



CANADA25 CIVIC ENGAGEMENT NATIONAL FORUM PARTICIPANT BIOS

Fodé Beaudet (International)

Fodé Beaudet is at home overseas as much as in Canada, occasionally confused as to which one is which. He has recently explored the African ways of doing and learning through an innovative project with the Berkana Institute and Pioneers of Change, a global learning network of people, in their 20's and 30's, committed to systemic change.

Through his university years, he has been involved with Aiesec, the largest student-run association. His numerous roles included leading the national chapter, participating in exchange programs to joining the international executive body in The Netherlands as Vice President for Corporate Relations.

A published author, Fodé continues to write, exploring reality and absurdity through short stories. Fodé is currently the Cooperation Program Representative (Africa) for CUSO, an international development NGO forging alliances for global justice.

Jason Blackstock (Volunteerism)

Dr. Jason J. Blackstock, P.Phys. grew up in Edmonton, Alberta, before heading away to University at 17. Since that time, Jason has obtained his BA in English Literature from Queen's University, his Master of Physics from the University of Edinburgh (Scotland) and his PhD in Physics from the University of Alberta. Jason presently works as a Research Associate of the Quantum Science Research group of Hewlett-Packard Labs, where his work incorporates both fundamental science research and technology development in the fields of molecular electronics, nanoscale sensors and atomic-scale surface engineering. Throughout his scientific career, Jason has authored or co-authored over three-dozen scientific/technical publications and presentations, received over two-dozen awards, and led several collaborative research partnerships between HP and a number of globally acclaimed scientific institutions.

Beyond his scientific research, Jason is actively involved in a variety of community organizations, including presently being a Senior Fellow of the Trudeau Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, an active member of the Academic Council of the United Nations System, and a Director of the Child and Adolescent Services Association in Edmonton.

Mike Bulthius (Religious and Cultural)

I have lived in Ottawa since 1999, having grown up in Hamilton, and having completed undergraduate studies in Political Science and International Development Studies at Dalhousie University (Halifax). I came to Ottawa to complete an MA in Political Science, with an emphasis on social policy and a term of study in Amsterdam. Since graduation I have been working with the federal government, currently as a Senior Analyst with the Cities and Communities Branch, Infrastructure Canada. My positions have always addressed issues of socio-economic well-being, community sustainability and social inclusion. I returned to school in September, 2005 on a part-time basis, beginning a Ph.D. program in urban and social geography at the University of Ottawa, exploring questions around the meaning of home and place. I've continuously sought to engage in local initiatives, currently serving as a member of the City of Ottawa's Health and Social Services Advisory Committee, and supporting a number of non-profit community coalitions addressing housing issues.

Samir Chhabra (Social Activism)

Samir Chhabra is currently a Policy Analyst with the Privy Council Office of the Government of Canada. Prior to joining the Privy Council Samir worked in the field of public management research, focusing on international cooperation and capacity-building. An active writer and student leader from a young age, Samir has contributed to several seminars and conferences on leadership development as an organizer, facilitator and speaker. Samir currently volunteers as the chapter coordinator for Canada25 in Ottawa.

Samir graduated with an Honours Bachelor of Science degree from Queen's University and an MBA from the University of Ottawa.



Elizabeth Christie (Play and Expression)

Elizabeth is currently working as a public affairs strategist in Toronto Canada. She holds an Honours BA in political science from the University of Toronto and a MA in Political Science with a specialty in Political Campaigning from the University of Florida. Over the past several years, she has worked as a political pollster for Democratic Candidates in the United States from the State House level all the way up to the Presidential.

She played a key role in the GOTV effort in Broward County during the Presidential Election. Recently, in Canada, she has been focusing her efforts on studies for the media for the 2006 Federal Election on young voters and the general public and providing public opinion strategy for her corporate clients. Her research areas include political communication and comparative political advertising.

Erin Chrusch (Online Engagement)

Erin is a native of the town of Macklin, Saskatchewan. She graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with degrees in Political Science and Law. While at the U of S, Erin was quite involved in student politics, serving as President of her college's Students' Union, Board of Governors, and as a student councillor.

Erin is currently practicing law in Edmonton at The Estate House, a small firm specializing in wills & estates. Prior to joining The Estate House, she worked as the first Advocacy Director for the University of Alberta Students' Union where she helped develop political policy and government advocacy strategies. Since 2004, Erin has been the coordinator for the Edmonton chapter of Canada25. She sits on the Canadian Unity Council Young Leaders Committee, the Canada West Foundation's Next West Generation Council, and is president of her local community league. Erin is also a member of the Leadership Edmonton class of 2005-06. She believes strongly in Marion Wright Edelman's quote, "Service is the rent we pay to be living. It is the very purpose of life and not something you do in your spare time." When Erin does have spare time, she enjoys reading and hanging out with her husband, Murray, and their dog, Bohdi.

Jonathan Craft (Volunteerism)

A native of Oakville, Ontario, Jonathan graduated with an Honours Political Science degree from the University of Guelph in 2004. Jonathan currently works for the Federal Government's newly minted Service Canada Department as a Bilingual Programs Officer. In the past he has worked as a consultant in the private sector and for then Department of Human Resources Development Canada. An experienced party organizer he has also worked on several provincial and federal election campaigns. Fluently bilingual, Jonathan has debated at the national and provincial levels in both official languages and was selected as a semi finalist in the 2004 Magna As Prime Minister Awards. Jonathan currently serves as one of Canada25's Associate Policy Directors and is the Canada25 Policy Watch Coordinator. Jonathan can be reached at jcrafft@canada25.com.

Michael Crook (Political Engagement)

Jonathan Dunn (Online Engagement)

Jonathan Dunn has served as Canada25's National Communications Director since January 2005. Prior to that he aided on Canada25's media relations activities for the Canada and the World project. Having worked in both online media and advertising, Jonathan is now an Account Manager as Marketing Magazine, Canada's leading marketing and public relations industry publication, where he works with Canada's major advertising and public relations agencies. Jonathan has a degree in Philosophy from Queen's University where studied political philosophy extensively. He is also in the final stages of Ryerson University's public relations degree program.

Salima Ebrahim (Religious and Cultural Engagement)

Salima Ebrahim has recently completed a Masters of Science in Public Policy and Administration at the London School of Economics and Political Science in London. She is currently working with Western Economic Diversification Canada as an economic analyst, responsible for International Trade and Investment, and Canada-U.S. relations. Salima is the co-author of a publication entitled "In My Own Skin: Canadian Muslim Women Creating Our Own Identity," a publication that talks about issues of identity, relationships and family dynamics, racism and discrimination, gender issues, and violence against women. This publication gained international recognition, amongst them an invitation to speak at the UN Conference on Racism and Discrimination in 2001 and more recently by the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. She speaks English,



French and Gujrati and is gradually becoming proficient in Arabic. She is actively involved in Edmonton's volunteer sector and is interested in issues pertaining to international trade, social justice and geopolitics within today's changing global context.

Owen Everts-Lind (Political Engagement)

Owen was born and raised in Middle LaHave on Nova Scotia's beautiful South Shore. He completed his BA in political science at Mount Allison University, and after working for the YMCA of Halifax/Dartmouth for a year, completed his MA in political science at Dalhousie University with a focus in international relations and Canadian foreign policy. He recently moved to Ottawa, where he accepted a position in the federal government's Accelerated Economist Training Program. He is currently working for the Privy Council Office.

Paul Faucette (Logistics Volunteer)

Paul Faucette has a Bachelor of History degree from Wilfrid Laurier University and a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Ottawa. Currently, he is completing a Master of Arts degree in Human Security and Peacebuilding at Royal Roads University.

In Canada, Paul has worked or volunteered with a number of organizations focusing on the education and skill development of Canadian youth. Internationally, he worked in Zambia focusing on life skills development and health education/advocacy with Zambian youth. Last year, he was the Mine Action Ambassador for Southern Ontario, raising awareness about the landmine issue. Currently, he is the Manager of Programs and Campaigns at the Canadian Landmine Foundation/Adopt-A-Minefield.

Emmaline Hill (Volunteerism)

After seven months in France, Emmaline is pleased to be back in Regina, gainfully employed and preparing for the Canada25 National Forum on Civic Engagement. Now a policy analyst with the Province of Saskatchewan, Emmaline has also worked as a musician, arts administrator and nanny. Her range of volunteer experience includes an internship with an NGO in Paris, civic arts policy development in Calgary and hosting a radio show in Regina.

Al-Karim Khimji (Religious and Cultural Engagement)

Al-Karim is currently enrolled in the Queen's University accelerated MBA program and is a graduate of McGill University with a Bachelor of Commerce concentrating in accounting and strategic management. As well, he works for an Albertan hotel group in a management position covering both operations and new developments. Through his international work, volunteer experience and travels, he has a global perspective and a great appreciation of diversity and the freedoms that we enjoy as Canadians. Al-Karim continues to be extensively involved with various community/volunteer organizations and has an active lifestyle. He loves to ski, travel and spend time with friends and family.

Anuj Khosla (Social Activism)

Upon graduating from the University of Saskatchewan with Bachelors in Arts and Bachelors in Commerce, Anuj held several leadership positions abroad within AIESEC, an international student run NGO, working 1-year terms in Costa Rica, Sweden and France. Born in Nairobi Kenya, raised in Canada and visited South Africa, Malaysia, Singapore and Central and Eastern Europe, Anuj considers himself a true citizen of the world. Active in the sectors of arts, youth development, culture and business with a strong interest in international co-operation, Anuj is a pacifist social-activist. Currently working in Montreal in Administration and Financial management at EyeSteelFilm, an independent social documentary company actively developing www.homelessnation.org; an interactive website presenting the voices and testimonials of homeless individuals from across Canada. Anuj is currently an active volunteer with Junior Achievement of Quebec, Canada25-Montreal, and Montreal Fringe Festival, as well as numerous other cultural activities in Montreal.

Kathryn Kinley (International Engagement)

Kathryn Kinley was born and raised in Manitoba but is currently completing her undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies, International Development and Political Science as a member of Trinity College at the University of Toronto. She is presently serving as co-leader for the Toronto Chapter of Canada25, completing



environmental behaviour change research for the Sustainability Office at the University of Toronto and is in her third consecutive year as an analyst for the G8 Research Group at the Munk Centre for International Studies.

Midway through her undergraduate degree, she has volunteered for 5 months in India on a CIDA funded project for HIV and AIDS prevention, volunteered twice in Kenya teaching elementary school children and helping to build a school, attended the United Nations Conference on Climate Change as a youth delegate, served on the editorial boards of *Mindful: Journal of Ethics* and the *Attache: Journal of International Affairs*, and received senior-level conflict resolution training at the UNESCO Center for Pluralism, Human Rights and Democracy in Northern Ireland. She has successfully lobbied Innis College to include 'green' policy in their multi-million dollar renovation project and orchestrated the Manitoba leg of the Embracing Cultures speaking tour designed to inspire, motivate, and challenge young people to care about their fellow global citizens.

Elaine K. Lam (Volunteerism)

Elaine K. Lam is currently a Lecturer of Education Studies specializing in Global and International Education at Bath Spa University in the United Kingdom. As a teacher, Elaine has taught secondary English and Mathematics in Canada, England and Hong Kong. Currently, she is a trustee for a homeless shelter in Bristol, England and part of Soroptimist International, a worldwide organization that strives for the advancement of the status of women.

As the past chapter co-leader of the Toronto chapter of Canada25, Elaine has organized and participated in events to promote the voices of youth. She has extensive experience as a volunteer, ranging from her appointment as a Deputy Commissioner of Community Outreach at Queen's University to involvement in development projects and the coordination of a national post-secondary leadership conference.

Elaine obtained her B.A (Hons) and B.Ed from Queen's Concurrent Education program and her Masters in Comparative and International Education at Oxford University. She is currently pursuing doctoral studies in the area of education and development.

Ann Lockhart (Online Engagement)

Ann graduated in May with a Bachelor of Philosophy in Interdisciplinary Leadership from the University of New Brunswick (UNB), and is currently finishing a BA in Multimedia Studies with a film production certificate. She is involved with many media initiatives including the New Brunswick Film Cooperative, CHSR 97.9 FM (campus radio station) and the Brunswickan (campus newspaper). She was elected as a student senator for UNB and sat on five student union committees.

She is currently the Director of Media for the UNB Student Union and is working on a documentary on the history of the Carleton and York Regiment during the second world war (one of two infantry regiments in the province of New Brunswick). She is an infantry platoon commander with the Canadian Forces Reserves, 1RNBR, which evolved from the Carleton and York Regiment. She is very interested in Policy, especially with respect to media, education, and the environment and is always up for adventures and sharing ideas.

Ben Madgett (Political Engagement)

Ben is currently pursuing his Masters of Public Administration at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, where he also serves as President of the student council. He holds a BA in Political Science and History from McGill University.

Prior to his graduate studies, Ben worked as an Election Coordinator for the City of Toronto, and was involved in the management and observation of elections in Canada and abroad. He has also taught ESL in Canada, the United States, and Asia.

Ben served on the organizing committee of the Toronto Roundtable on Civic Engagement, and is currently a member of Canada25 in New York City.

Rogy Masri (International Engagement)

An idealist waking up to the harsh realities of our world, Rogy has spent a great deal of time interacting with people from all walks of life. The first of his extended family to graduate from high school, Rogy spent part of his



childhood herding livestock in a village in the Middle East. Years later, he graduated from the University of Calgary with a BSc. in Biological Sciences after which he spent two years participating in Cancer Research. He has recently graduated from Medical School, completed an intensive course in health and human rights, and is in the process of obtaining a residency position.

A native of Calgary, Rogy has a passion for human rights and social justice that expands into the realm of political science. He has had the opportunity to travel and volunteer extensively, both within Canada and abroad. He's a minimalist with little tolerance for bureaucracy. Ultimately, he just wants to help people, ideally dedicating his life to aiding populations in dire need on a global scale while pointing out the inadequacies of the current status quo.

Sarah McQuarrie (Play and Expression)

Sarah is currently employed as a Senior Consultant in KPMG Canada's Advisory Services Practice, where she focuses on public sector work. Prior to joining KPMG, Sarah was involved in intergovernmental fiscal analysis for the Ontario Ministry of Finance. She is originally from Regina, Saskatchewan, and was employed by the Government of Saskatchewan for two years before moving to Ontario to pursue graduate studies. Sarah holds a Masters' of Public Administration from Queen's University and an undergraduate honours degree in Political Science. In her spare time, Sarah is a volunteer tutor and an amateur photographer.

Andrew Medd (Canada25 Executive Director)

Andrew Medd is the Executive Director for Canada25, a non-profit organization that brings the voices and ideas of Canadians, aged 20-35 to our nation's public policy discourse.

Prior to joining Canada25 on a fulltime basis, Andrew was a consultant in the Toronto office of Deloitte & Touche. As part of the Infrastructure, Development and Integration team, Andrew focused on helping clients understand, implement and manage their technology infrastructure in a variety of industries including insurance, travel, consumer products and finance. His engagement experience has allowed him to work in Canada, the United States and Great Britain.

Andrew has an honours degree in commerce from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario and recently moved to Vancouver, BC.

Karen Moores (Online Engagement)

Karen Moores, a native of St. John's, has studied Political Science, Business & Public Administration at Memorial University of Newfoundland and additionally, completed studies in French Language & Culture at College Bois Du Bologne, Montreal. In addition to diverse educational experiences in both St. John's & Montreal, Karen complemented academic study with work experiences in Marketing, Communications, research and event planning in the not-for-profit, public and private sector. During 2001-2003, she was also a Page in the Provincial House of Assembly, an ideal environment for a student of politics to watch policy and politics unfold live.

A member of the online engagement team for this year's National Forum, Karen's interest in technology was heightened by her experiences as a member of the 12-person Aliant Mobility Youth Advisory Panel, 2004-2005.

Margi Moscoe (Political Engagement)

Margi Moscoe graduated from Queen's University in 2003 with an Honours Bachelor of Commerce Degree. Upon graduation, in recognition of her significant contribution to both student run organizations and community life Margi received the Commerce '74 Award. Margi spent a semester on exchange from Queen's University studying international business and marketing at Uppsala University in Sweden. Margi completed a marketing internship with Nike Canada during the spring and summer of 2002. Margi, upon graduation from Queen's University entered the corporate sector joining Unilever Canada. From 2003 to 2004 she worked in Customer Development as a Retail Representative in Toronto after which she was transferred to Calgary where she worked as a Business Analyst and is presently employed as a Category Insight Manager. Currently residing in Calgary, Alberta, Margi is extremely active in the community. Margi participated in the "Calgary Youth, Canada's Future" 2005 conference where she first became aware of Canada25. Presently, she is volunteering as a crisis line counsellor for the



Distress Centre and is serving as an advocate for the Canadian Arthritis Society. As well, Margi is a member of the Leadership Calgary 2006 Class. Margi's interests include: travel, theatre, field hockey and fitness.

Debbie Pacheco (Play and Expression)

Debbie Pacheco currently works for the Portuguese-Canadian National Congress assisting to implement two community capacity building projects, one involving youth and civic engagement. As an M.A. graduate from the Department of Sociology and Equity Studies at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, Debbie is interested in the role of creative expression as a tool for social change. She has utilized radio and print media to address youth and social justice issues with the Wench Radio Collective and as an associate editor of Quinas Magazine. Debbie has also tutored for eight years with various organizations and helped design and facilitate popular education workshops for social service agencies, community groups, and public schools across Toronto with the Anti-Racism Media Education Collective. She is currently sharpening her activism skills through her involvement with the Maytree Foundation's "Leaders for Change" program.

Andrew Plett (International Engagement)

Andrew Plett grew up in a small town called Oak Lake, in western Manitoba. He received his Bachelor of Business degree with a major in Marketing and a minor in English from Brandon University. Currently, Andrew is the Manitoba Representative for the National Rural Youth Network (NRYN), and is actively working with youth in his community. He also does technical business writing and has been recently working on projects in Bolivia. He plays hockey, enjoys backpacking and all types of travel.

David Quayat (Political Engagement)

David is a native of Calgary, Alberta and is currently a law student at the University of Ottawa (Common Law Division). Prior to attending law school, David served as the Director of US Trade Policy Services in the Washington DC office of White & Case LLP, a multinational law firm based in New York. In his capacity as director, David provided a range of policy advice to the firm's sovereign and corporate clients on a range of issues including US legislative and regulatory affairs related to trade policy. He has written numerous articles on US trade policy matters, and has appeared as a commentator on Canadian and US news outlets to discuss trade issues.

Prior to joining White & Case, David earned his master of arts in international relations from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Upon graduation, David was presented with the William H. Foster prize, recognizing his academic achievement and community service. David also holds a bachelor of arts in political science from the University of Calgary, where he found the University of Calgary Model UN Team.

Robin Rix (Political Engagement)

Robin was called to the Ontario bar in 2005. He completed his law degree at the University of Toronto in 2004, where he served as the president of the student government, and a Master's in political science at Oxford University in 2001. He was the national winner in 2002 of the Magna Foundation's "As Prime Minister" essay competition, which included a one-year fellowship to work in the field of public policy. Previously, he worked at Baker & McKenzie LLP, an international law firm, and has completed human rights internships in India, Ghana, and Finland. He served a delegate to Canada25's national forum on cities in 2002, and as the lead author on a contribution to the Ontario government on development in the Greater Golden Horseshoe region in 2004.

Marion Senra (Play and Expression)

I have lived in Montreal, Quebec, Canada all my life. I speak English, French, and Portuguese, and have a passion for cultural diversity. I have been working as an Employment Counselor for 5 years, facilitating group workshops and providing individual counseling. My academic background is in Public Relations and Skill Development Training. As a volunteer in the community for several years, I have worked alongside various non-profit organizations helping people in need. Recently I am involved as a Mentor for Youth and as an Activist for Environmental Awareness with two local organizations as well as become a Participant in Policy Development with Canada25. My vision and efforts are based on the values of solidarity, justice, peace, human rights,



innovation & growth – I consider myself a citizen of the world who enjoys taking on an active role toward change on a local, national, and global scale, and empowering myself and others in the process.

Laurel Sherret (Volunteerism)

Laurel is currently studying law at the University of Victoria, concentrating on international law and human rights. She holds a BSc in Biological Sciences and a BA in International Relations, specializing in International Institutions and Governance and Latin America, both received from the University of Calgary. She has been the Project Coordinator for the International Women's Rights Project (IWRP), researching the implementation of the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women* and more recently an IWRP Research Associate focusing on the gender dimensions of the Responsibility to Protect. She recently completed an internship at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, has been a settlement worker with immigrant and refugee women, a research associate on various projects, and an intake worker with the Legal Aid Society of Alberta.

Tabatha Soltay (Social Activism)

Tabatha was introduced to Canada25 while living in England where she organised and developed the first Canada and the World roundtable (London; May 2003). Upon returning to Canada, Tabatha became an Assistant National-Director, focusing on the international chapters, and in March 2004 was given full membership responsibilities.

After a long trip to Hong Kong and New Zealand, she has just moved to Ottawa to work with Environment Canada in Science Policy. Prior to this, Tabatha lived in Toronto where she worked for the Ontario Provincial Government in several ministries. During her 18 months with the Ontario government, she helped found TOPS, an internal organisation designed to promote leading, learning and linking opportunities amongst young employees. Leaving Toronto meant leaving many of the volunteer activities which she was involved in, including TOPS, managing a university varsity team and developing alumni events. Now based in Ottawa, Tabatha hopes to find new ways to be involved and stay out of trouble.

Gavin Stanley (Play and Expression)

Gavin Stanley is a PhD student in European history at the University of Cambridge and a SSHRC Doctoral Fellow. Last year, his research on British-French relations took him to Paris where he served as a reporter at the Franco-British Student Summit on corporate responsibility in the developing world. He acted as a governor for Victoria College at U of T and was highly involved in student leadership, most notably as a Residence Don. Gavin worked closely with refugee students as a coordinator of the World University Service of Canada and has volunteered extensively with support groups for the homeless and for gay and lesbian youth in Toronto. Other activities include the North American Model United Nations, and university choirs in Cambridge and Toronto. He holds a BA (Hons) in International Relations from the University of Toronto and an MPhil in History from Cambridge.

Jill Symonds (Social Activism)

Jill Symonds is currently a student in the Masters of Public Administration program at the University of Victoria, specializing in local government. She holds a B.A (Hons) in French and Political Science from the University of Western Ontario. Jill has been working as a researcher in the non-profit sector for the past few years around issues of quality of life as well as urban governance. Jill has recently written a report for the Local Government Institute about the citizen engagement practices in local governments in British Columbia and is keen to bring this experience to the Canada25 national policy project.

Norm Tasevski (Volunteerism)

Norm lives in Toronto and is currently a Senior Policy Analyst for the Ministry of Community and Social Services in Ontario, where he focuses on social services and social housing policy. He has a BAH in Political Studies from Queen's University, and has a post-graduate diploma in International Project Management.

Norm has been actively involved in helping increase youth engagement in the community. As the National Youth Coordinator with the Atlantic Council of Canada, he helped design a number of initiatives to help increase volunteerism among students. For the past two years, Norm has worked with and led the development and implementation of the Isuma Fellowship Program, Canada25's first action initiative.



Milica Uzelac (Religious and Cultural Engagement)

Milica works as a Policy Analyst at the Canadian International Development Agency. She's currently on an assignment in New York City at the Canadian Permanent Mission to the United Nations working on development policy issues and multilateral effectiveness. Armed with an arts administration degree with a focus on fine art history from the University of Toronto, Milica headed to Queen's University to pursue a Master's in Public Administration, where her research focused on immigration and integration. Despite her policy geek leanings, her heart is still with the arts. While in Toronto, she spent two years working at the Royal Ontario Museum, while also volunteering with various arts festivals across the city and the Girl Guides of Canada. In her spare time she loves to discuss policy and politics, travel, most recently to Japan, visit art galleries and hang out on patios. She longs for a dog and a life in New Zealand.

Jodie-Lynn Waddilove (Social Activism)

Jodie-Lynn Waddilove is an Anishnabe and Lenape lawyer from the Munsee-Delaware Nation in southwestern Ontario. Jodie-Lynn holds a B.A. from the University of Western Ontario (in Political Science and Philosophy), a M.A. from the University of Sheffield in England (in International Criminology and Law) and a L.L.B. from the University of Ottawa.

At present, Jodie-Lynn is an associate lawyer with the law firm of Maurice Law Barristers & Solicitors in Calgary, Alberta. Maurice Law specializes in aboriginal and treaty litigation and only one of a few firms in Western Canada that specializes in aboriginal law on behalf of First Nations. Prior to this position, Jodie-Lynn was one of five lawyers serving as Commission Counsel for the Ipperwash Inquiry in Toronto, Ontario.

Michael Willmott (Online Engagement)

Michael is a Trade Commissioner with International Trade Canada in Calgary, where he assists small and medium Canadian companies in pursuing new international markets. Currently a member of the national organizing committee for Canada25's Civic Engagement project, he first became involved in Canada25 in 2003 as a delegate for the Calgary Roundtable of the "Canada and the World" Project. Following this project, he became Calgary Coordinator for "Investing in the Next Alberta: Beyond 2005", a regional project the Calgary & Edmonton Canada25 chapters took on to provide the Government of Alberta with fresh ideas on how Alberta could build its future as a debt-free province. Michael is also involved in imagineCALGARY, a citizen-driven, city-led initiative to develop a long-term strategic vision and plan for Calgary, and Leadership Calgary, a community leadership development program that draws support and students from Calgary's non-profit, private, and public sectors. Born and raised in the Prairies, Michael holds a B.A. Economics and B.A. International Relations from the University of Calgary. Apart from public policy, economic policy, and international affairs, his interests include working out at the gym, running, reading, and enjoying the occasional glass of wine with friends.