List of Abstracts

David Black
Canada’s “Feminist International Assistance Policy” and country “ownership”: whose ethics, for what audience?

In June of 2017, following a protracted consultation and drafting process, the Government of Canada released a new “Feminist International Assistance Policy,” designed to establish Canada as “a feminist donor and a leader in promoting the empowerment of women and girls around the world,” as a “matter of basic justice and also basic economics.” This new policy was widely praised as innovative and “game changing.” Yet the process and by which it was arrived at, and the (yet to be determined) means through which it will be implemented, raise fraught questions about whose ethical priorities are being privileged, and whether the policy will be effectively “owned” by, and respond to, the priorities of Canadian or global South partners? In short, the policy sets up a potential ethical conflict between the feminist ethics of Canadian civil society organizations, and the imperative of responding to the needs and priorities of communities and organizations in recipient countries. The process by which this prospective conflict is addressed, if not resolved, will be crucial in determining whether the policy constitutes a step towards a more responsive and just development policy, or one that is principally the basis for a self-serving narrative concerning Canadian values and virtues in the world.

John Cameron
From Global Citizenship to Cosmopolitanism and Back: Implications for Curriculum Design and Teaching

This paper will examine the implications of cosmopolitan ethical principles for curriculum design and teaching in International Development Studies and related fields such as Global Studies. The starting point for the paper is the recognition that growing numbers of universities are highlighting the concept of “global citizenship” as both a recruitment strategy and learning outcome for students. However, the concept of global citizenship as articulated by universities administrators often fails to seriously engage with the ethics of cosmopolitanism, on which ‘global citizenship’ is based (Cameron 2014). There is thus both an opportunity and a challenge to take the ethics of global citizenship / cosmopolitanism much more seriously in curriculum design and teaching – particularly within International Development Studies, Global Studies and related fields. At the same time, numerous scholars of global affairs and global ethics have argued that the increasing interconnectedness of the world requires some sort of global ethical framework. This paper explores the basic principles of cosmopolitan ethics – in particular, positive duties of assistance and negative duties to not cause harm or to benefit from the suffering of others. It then examines some of the practical implications of cosmopolitan ethical principles for course design and teaching – and reflects on experiments to design undergraduate courses from the 1st year through graduate levels based on cosmopolitan ethics. The paper puts particular emphasis on the curricular implications of “thick cosmopolitanism,” that is – the strand of cosmopolitan ethics that emphasizes negative ethical obligations to not cause harm in the context of the complex connections between the everyday lives of citizens / consumers in one part of the world and the well-being of citizens / producers in other parts of the world. The central argument of the paper is the need to move beyond simply teaching global ethics / global justice as academic subjects to operationalize the key
principles of global ethics in ways that will resonate with students in practical ways. Examples include courses that help students to develop the skills needed to fulfill negative ethical obligations to not contribute to global harms – for example, public engagement, advocacy, and holding government and corporate decision makers accountable.

Kenneth Christie and Robert J. Hanlon  
Corporate Social Responsibility in times of Populism and Human Insecurity

This paper explores the rise of populist movements in the West and their impact on the behaviour of transnational corporations. We argue such movements are contributing to business uncertainty thereby forcing industry to entrench politically sensitive policy into their social responsibility platforms. By exploiting human insecurities, populist movements have targeted some of the most marginalized groups in society including refugees and migrants. This brand of governance has motivated the business sector to publicly reject populist doctrine while advocating a continued commitment to globalization and free markets. Indeed, the rise of populism in the West is forcing multinational companies to align their business philosophy with core themes found within the human security paradigm. Drawing on recent examples in Europe and the United States, this paper shows how corporate social responsibility (CSR) has entered a new phase where business can no longer justify remaining politically-neutral if they are to protect their employees, customers and the communities in which they operate.

Jay Drydyk  
Some Current Directions in Development Ethics

Contemporary development ethics begins, practically, in popular and organizational response and resistance to apparent injustices and malfeasance in development projects, policies, and strategies. Theoretically, it is often traced back to two insights of the late Denis Goulet, first that we must distinguish between worthwhile development and undesirable maldevelopment, and second that this is an ethical, values-based distinction. Subsequent research has found that values relevant to this distinction include well-being, equity, empowerment, environmental sustainability, human rights, cultural freedom, and integrity. The presentation will be based on my forthcoming Handbook of Development Ethics (Routledge) in which nearly forty development ethicists discuss what these seven values mean for development - both globally and in nine different regions.

Alistair D. Edgar  
'Can - and should - humanitarian intervention in conflict-affected states be separated from development?'

A significant, and problematic, trend in international (military) interventions by Western states in the past two decades has been the conflation of military and humanitarian goals, actors, and intended outcomes. The securitization, and indeed the militarization, of humanitarianism in this manner has decreased or eliminated the idea and practice of recognizing 'humanitarian space' - that is, having parties to a conflict broadly recognize and respect the neutrality and therefore the safety of humanitarian organizations operating in conflict and war zones. Instead, today humanitarian actors increasingly are the first, because easiest or 'softest', targets of various sides in a war zone and as a result, they are becoming less able to function or even to be present without having their own guard forces. A dilemma facing the UN's SDG 16 which proposes the promotion of "peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development", is that while development may not be possible without security, the provision of security makes these same development initiatives, and those conducting them, targets for attack. How can this problem, if it is widespread, be addressed?
Linda Elmose
Ethical Dilemmas and China’s Rise: How Might Geopolitical and Epistemological Flux Open Up a Space for a New Ethical Landscape in Aid Effectiveness?

At a time when we remain uncertain about the connections between mainstream development policy and poverty reduction (Oxfam, 2017; Riddell, 2014), there never has been a more important time to rethink Development Ethics. The paper explores four recent geopolitical and epistemic trends with a view to advancing the argument that we can “find” a new space for self-conscious ethical thinking at the confluence of these interconnected developments. First, we are witnessing the decline in moral authority and leadership of the United States, alongside the advent of China and other emerging economies as “new donors”– China, South Korea, Brazil, Mexico, among others (The Guardian, 2011). Ostensibly, these non-western developing countries, themselves with a history of colonial exploitation, present a genuine conflict of values, principles and approaches to development policy and practice. Equally, the third and fourth global developments concern the Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs) and discourses on the Post-Aid World, which are democratizing the aid and development regime with new actors and alternative sources of funding. Taken as a whole, these recent global developments are important to Development Ethics in that they are introducing multiple perspectives and knowledge claims, injecting processes of democratization and burden sharing of development progress, and enhancing procedural legitimacy, or what Goulet (1971) terms “the means of the means” in development ethics.

References

Marc Epprecht
Outing and Intervening: The Ethics of Engagement with the “gay debate” in Africa

Over the last three decades Africa’s so-called greatest taboo has been progressively challenged through the art and activism of African LGBTIQ themselves, and the scholarship of Western researchers. Debates have shifted over the years from whether homosexuality even existed among black Africans or was a byproduct of colonialism, whether it was a mere footnote to the broader sweep of history, the relationship of sexual minority rights to feminism, and how best to promote sexual health in a climate of growing patriotic homophobia. In the process, Western donors and solidarity groups have sought to engage the debates with vastly varying degrees of subtlety or, more commonly, clumsy, homonationalist/“queer imperialist” bossiness. The effect in some cases has been the opposite of the stated intention, most notoriously when Canada’s Minister of Foreign Affairs publicly insulted Uganda’s Speaker of Parliament and motivated her to push the Anti-Homosexuality Bill through parliament, against the wishes of her own president. In this paper, I consider some of the ethical questions posed by the tensions between traditional “cultures of discretion,” health and human rights imperatives, and the sensitivities around Western cultural or other colonialisms.
Chloe Schwenke
Universal values in practice – moral deficits within USAID development programming

The discourse on human rights within the international development practitioner community has struggled to extend beyond a legal and compliance framing, and even that is largely constrained to the cataloging of human rights abuses. The conceptualization of human rights as promoting the universal values associated with human dignity seldom finds its way into policy or programming, and with the decline in interest in human rights generally within the current American political administration, the moral dimensions of human rights are relegated even more to the periphery. As some form of compensation, a new dialogue is emerging on social inclusion, but this dialogue remains at a very early stage of definition and elaboration. Other than serving as an acknowledgment that many marginalized groups face significant levels of exclusion, stigma, humiliation, and even violence across a wide range of quality of life factors, social inclusion has yet to emerge as a framework that can reintroduce the moral and ethical components into international development theory and practice. This paper will briefly review the current state of promoting universal human rights values and principles in the context of international development practice within the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) as their programming applies to marginalized populations. It will then consider whether the concept of social inclusion offers a new and potentially more effective approach to the incorporation of important universal moral values, again in the context of programming intended to serve the interests of marginalized populations.

Chloe Schwenke – Keynote “Building Essential Bridges To Human Dignity”

This talk will first set the context by a brief “tour” of the leading ways in which foreign aid and international development are currently being framed in the United States and (quite differently) in Canada. The rhetoric of a feminist foreign policy in Canada is refreshing, although the money has yet to follow the words. On my side of the border, the unfolding implications of an “America First” foreign policy that consistently now defaults to the highly limited framing of self-interested political economy thinking and the prioritized achievement of short-term only results is deeply concerning.

In such a context, what do we do with universal moral values and the recognition of human dignity? The silence is crushing.

My talk will briefly explore the competing notions of how human dignity is being articulated by leading thinkers, and how it remains at best a rhetorical flourish among government policy makers. As a development practitioner, researcher, former government official (under Obama), and academic, I will note the nearly complete absence of any structured deliberative spaces within our institutions of governance for secular moral discourse, effectively meaning that we have no regular strategic processes by which we can give thought to the ethical implications of commitments to human dignity – and what that absence implies for the future.

Finally, I will challenge the audience to use the emerging discourse on human dignity as a means through which proactively to bridge between the highly fragmented international development community (human rights advocacy, researchers, development practitioners, humanitarian relief specialists, the government donor community, the philanthropic foundation donor community, academia, and yes - the development ethics community) to build a coalition to defend and promote the premise of human dignity.
Mitu Sengupta  
**The Sustainable Development Goals – An Evaluation**

United Nations Resolution A/RES/70/1 of 25 September 2015 – also known as ‘Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’ (hereon: Agenda 2030) – is much more than a typical intergovernmental agreement. It is an ethical framework that is meant to guide global development efforts for 15 years, between 2015 and 2030. Its centerpiece, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), replaces the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which held sway between 2000 and 2015. Agenda 2030 was launched with the confident claim that it is a “historic decision on a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centered set of universal and transformative goals and targets,” and that the SDGs represent a “supremely ambitious and transformational vision.”

My paper provides an assessment of the Agenda 2030’s value as an ethical framework in international development. In particular, it focuses on an analysis of the new global partnership goal, SDG-17, which is intended to be a more robust version of the paltry MDG-8, but nonetheless (as I argue) suffers from its key defect. The world’s most powerful agents – affluent states, international organizations, multinational enterprises – are once again shielded from any concrete responsibilities for achieving the SDGs when, given their wealth and influence, they ought to be taking the lead in providing the needed resources and in implementing systemic institutional reforms that will address the root causes of poverty. These needed reforms include changing the rules that encourage illicit financial outflows from developing countries or force the poorest countries to pay interest on debts accumulated by previous unaccountable leaders. Indeed, the text of SDG-17 highlights Agenda 2030’s failure to adequately address structural causes of poverty and to advocate for an equitable distribution of burdens between different global agents of development. This, when taken alongside other gaps and limitations I identify, make it difficult to accept the claim that the SDGs are “supremely ambitious and transformational,” even though they are, without doubt, an improvement upon the MDGs.

Rebecca Tiessen  
**Canada’s Feminist Foreign Policy and Gender Equality/Human Rights Commitments: Past Practice and Future Promises**

In June 2017, the Liberal government launched its first Feminist International Assistance Policy thereby setting a course for an ambitious agenda for the promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment. A renewed commitment to human rights and gender equality became evident in the early days of the Trudeau government with a series of events that placed gender equality at the centre of national and international commitments. This paper traces the numerous steps toward a feminist foreign policy between 2015 and 2017 with attention to how this strategy diverges from previous Canadian governments. Civil society organization (CSO) reactions to these early promises of improved gender equality programming are examined, particularly in relation to peace and security efforts abroad. Feminist international relations and foreign policy scholarships have long argued for a feminist foreign policy. In this paper, the contributions of this feminist scholarship are analyzed in relation to the discursive, rhetorical and feminist policy commitments observed to date.

Rosalind Warner  
**Expanding the Ethical Community to Include the Non-Human World: Implications for International Sustainable Development Theory and Practice**

This paper will examine recent trends toward the expansion of the ethical community to include the non-human world, and the impact of this trend on international development theory and practice. The
purpose of the project is to identify and analyze patterns in law, policy, and civil society practice that have moved international actors toward recognition of non-human entities as part of the human ethical community, particularly the role of indigenous knowledge. Using the case study of the Whanganui river decision, the project will analyze the factors for success, the potential to impact further development of national and international environmental law, and the implications for international development theory and practice. Although there exists a burgeoning literature on human rights, ethics, and ecology in sustainable development, few studies to date have directly explored how changing views of the non-human world affect international development thinking and practice.

Participant Biographical Sketches

David Black is Lester B. Pearson Professor of International Development Studies, and Professor and Chair of Political Science at Dalhousie University in Halifax. His research has focused primarily on Canada’s involvement in Sub-Saharan Africa (including diplomacy, human security, development assistance and the extractive sector), human rights and identity in South African foreign policy, Sport in World Politics and Development, and Disability and Global Development. His recent publications include: Canada and Africa in the New Millennium: the Politics of Consistent Inconsistency (Waterloo: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2015); Rethinking Canadian Aid, 2nd edition (Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, 2016, co-edited with Stephen Brown and Molly den Heyer); and a Special Issue of Commonwealth and Comparative Politics on “South African Foreign Policy: Identity and Directions through Bilateral Attachments” (Vol. 54, No. 2, 2016, co-edited with David Hornsby).

John Cameron is Associate Professor of International Development Studies at Dalhousie University. His recent publications on cosmopolitan ethics include: John Cameron. Under review. “Communicating Cosmopolitanism and Motivating Global Citizenship” Political Studies. (Submitted May 24, 2017). John Cameron. 2016. “Rethinking Thinking about Canadian Aid from a Cosmopolitan Perspective” in Stephen Brown, David Black, Molly Den Heyer, eds. Rethinking Canadian Aid. University of Ottawa Press, 55-70. John Cameron. 2014. “Grounding Experiential Learning in ‘Thick’ Conceptions of Global Citizenship” in Rebecca Tiessen and Bob Huish, eds. Globetrotting or Global Citizenship : Perils and Potentials of International Experiential Learning. Toronto : University of Toronto Press, 21-42. He has taught various courses at different levels on cosmopolitan ethics, including a first year course in IDS at Dalhousie (“Halifax and the World”) which seeks to engage first year students in the Humanities and Social Sciences with the core principles of cosmopolitan ethics through analyses of the connections between everyday life in Halifax and key issues of global justice, as well as a graduate course on “Motivating Cosmopolitanism,” which focuses on the challenges of motivating cosmopolitan behaviour.

Kenneth Christie is the author, co-author, editor and co-editor of 10 books, the most recent being Freedom From Fear, Freedom from Want: An Introduction to Human Security (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2016) with Robert Hanlon. In the last 30 years he has taught and conducted research at universities in the USA, Singapore, South Africa, Norway and the United Arab Emirates, concentrating on issues of human rights, security and democratization. His most recent appointment is Program Head of the Masters in Arts in Human Security and Peacebuilding at Royal Roads University in British Columbia, Canada, since 2009. Kenneth has also held senior appointments at the University of Oxford, UK, where he worked with the Refugee Studies Programme in Queen Elizabeth House and was a senior fellow at St. Anthony’s College, in addition to having held visiting appointments at institutes in the UK including Chatham House. Christie also served as was Director of Global Studies at Zayed University in Dubai where he also supervised the social science internship programme. He has conducted evaluations of human rights NGO’s for the Norwegian government development agency, NORAD, in Southeast Asia.
Working all over the world has given him a unique grasp on peace, development and security. Currently, he is editing a volume on the refugee/migrant crisis in the Mediterranean and the Middle East from a human security viewpoint.

Jay Drydyk is interested in how human rights, justice, and democracy can be understood from global and cross-cultural perspectives. With Peter Penz, he co-edited *Global Justice, Global Democracy*, which explores the meanings of ‘justice’ and ‘democracy’ in the face of globalization. Working with colleagues in India, he has studied ethical risks that arise when development displaces people and their communities. His current project, Global Ethics, Capabilities, and Human Rights, examines the capacity of diverse moral outlooks to reach agreement on practical conclusions, including the right to development. He won a Carleton University Teaching Achievement Award in 2002. He is currently President of the International Development Ethics Association. In 2007 he was elected a Fellow of the Human Development and Capability Association.

Alistair D. Edgar is Executive Director of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS), Faculty Associate and Advisory Board member at the Laurier Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies, and is Associate Professor of Political Science at Wilfrid Laurier University. Outside of the University, Dr. Edgar is president of the New Delhi, India-based International Jurist Organization; chair of the Board of the Canadian Land Mine Foundation; and is a former National Board member of the United Nations Association in Canada. He is active on the editorial boards of the Center for Governance and Sustainability (University of Massachusetts Boston) *Issue Briefs* series, and the *Journal of International Peacekeeping*. Dr Edgar’s research focuses on transitional justice in war-to-peace transitions and post-conflict peace building. He has conducted fieldwork in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Kosovo, and northern Uganda. Dr. Edgar holds a PhD in Political Science from Queen’s University (1993). He was the John M. Olin Doctoral Fellow in Economics and National Security at Harvard University (1992-93), and was awarded a certificate in Russian Studies at Moscow State University (1995).

Linda Elmose is a Continuing College Professor at Okanagan College, currently researching the intersection of energy and environmental policy and ethical perspectives in our dominant neoliberal era. Recently prepared papers cover the issues of “good green jobs”, the emerging issue of “social license”, and the global impacts of Canada as a purported Energy Superpower. Other research pursuits in the development ambit involve exploring the impacts of new, non-OECD-DAC donors on the foreign aid regime, and the wider development-related impacts – political, economic, legal and ethical – of emerging Asia.

Marc Epprecht is Professor and Department Head, Queen’s University Department of Global Development Studies. His research interests include social history in southern Africa, especially the colonial era; gender and sexuality more broadly, especially cultural constructions of non-normative sexualities (lgbti, msm, wsw, etc) and contestations around masculinities; HIV/AIDS; environment and health. Recent publications include: *Sexuality and Social Justice in Africa, rethinking homophobia and forging resistance*. London: Zed Books (2013)

Natalia Peñuela Gallo is a Graduate Student at the University of British Columbia in Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies within the theme of Latin American Iberian Studies. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations from the University of British Columbia Okanagan and an International Development diploma from the Okanagan College. Her research and thesis topic are centered in the
current situation of Social Leaders and Human Rights Defenders in the context of the Peace Accords in Colombia.

Robert J. Hanlon is an Assistant Professor in Political Science at Thompson Rivers University and an associate faculty member in the School of Humanitarian Studies at Royal Roads University. His research explores the links between corruption, human security and corporate social responsibility in emerging Asian economies. Prior to joining TRU, Dr. Hanlon served as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Institute of Asian Research, University of British Columbia. He has taught at the University of British Columbia, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Simon Fraser University and the Royal Military College of Canada. Outside academia, Dr. Hanlon has worked for the Asian Human Rights Commission, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, as well as the High Commission of Canada in Australia. He holds a PhD in International Relations and Asian Politics from City University of Hong Kong, a master’s degree in Peace and Conflict Resolution from the University of Queensland, as well as a BA in Political Science and Philosophy from the University of Victoria. He has been a visiting scholar at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies (Oxford), the Liu Institute for Global Issues (UBC), the Sasin Graduate Institute of Business Administration (Chulalongkorn), the Balsillie School of International Affairs (Waterloo), as well as the University of Hong Kong.

Dan Harris is the Program Officer with the BC Council for International Cooperation. A New Zealander with over 10 years’ experience in the field of international community development, Dan has worked throughout Latin America and the United States including with local NGOs in El Salvador, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru. Dan’s background is participatory approaches to community engagement and change leadership and he has applied these skills in projects ranging from climate change adaption and water management to community conservation and sustainable agriculture. With a Masters in Development Studies, Dan’s current focus is the role of networks and networked collaboration for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Janice Larson is a policy, planning and partnerships consultant, with over 22 years of experience in public policy development and implementation, focused on strategic planning, regulatory and economic development, community and international relations. Janice was from 2014-2017 the Executive Director, Regional Innovation Initiatives with the BC Ministry of Technology, Innovation and Citizens’ Services, based in Kelowna at UBC’s Okanagan campus, and focused on building academic/community/industry connections to enhance innovation throughout the province. Previously Janice was with the BC Ministry of Advanced Education, leading the development and implementation of BC’s International Education Strategy, and working to advance policies and initiatives that support BC’s higher education objectives and opportunities at home and abroad. Janice also worked on the Pacific Gateway Strategy with the BC Ministry of Transportation, and from 2001-2011 she was the Director of Renewable Energy Development with the BC Ministry of Energy, working on the 2002 and 2007 Energy Plans, the BC Bioenergy Strategy, and other initiatives to advance clean technology, renewable energy, energy efficiency, low-carbon transportation and related energy/environmental objectives. She cycled across Canada in 2008 (fueled by carbohydrates, not hydrocarbons :-), and as her heart never misses a green beat, she and her husband are building a zero-net energy passive house in Lake Country, BC. Janice has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Lethbridge, degrees in Education and Law from the University of British Columbia, and she is a non-practising member of the Law Society of British Columbia.

Shawna McLean has collaborated with David Suzuki to bring a lecture on global environmental impacts to Thompson Rivers University, as well as worked with Al Gore at the Climate Reality Conference in
Washington, where she organized a live Q&A with Gore at TRU around his latest film. She has presented in a panel discussion with Maude Barlow about the Kinder Morgan Pipeline, acted as chair of the Philosophy, History, and Politics Conference, Canada's largest undergraduate research conference for two years running. In addition to being President of the Political Science club for three years, Shawna also co-Chaired the 2017 Model United Nations, acted as the TRU faculty of Arts Student Ambassador, TRU faculty of Arts work study student, and Research Assistant to Dr. Robert Hanlon. Shawna is a University of Toronto alumna, and has an early childhood education diploma, and a diploma in Fashion Management and Design from George Brown College in Toronto. Shawna is looking forward to graduate school to complete her Master’s in Political Science.

Nicole Rustad is a champion for world change who uses equal parts strategy and passion to make things happen. Formerly the Corporate Citizenship Director for the tech division of Disney, for almost ten years she drove the corporate social responsibility vision, strategy, and programming across multiple lines of business including Disney’s Club Penguin where she created bold, immersive, initiatives that spanned the globe. Nicole led Disney’s Hour of Code connecting millions of children globally to computer science and Club Penguin’s Coins For Change empowering children to take action to make a difference. Nicole vetted charitable projects in over 40 countries and worked with non-profit partners to develop projects driving grassroots change in rural, developing communities. Now, through VortoVia, Nicole consults to businesses, non-profits, and individuals who want to make a lasting difference and speaks to groups on driving impact.

Chloe Schwenke is the former Director of the Global Program on Violence, Rights, and Inclusion at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW). She is currently the Interim Executive Director of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP), based at the University of Maryland in College Park. She is a human rights and social inclusion scholar and an international development practitioner with over three decades of international experience – nearly half of it while living in Africa and Asia. Prior to joining ICRW, Chloe served as vice president for global programs at Freedom House in Washington, D.C., and before that she was a political appointee of the Obama Administration as Senior Advisor on Human Rights at the Africa Bureau of the US Agency for International Development (USAID). Chloe’s scholarship and programmatic work are informed by feminist ethics, the capabilities approach, social inclusion, and human rights moral concepts. Through her work, she addresses the challenges of keeping international foreign assistance grounded in an ethically explicit and justifiable framework – with a focus on achieving pragmatic, measurable results on the ground. Chloe received her Ph.D. in public policy at the School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland at College Park, where she was Alumna of the Year for 2013. In that same year she was awarded a National Public Service Award by the National Center for Transgender Equality, and in 2016 she was awarded the Global Advocate Award by DC Center – Global. She is the author of Reclaiming Values in International Development (Praeger 2008), and her memoir will be published by Red Hen Press in 2018.

Mitu Sengupta is a Full Professor in the Department of Politics and Public Administration at Ryerson University, and a full member of the Yeates School of Graduate Studies, where she is program faculty for the MA program in Immigration and Settlement Studies, the York and Ryerson joint MA/PhD Program in Communication and Culture, as well as the MA in Public Policy and Administration and the PhD in Policy Studies. Dr. Sengupta has a PhD in Political Science from the University of Toronto, a Master of Arts in Political Science from McGill University, and a Bachelor of Arts (Joint Honours) in Political Science and Philosophy, also from McGill University. She has worked as a consultant for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), an editorial writer in India, and a lecturer at the University of Toronto, York University, and the University of Guelph.
Amanda Shatzko is a Co-Vice-President of the Vancouver Branch of the United Nations Association in Canada, and BC Alliance for Arts and Culture. She is vice-chair for the cultural advisory committee for the Regional District of the North Okanagan, and current graduate student at Royal Roads University in Intercultural and International Communication.

Michael Simpson is the Executive Director of the British Columbia Council for International Cooperation (BCCIC). Prior to working for BCCIC, Michael was the Executive Director of One Sky – The Canadian Institute for Sustainable Living. His work with One Sky varied from leading major bilateral projects in West Africa including Nigeria and Sierra Leone to working in Latin America on projects ranging from forest conservation to leadership development. Simpson was an active voice for Canadian civil society at international forums ranging from the World Summit on Sustainable Development to UN meetings on renewable energy. With a keen interest in integral theory, Simpson has been active in exploring the nexus between developmental psychology and social change. Prior to his work with civil society groups, Simpson was an award winning documentary producer who ran a video production company for fifteen years specializing in programming on environment, development and human rights. He spent many years working in conflict and post conflict areas of the world with a special focus on Latin America. His most recent focus has been on leadership development within the context of social movements, including both the private sector and civil society. An avid networker, Simpson is a current director of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC) and currently manages through BCCIC the Inter-Council Network (ICN) of eight Provincial and Regional Councils.

Jennifer Temmer is a Project Officer with International Institute for Sustainable Development’s SDG Knowledge group. She brings her background in agriculture, rural planning and international development to the team. Jennifer has worked with many First Nations communities in Manitoba, developing northern garden projects and compost programs, organizing land-use mapping workshops, helping to develop a business plan for a Fishery Co-op, researching Metis Population health data, developing capacity and training youth. Jennifer also spent time in Honduras working with a micro-credit program for indigenous women and doing research in technology transfer for sustainable agricultural techniques.

Rebecca Tiessen is University Chair in Teaching and Professor in the School of International Development and Global Studies, University of Ottawa. She previously worked at the Royal Military College (2007-2013) where she was Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair in Global Studies. Prior to that she was Assistant Professor at Dalhousie University (1999-2007). Her research covers a range of topics pertaining to the role of Canada and Canadians in the world including women, peace and security and Canadian commitments to fragile and conflict-affected states. Her recent book (co-authored with Stephen Baranyi) is titled: Obligations and Omissions: Canada’s Ambiguous Actions on Gender Equality. She is an active member of the Women, Peace and Security Network - a network that works closely with civil society organizations in collaboration with government departments to develop the next National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security (CNAP). She also examines ethical and effective practices in international volunteering and internationalization of higher education. She is co-editor with Katie MacDonald on a forthcoming collection in the Journal of Global Citizenship and Equity Education titled “The Practice, Politics and Possibilities for Globally-Engaged Experiential Learning in Diverse Contexts”.

Rafael Villarreal is the manager of the strategic visioning project for the City of Kelowna (Imagine Kelowna) and manager of the integrated transportation department.