, the school transforms into the Iness Women's Centre, offering educational opportunities and a unique social space for women and girls over the age of 15.

Born in Edmonton, Nakita moved to her husband's home town of Attaouia, inspired by a determination to enhance female literacy in the global south, especially in traditional Islamic communities.

"One of my primary concerns regarding literacy programs is for women (and men) in the community to know the rights their religion affords them, as a way of promoting the gender equality that Islam brings with it on a scriptural level, but which is often lost culturally," Nakita explains.

In addition to her work developing the infrastructure and curriculum for Bassma Primary – work that requires both bureaucratic acrobatics and subtle cultural sensitivity – Nakita is also an educator and an ardent advocate for women's rights. As a teacher at the American Language Center in Mohammedia, Nakita led a number of social justice initiatives, including a countrywide campaign to end street harassment of women in Morocco.

Today, Nakita is working towards her Master's degree in History at the University of Alberta. Her research focuses on cultural and pedagogical representations of the Jewish Holocaust in the Arab world as a tool for exploring social memory creation and bridging communities in the Middle East and North Africa.



"Giving women the freedom to read the literate world around them is the first step to empowerment, entrepreneurship, and full social participation."

Following her studies, Nakita hopes to facilitate the eventual creation of a Junior High and High School in Attaouia. "For children to be able to study in their community, in the comfort and safety of their family homes without having to travel – particularly for girls – would be a huge asset to the development of the region," she argues.

"Giving women the freedom to read the literate world around them is the first step to empowerment, entrepreneurship, and full social participation."

TREBI KUMA OLLENNU FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (TKOFCD)



Beaumont, Alberta
www.tkofcd.org
tkofcd@ymail.com
780-929-8830

The Trebi Kuma Ollennu Foundation for Community Development (TKOFCD) is an Albertan non-profit organisation that seeks to build partnerships with indigenous community organisations in Africa for safe and healthy communities. TKOFCD pursues structural changes to development protocols in poor urban and rural communities in Ghana, Africa by providing technical assistance and funds to transform health care delivery for mothers and children, education for urban poor, sustainable housing, and sanitation programs. In Alberta, TKOFCD promotes healthy relationships among the various cultures that call greater Edmonton home, through their annual blended folk concerts and sports-a-thons.



“Transparency is a crucial step towards improving global systems, by helping underrepresented communities gain a voice in the decisions and institutions that affect their lives.”

“I think the most important challenge of our generation is that we live in a time when we’ve never had greater access to education, information, and the ability to communicate with people around the world; yet, we also live in a time when important decisions about our future increasingly seem to be made beyond our control,” says Nicolas Choquette-Levy.

An engineer from West Lafayette, Indiana, Nicolas moved to Alberta to pursue a Master’s degree in Energy and Environmental Studies at the University of Calgary.

Today, Nicolas is a Sustainable Development Performance Coordinator at ConocoPhillips and a leader of the Calgary Chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB). In his capacity as a professional and an advocate, Nicolas is guided by the imperatives of social justice.

“I fundamentally believe that the systems underlying environmental and social justice issues are becoming increasingly complex, and both my day job and EWB work have given me an opportunity to try different ways of engaging with, and hopefully influencing, those systems,” he says.

Over the past two years, Nicolas’s EWB team has organized a series of forums and panel discussions on the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility, with the aim of unpacking the concept, and exploring practical, everyday applications for attendees.

“I think transparency is a crucial step towards improving global systems by helping underrepresented communities gain a voice in the decisions and institutions that affect their lives,” Nicolas explains. Commenting on how money which was supposed to go towards community development and government services often goes unaccounted for, Nicolas emphasizes, “If we had a system to publicize where this money was coming from, where it was going, and what impact it was having, it would hold decision-makers more accountable and help everyone make better decisions on how to best make use of our resources.” Nicolas has also helped to organize a number of public events to discuss the interplay between global development and public policy. These events aim to foster collaborations between NGOs, and build grassroots support for top-down initiatives.

“No single approach or organization can ‘do it all’,” Nicolas emphasizes. “Collaboration can help expand your impact and also contribute to your own growth and understanding of the issues you’re passionate about.”

NICOLAS CHOQUETTE-LEVY

Age: 29

Hometown:
Lafayette, Indiana

Living In:
Calgary, AB

Organizations:
Engineers Without Borders,
Calgary City Chapter*

*ACGC Member Organization

ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS



Edmonton and Calgary, Alberta
www.ewb.ca
calgary@ewb.ca
edmonton@ewb.ca



Poverty is the product of broken systems that prevent people from realizing their full potential. Extreme poverty and inequitable development exist because injustices are deeply entrenched in these systems - in behaviours among individuals, within institutions, and in the relationships that bind them. EWB is a social change incubator for people, ventures, and ideas, sparking and accelerating systemic innovations in Canada and Africa that have the potential to radically disrupt the systems that allow poverty to exist. EWB has four chapters in Alberta, and you don’t need to be an engineer to join.

RACHEL NORTHCOTT

Age: 29

Hometown:
Medicine Hat, AB

Living In:
Buena Vista, Virginia

Organizations:

Canadian Humanitarian*

*ACGC Member Organization

Rachel Northcott has been an integral member of Canadian Humanitarian since its inception in 2003. Her sedulous contributions – as a volunteer, a fundraiser, and a program coordinator – have provided invaluable support for child-centered education and community development initiatives throughout Africa, and have shaped the very character of the growing organization.

“I have learned that education has the power to free you and open up the world of opportunity,” she explains. “I have learned that the hope of a better future can bring the most happiness and joy to your life, even when the current situation is still difficult or slow to change.”

Based in Rachel’s hometown of Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canadian Humanitarian partners with local individuals and organizations overseas to support community development projects that provide orphaned and vulnerable children and their families with access to health care, education, vocational training, and basic necessities such as nutrition and shelter.

Rachel has worked extensively to increase Canadian Humanitarian’s presence in Ethiopia. With tact and versatility, she has learned to transact with foreign governments and African NGOs, navigating the world of contracts, agreements, and licenses in support of various development projects. This year, the organization has expanded its programming to Uganda and Malawi.

Today, as Canadian Humanitarian’s Child Sponsorship Coordinator, Rachel works primarily with students. She has traveled to Ethiopia five times to volunteer with the organization’s Education Support Centers, which provide vulnerable children with recreational activities, and access to computers, libraries, study halls, music rooms, and play areas.

“Our main goal is to give students the opportunity to make the most of their education and to enter the work force with a real, viable career, and to bring these students to a point where their own children will not need the same program – they will be able to provide for their family themselves,” she says. Rachel is also the Canadian Humanitarian Marketing Coordinator, charged with expanding fundraising efforts and building the organization’s social media



“The greatest impact that any development work can have is when it touches the everyday lives of everyday people.”

and online presence. Proud and confident in her work, she is guided by the belief that, “the greatest impact that any development work can have is when it touches the everyday lives of everyday people.”

Rachel currently resides in Buena Vista, Virginia, where she studies music. She plans to return to Ethiopia this year with an expedition that will focus on music education.

CANADIAN HUMANITARIAN



Medicine Hat, Alberta

www.canadianhumanitarian.com

info@canadianhumanitarian.com

403-527-2741

Canadian Humanitarian Organization for International Relief (Canadian Humanitarian) is a non-religious, non-political, registered Canadian Charity. They are dedicated to assisting disadvantaged children, their families, and communities to break free from the cycle of poverty. The Canadian Humanitarian Organization believes in local solutions to local struggles. This leads them to partner with local individuals and organizations overseas to create opportunity for individuals, families, and communities in Ethiopia, Uganda, and Malawi. Adopting a community based development approach, they provide tools to community members enabling them to get themselves out of poverty.



“Invest rigorously, prove what works by having the courage to fail, and transform the way people and organizations behave.”

“Listen. Carefully.” This is Rebecca Kresta’s advice. “I used to think that the world would be a much better place if we could just get people to talk to one another. At some point, I realized that we’re very good at talking but we’re not very good at listening. There are many grand challenges in the world that could be solved if each person in the world had a voice that was heard.”

Rebecca is the current President of the University of Alberta Chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB)

– a non-profit organization and “social change incubator” for people, ventures, and ideas. “Engineers Without Borders is committed to eliminating global poverty by shifting the systems that create limitations for people all over the world,” she explains. “They strive to create systemic change wherever it’s needed to accelerate Africa’s development and unlock the potential of its people.”

As President, Rebecca has worked energetically to expand the EWB network, advocate for sustainable development, and empower new leaders in the fight for social justice. Additionally, she has led the charge to make the University a fair-trade campus, and has been an active proponent of the EWB campaign to improve the transparency and accountability of the Canadian extractive industry. In the summer 2013, Rebecca traveled to Malawi on an EWB Junior Fellowship placement. For four months, she worked closely with a team of water and sanitation experts to improve the operations and financial management of the district water office for a small rural village. The project’s success, Rebecca argues, stems from her team’s willingness to collaborate and consult with a multitude of stakeholders – including community members, various NGOs, and officials from both local and federal governments. She plans to return to Malawi this year to visit and evaluate the revamped water office.

Rebecca has also lent her expertise in water and sanitation to private organizations promoting sustainable development. She has worked as a technical consultant on water preservation and infrastructure for Tetra-Tech engineering and project management, and has assisted Filterboxx in providing packaged portable water and wastewater treatment systems to drilling rigs.

Through all her work, Rebecca advises, “Invest rigorously, prove what works by having the courage to fail, and transform the way people and organizations behave.”

REBECCA KRESTA

Age: 22

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Engineers Without Borders,
University of Alberta Chapter*

*Branch associated with
ACGC Member Organization

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ALBERTA



Calgary, Alberta
www.mccab.ca
office@mccab.ca
403-275-6935

The Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) is an organization that works around the world, partnering with communities to end conflict, poverty, hunger, racism, and support people in long term problem solving and development. MCC works in 65 countries, with hundreds of partners and thousands of staff and volunteers. Locally, the Alberta office works in restorative justice and peacebuilding, provides youth and young adult service opportunities, runs Thrift shops, partners with communities and organizations to provide support to newcomers, and more.

REBECCA MESAY

Age: 17

Hometown:
Calgary, AB

Organizations:
Yeneta Amharic
Immersion School

ACGC Change Your World
Youth Leadership Tour

Seminar on the
United Nations and
International Affairs

A vibrant advocate for social justice and community development, Rebecca Mesay believes that communication is essential to raising awareness, bridging differences, and fostering intercultural understanding and collaboration.

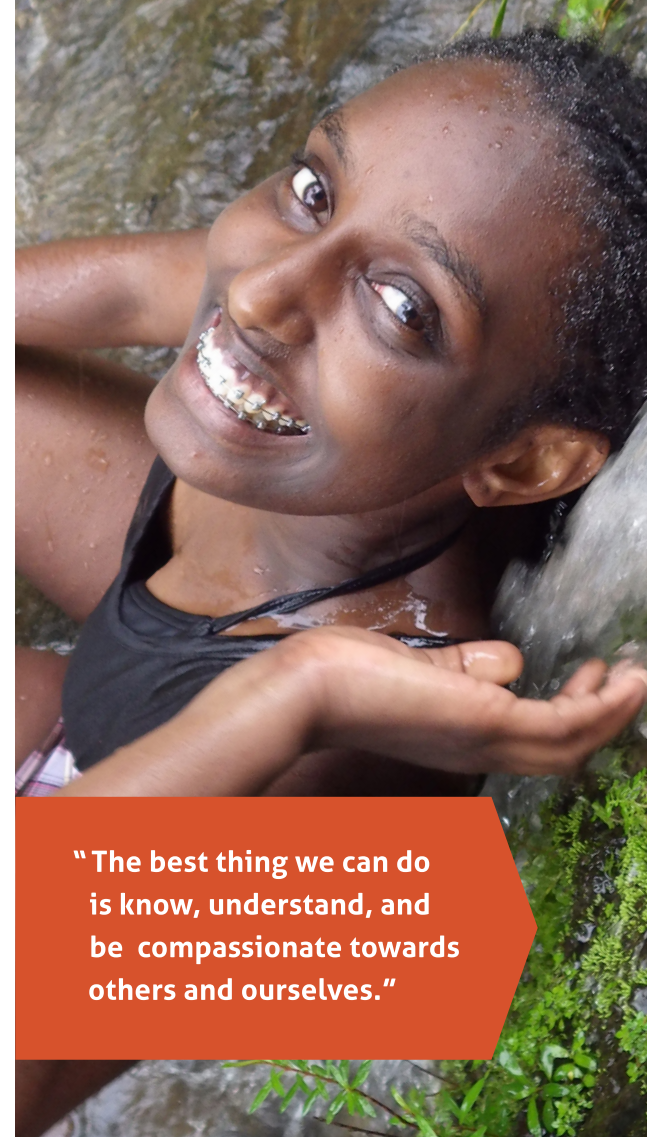
Born in Canada to Ethiopian immigrants, Rebecca has also lived in Sweden. She speaks four languages, including French, Amharic, and Swedish. In her words, "Being a part of several very different cultures helps me to better understand the perspective of the people I am working with and makes the communication process a lot easier."

Rebecca's interest in international development was shaped in 2013, when she was selected to participate in the ACGC Change Your World Alberta Youth Leadership Tour. Accompanied by staff from ACGC and the Change for Children Association, Rebecca and four other youth travelled to Nicaragua to meet community members and development practitioners working on issues of climate change and climate justice.

The tour, Rebecca explains, affirmed and refined her belief in the value of intercultural communication and collaboration. "It is of the utmost importance to understand and learn directly from people. There must be extensive research done on a group's culture, their way of life, and their true needs. Without this knowledge, there is no way to fulfill the requirements of the community."

Today, as a senior student at St. Mary's High School in Calgary, Rebecca is a diligent advocate for social justice and global citizenship, and is eager to expand her understanding of world affairs. In addition to her efforts with the Leo Club and the Student Council, she has taken part in the Global Fest Human Rights Forum, and travelled to Ottawa Rotary Adventure Citizenship Club in order to explore the electoral process and meet international diplomats. Last summer, Rebecca also attended the Seminar on the United Nations and International Affairs (SUNIA), a camp that explores the complex realm of international relations and the global decision-making process.

Following a trip to Ethiopia, where she observed the various impacts of economic disparity firsthand, Rebecca was inspired to strengthen her community at home.



"The best thing we can do is know, understand, and be compassionate towards others and ourselves."

"Ethiopia is a place where you are confronted with issues [of social justice] daily, so I felt a personal responsibility to do something within my own community," she explains. As a teacher at the Yeneta Amharic Immersion School for children of Ethiopian heritage, Rebecca aims to nurture global citizenship, and to connect her students to the language and culture of their origin.

"The best thing we can do is know, understand, and be compassionate towards others and ourselves," Rebecca advises.

CAUSE CANADA



Canmore, Alberta
www.cause.ca
info@cause.ca
Tel: 403-678-3332
Toll Free: 888-552-2873



Founded in 1984, CAUSE Canada is an Alberta-based international relief and development organization that strives to empower communities in disadvantaged regions of the developing world. CAUSE Canada aims to build dignity and decrease dependency through supporting a variety of poverty reduction programs. Embracing a justice model, CAUSE Canada helps to build a more equitable world that celebrates the inherent worth of all humanity.

SEAN BRADLEY



“Effective community development is rooted in long-term and inclusive processes.”

For Sean Bradley, global food security begins with the choices we make each day. As the coordinator of the Global Café at Jasper Place High School in Edmonton, Sean is building a collaborative and sustainable model for food distribution in his community, and inspiring students to become dynamic global citizens.

As a student in the Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta and a participant in Next Up – a program that trains and supports young leaders committed to social and environmental justice – Sean

developed what he calls a “lovingly critical” relationship to the province’s educational system.

“I realized my own experiences, both as a student and an educator, did not always align with the values I hold for the public institution: inclusivity, collaboration, and equity,” he explains. “This has motivated me to work with educational stakeholders, here in Alberta as well as internationally, to envision and create progressive educational practices around the idea of schools as integral parts of the community.”

The Global Café, where Sean is coordinator, is a safe and student-run space that helps students foster relationships with the broader Edmonton community, and offers mentorship, resources, and opportunities the youth feel are important. The aim is to prepare youth to become intentional citizens who envision the world they would like to live in, and act with the intention of creating that world. Sean works tirelessly with his students to understand the intersectionality of global issues, and to elucidate the impacts our actions have around the world.

Sean is also coordinator of the Jasper Place Urban Agriculture Program. Working in partnership with the West End Food Hub Alliance, he has led a number of local food justice initiatives, including the creation of a yard-sharing program, which provides community members and students seeking to grow food with the knowledge and resources to do so.

“Effective community development is rooted in long-term and inclusive processes,” he explains. “I have learned that progressive change requires us to create accessible spaces for all community members to be included in ongoing dialogue and decision-making.”

Sean is currently organizing a new initiative called “Changing the Plate,” a series of events hosted by students offering hot meals for community members. “These meals will celebrate food and entertainment sourced within the community, with the hopes of creating connections and resiliency,” Sean explains. “The hope is to continue an ongoing dialogue about the strengths and weaknesses of the food system in our area of the city, and to co-create solutions using existing community resources.”

Age: 24

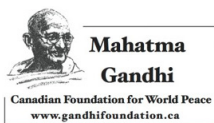
Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Jasper Place High School
Global Café

Jasper Place Urban
Agriculture Program

Next Up Edmonton

MAHATMA GANDHI FOUNDATION FOR WORLD PEACE



Edmonton, Alberta
www.gandhifoundation.ca
gandhifoundationcanada@gmail.com



The Mahatma Gandhi Canadian Foundation for World Peace traces its origins to 1988 when observances of the anniversary of Gandhi’s birth were so well received by Edmontonians that the initiators launched plans to enlarge the annual observances, memorialize Gandhi, and share his teachings through a national foundation. The Foundation currently supports a summer program of graduate level courses for teachers at the University of Alberta, hosts an annual conference for youth on topics related to peace and social justice, and supports an annual event, on September 21st, marking the International Day of Peace and Non-Violence.

TATIANA WUGALTER

Age: 24

Hometown:
Beaumont, AB

Organizations:

John Humphrey Centre for
Peace and Human Rights*

Ainembabazi
Children's Project*

Students' International
Health Association

*ACGC Member Organization

Empathy, according to Tatiana Wugalter, is the most powerful agent of change.

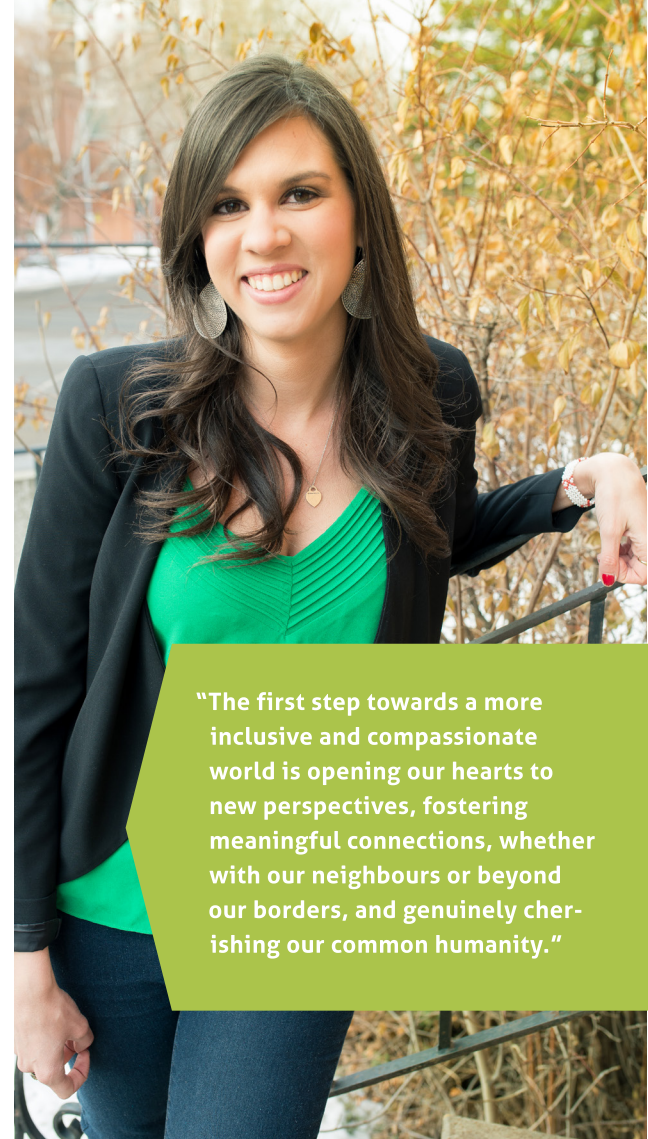
"The first step towards a more inclusive and compassionate world is opening our hearts to new perspectives, fostering meaningful connections, whether with our neighbours or beyond our borders, and genuinely cherishing our common humanity," she contends.

Hailing from the town of Beaumont, Alberta, Tatiana's concern for human rights and her affinity for change inspired her long-term involvement as a student at the University of Alberta with the Students' International Health Association (SIHA). An important leader and organizer for the student-run organization, Tatiana worked alongside local community members in rural Tanzania to facilitate a series of health promotion initiatives, and later, developed a comprehensive training course for the SIHA's international volunteers.

Today, as Program Coordinator with the John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights (JHC), Tatiana works closely with Alberta youth to build communities centered upon inclusion, compassion, and human rights. Tatiana is also a leader of the JHC's "This Is Our Canada" project, which challenges Albertans to reframe the story of Canada in an inclusive manner that values and acknowledges the diverse histories and contributions that compose our multicultural nation.

"The project allows young people of diverse backgrounds to build connections, learn from each other, visit faith and cultural centres, discuss community tensions, and work together developing tangible solutions for positive change."

Tatiana is also an important member of the Ainembabazi Children's Project – an Edmonton-based organization that aims to improve the quality of life and educational opportunities for vulnerable children and those affected by HIV/AIDs in Uganda. In addition to providing support for the organization's health programming, Tatiana delivers peer-based education regarding social justice, human rights, and development to high school students throughout Edmonton. By encouraging Canadians to challenge mainstream perceptions of international development, charity, and poverty in the Global South, Tatiana aspires to undermine the dangerous and patronizing stereotypes that are too often attributed to Sub-Saharan Africa.



"The first step towards a more inclusive and compassionate world is opening our hearts to new perspectives, fostering meaningful connections, whether with our neighbours or beyond our borders, and genuinely cherishing our common humanity."

"I want to encourage young people to think critically about these depictions and to understand that meaningful change can only be achieved when we recognize the skills, knowledge, expertise, and lived experiences of those we are seeking to help," says Tatiana. "Understand your differences but allow your commonalities to guide you."

AINEMBABAZI CHILDREN'S PROJECT



For 10 years, Ainembabazi Children's Project has worked in partnership with communities and children in East Africa to inspire hope and potential. Ainembabazi works to support the improvement of life circumstances and opportunities for children and their guardians through economic development, education, and health projects.

Edmonton, Alberta
www.ainembabazi.org
info@ainembabazi.org
780-975-1116

“Community development is ultimately the sum of the choices, actions, and paths taken by many individuals. It’s when these choices converge, united with a passion for the betterment of one another, that change happens.”



TIM SCHWALFENBERG

Described as soft-spoken, Tim Schwalfenberg is a leader whose exemplary actions and level-headed outlook are a source of deep inspiration for his peers and colleagues.

“Community development is ultimately the sum of the choices, actions, and paths taken by many individuals,” Tim describes. “It’s when these choices converge, united with a passion for the betterment of one another, that change happens; it all starts when we, as individuals, choose to care, encourage, and love others more than ourselves.”

Tim is an active leader within his community and beyond. He is a long-time volunteer with the Edmonton Hope Mission, a youth leader within his church, and was a dynamic participant in the leadership program at Strathcona Composite High. In 2010, Tim travelled to Tijuana, Mexico, to take part in a service trip supporting underprivileged families in the region. In 2014, Tim was chosen to take part in a service trip to Sombrilla’s Yurac Yacu project in the Andean Mountains of Peru. Partnered with a local development organization, the project aims to develop a Community Education and Small Business Centre that will provide training and work opportunities for community residents, especially women and children.

“The project focuses on strengthening the educational and economic base of the Yurac Yacu community, while also enhancing its social and environmental conditions,” Tim explains. “These initiatives, along with others that are planned for the future, have empowered the Yurac Yacu community to shape its own future and improve both its economic and social well-being.”

Tim, along with 16 other young individuals from across Alberta, raised over \$15,000 to support the community centre, and assisted in its final stages of construction. As the trip progressed, Tim assumed a leadership role, fostering relationships with the local youth and approaching each challenge with humility and an open mind.

“Many of my most memorable experiences from my community development work have simply come from working alongside others, being united in task and vision, regardless of differing culture, heritage, or language.”

And yet despite his humble nature, Tim’s ambitions are large. “Each of us has been given a choice as to how we are going to use the time that has been given to us, and it is my hope that we use it to dream, to act, and to make a difference.”

Age: 19

Hometown:
Edmonton, AB

Organizations:
Sombrilla International*

Hope Mission

*ACGC Member Organization

RAINBOW FOR THE FUTURE



Rainbow for the Future!
Westlock, Alberta
www.rainbowftf.org
rftf@rainbowftf.org
780-349-5631

Rainbow for the Future (RFTF) and its NGO partners work hard to alleviate suffering related to extreme poverty and food insecurity, as well as the lack of water, sanitation, and educational opportunities in Ethiopia. Since 2005, RFTF has funded development projects benefiting hundreds of thousands of people. Schools have been built, water systems now bring clean water to communities, and communities severely impacted by climate change and increasing drought conditions now grow food for their families. There is hope and even prosperity where there was none before.

TRINA MOYLES



“Listen and collaborate. Break down and deconstruct your own biases and privileges.”

Trina Moyles was born and raised in Peace River, a rural town in Northern Alberta. The daughter of a social worker and a wildlife biologist, Trina’s resolute passion for social and environmental justice took root at a young age.

“My parents gave me the eyes to start to see what injustice looks like, and to feel some small responsibility for people and places around me. They encouraged me to use my voice, not to be afraid to dissent, and to express myself in creative ways.”

A critical and inspiring leader, Trina has worked with a multitude of international development organizations, and is the founding member and current Vice-Chair of Ceiba Association. Based in Edmonton, Ceiba fosters global education partnerships between Alberta youth and rural communities in Latin America and Africa. For the past two years, Trina has also worked in partnership with the Kigezi Healthcare Foundation – a community development initiative addressing medical care, education, and economic sustainability in the Kabale District of rural Uganda.

Trina is also a storyteller. Drawing from extensive experience in rural communities across Latin America and Africa, Trina’s work as a blogger and award-winning freelance journalist explores and critiques the concepts of sustainable agriculture and food security, and the larger frameworks that guide our understanding of development work.

“The greatest stories can achieve that critical reflection in their readers and listeners. And our society seriously needs critical reflection and empathy in order to shift towards social and environmental justice.”

Trina is currently working on an independent literary journalism project that weaves together narratives from women farmers and farm labourers in Canada, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, India, and Cuba. *Women Who Dig* aims to deconstruct the labels that obscure or misconstrue the importance of women farmers, while revealing their complex and various roles as global citizens.

“Their stories highlight the global importance of women farmers, but also speak from the heart about the diverse patriarchal barriers women are facing, whether it’s gender-based violence, the risk of dying in childbirth, their inability to access credit and loans, or even to control their own movements,” she explains.

Compassionate and indefatigable, Trina embodies and radiates the spirit of social justice. Her secret, she insists, lies in the power of critical self-reflection.

“Never stop asking questions about what you’re doing, how you’re doing it, how it feels, and most importantly – what it means to others. Listen and collaborate. Break down and deconstruct your own biases and privileges.”

Follow Trina’s blog, *The Bean Tree*, at www.trinamoyles.com.

Age: 29

Hometown:
Peace River, AB

Living In:
Kabale, Uganda

Organizations:
Ceiba Association*
Kigezi Healthcare
Foundation

*ACGC Member Organization

CHANGE FOR CHILDREN



Edmonton, Alberta
www.changeforchildren.org
Lorena@changeforchildren.org
780-448-1505



Change for Children is an award-winning Edmonton-based civil society organization that supports community-based solutions to extreme poverty by partnering with grassroots organizations in Latin America and Africa. Funds support programs that provide access to potable water, education, health and nutrition, sustainable agriculture, and economic development initiatives. Locally, they provide unique global education programs that foster awareness, understanding, and leadership for students, youth, and the community at large. Change for Children’s mission is to build civil society’s capacity in the global south and Canada to promote health, human rights, and create solutions to poverty through sustainable development.

HOLY TRINITY TEENS FOR CHANGE



“Get involved in whatever way possible. Hard work never goes unnoticed and there is always someone who is appreciative of what you're doing.”

Though stationed in the northern reaches of Alberta, nestled between boreal forest and the Athabasca River, a group of young social activists from Fort McMurray are making a big splash felt around the world. Comprised of student global citizens from Holy Trinity High School, Teens for Change is a dynamic youth group that promotes and raises awareness of social justice issues through both local and global initiatives.

Within their school, participants of Teens for Change have organized educational events and fundraisers for a number of social justice issues, including gender inequality, climate change, and sustainable development. The group is firm in its stance against bullying, sexism, and racism, and works to foster a safe and inclusive educational environment.

“By giving all individuals a voice and helping to have their stories heard, we are raising awareness for them, which will help to put an end to the challenges they face,” explains Abby Dada, one of the members of the Teens for Change group.

As leaders within their school, the members of Teens for Change also extend their influence into the broader community, through extensive volunteer work and representation on various local committees. On a weekly basis, you can find members of Teens for Change volunteering throughout the City of Fort McMurray, including at the local soup kitchen, the Centre of Hope homeless shelter, and with Santas Anonymous.

Each year, Teens for Change also hosts a large Fair Trade Market, selling goods to support artisans in the Global South.

“Get involved in whatever way possible,” advises Katelyn Maher, another Teens for Change member. “Hard work never goes unnoticed and there is always someone who is appreciative of what you're doing.”

Internationally, Teens for Change is working in partnership with Free the Children to raise funds, awareness, and support for a community development program in the village of Mekení, Sierra Leone. Free the Children advances holistic and sustainable solutions for education, health, clean water, agriculture and food security, and alternative income and livelihood development.

“The purpose of this program is not only to eradicate the barriers that are preventing children from achieving their true potential, but also to break the cycle of poverty,” explains Teens for Change member Samantha MacLean. “I am very excited about this program because it gives us a unique chance to help those in developing countries achieve their fullest potential.”

Located in:

Fort McMurray, AB

Organizations:

Free the Children

Santas Anonymous

Centre of Hope

ACTION INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES



Calgary, Alberta

www.actioninternational.org

info@actioncanada.org

Tel: 403-204-1421

Toll free: 1-888-443-2221



Forty years ago, Action International Ministries (ACTION) began as an outreach to children and families living on the streets of Manila, Philippines. Since then, the Christian non-profit organization has expanded, reaching out to poor and vulnerable people in over 25 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Europe. ACTION works with youth and families living on the streets and in extreme poverty, orphans and widows, disabled persons, and trafficked individuals. ACTION seeks to meet the whole person's needs, in partnership with the local, indigenous community.

MATERNAL, NEWBORN, AND CHILD HEALTH

In 2013, **289,000 women** died during pregnancy or childbirth, and **6.3 million children** died under the age of five. Ending the preventable deaths of mothers, newborns, and children under five is the Government of Canada's flagship international development priority.

Canada's Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (MNCH) work is based on three pillars: strengthening health services, reducing the burden of disease, and improving nutrition for mothers and children. The following Top 30s contribute to Canada's initiative to increase maternal, newborn, and child health through their work.

Angalakha Mangwane **page 11**



Ashton James **page 14**



Carmen Huane Lliuya **page 17**



Erin Balcom **page 20**



Eva Manzano **page 21**



Hannah Gelderman **page 22**



Harneet Chahal **page 23**



Hasan Hamze **page 24**



Julia Rudzitis **page 26**



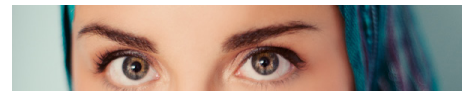
Luis Zúñiga **page 28**



Mahala Morris **page 29**



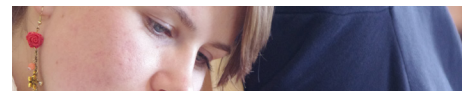
Nakita Valerio **page 30**



Rachel Northcott **page 32**



Rebecca Kresta **page 33**



Tatiana Wugalter **page 36**



Trina Moyles **page 38**

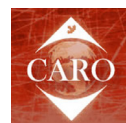


ACGC MEMBERS

Interested in getting involved? Reaching out to an ACGC Member Organization is a great way to start. With members working around the world on all kinds of different issues, someone is bound to be working in an area or on an issue you care about, locally or globally. Many of our members also have twitter and facebook pages you can check out!



ACTION INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES (ACTION)
www.actioninternational.org



CANADIANS REACHING OUT TO THE WORLD'S CHILDREN FOUNDATION (CARO)
www.carocanada.ca



AINEMBABAZI CHILDREN'S PROJECT (ACP)
www.ainembabazi.org



CAUSE CANADA
www.cause.ca



ALBERTA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (ATA)
www.teachers.ab.ca



CENTRE FOR AFFORDABLE WATER AND SANITATION TECHNOLOGY (CAWST)
www.cawst.org



ALTAMAS FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
www.altamas.ca



CANADIAN DEPARTMENT OF PEACE INITIATIVE (CDPI EDMONTON CHAPTER)
www.cdpiedmonton.ca



CEIBA ASSOCIATION
www.ceibaassociation.com



BRIDGES OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF DEV AGENCIES INC.
www.thebridgesofhope.com



CHANGE FOR CHILDREN ASSOCIATION
www.changeforchildren.org



CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION
www.cbe.ab.ca



CENTRE FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (CGCER)
www.cgcer.ualberta.ca



CANADIAN HUMANITARIAN
www.canadianhumanitarian.com



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR PARTICIPATORY DEVELOPMENT (CAPD)
www.capdcalgary.org



CANADIAN PEACEMAKERS INTERNATIONAL (CPI)
www.cpi-cpf.ca



CANADIAN MORAVIAN MISSION SOCIETY
moravianmission.org



CROSSROADS CHRISTIAN COMMUNICATIONS
www.crossroads.ca

ACGC MEMBERS



CUSO INTERNATIONAL
www.cusointernational.org



CANADIAN WOMEN FOR
WOMEN IN AFGHANISTAN
(CW4WAFGHAN)
www.cw4wafghan.ca



CANADA WORLD YOUTH (CWY)
www.canadaworldyouth.org



CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR
DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE
www.devp.org



ENERGY4EVERYONE
FOUNDATION
www.energy4everyone.com



ENGINEERS WITHOUT
BORDERS CANADA (EWB)
www.ewb.ca



FOUR WORLDS CENTRE FOR
DEVELOPMENT LEARNING
www.fourworlds.ca



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
FOUNDATION (HDF CANADA)
www.hdfcanada.org



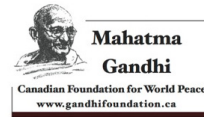
JOHN HUMPHREY CENTRE
FOR PEACE AND HUMAN
RIGHTS (JHC)
www.jhcentre.org



KEISKAMMA CANADA
FOUNDATION (KCF)
www.keiskammaCanada.com



LIGHT UP THE WORLD (LUTW)
www.lutw.org



MAHATMA GANDHI
CANADIAN FOUNDATION
FOR WORLD PEACE
www.gandhifoundation.ca



MARDA LOOP JUSTICE
FILM FESTIVAL (MLJFF)
www.justicefilmfestival.ca



MENNONITE CENTRAL
COMMITTEE ALBERTA (MCCA)
www.alberta.mcc.org



MICAH CENTRE (KINGS
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE)
www.micahcentre.ca



MINKHA KNITTER'S
CO-OPERATION
www.minkhasweaters.com



MISSION OF MERCY
(MOM CANADA)
www.missionofmercy.ca



MAHARASHTRA SEVA
SAMITI ORGANIZATION
www.mssoonline.org



NAFASI OPPORTUNITY
SOCIETY
www.nafasi-opportunity.org



ONE CHILD'S VILLAGE (OCV)
www.onechildsvillage.org



ONE! INTERNATIONAL
POVERTY RELIEF
www.one-international.com



OPERATION EYESIGHT
CANADA (OE)
www.operationeyesight.com

ACGC MEMBERS



OPTOMETRY GIVING SIGHT
www.givingsight.org



SEEDS EAST AFRICA
www.seedseastafrica.com



OXFAM CANADA
www.oxfam.ca



SOMBRILLA INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
www.sombrilla.ca



RAINBOW FOR THE
FUTURE (RFTF)
www.rainbowftf.org



SAMARITAN'S PURSE
CANADA (SPC)
www.samaritanspurse.ca



RAINBOW OF HOPE FOR
CHILDREN (ROHFC)
www.rainbowofhopeforchildren.ca



STOP TB CANADA
www.stoptb.ca



READAFRICA
www.readafrica.ca



TREBI KUMA OLLENNU
FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT (TKOFCD)
www.tkofcd.org



GHOST RIVER
REDISCOVERY (GRR)
www.ghostriverrediscovery.org



TRUE VISION GHANA
www.truevisionghana.org



ROTARY CLUB OF
EDMONTON (DOWNTOWN)
www.edmontonrotary.com



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
INTERNATIONAL GLOBAL
EDUCATION PROGRAM
www.gloaled.ualberta.ca



SAHAKARINI INTER-WORLD
EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION
www.sahakarini.org



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
IN CANADA (UNAC)
ca.unac.org | edmonton.unac.org



SOMALI-CANADIAN
EDUCATIONAL & RURAL
DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
(SCERDO)
www.scerdo.org



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT
INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION
(WEIF)
www.weif.org



SINKUNIA COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
(SCDO)
www.sinkuniacommunity.org



WORLD FIT FOR CHILDREN
ALBERTA CHAPTER (WFFC)
www.wffcalberta.com

KNOW A TOP 30?

Do you know a young global citizen who deserves to have their work recognized as an Alberta Top 30 Under 30?

Mark your calendar: nominations are accepted beginning in November 2015.

Follow ACGC on Facebook or Twitter to get updates and learn how to nominate someone for the 2016 magazine!

You can also sign up to receive our e-Bulletin (fresh news every two weeks) – just visit our website at acgc.ca and click the button at the top of the page that says “subscribe to our e-Bulletin.”

Thank you to all of the 2015 Top 30 Under 30 participants, nominators, and nominees. The work you do is an inspiration to all!



[facebook.com/acgcnow](https://www.facebook.com/acgcnow)



[@ACGCNow](https://twitter.com/ACGCNow)



[youtube.com/acgcnow](https://www.youtube.com/acgcnow)

