



OCTOBER 1, 2022 - SEPTEMBER 31, 2023

IMPACT REPORT

National Black Canadians Summit

1.8 M

Business Sales

880

Out-of-town attendees

435

Youth Delegates

563

Supported jobs

Youth-led focus

4th Wall in Scarborough

1

Mural

2

events

5

young artists

>

Creation of
a national Youth
Advisory Community

>

Creation of
a new program
Power of Youth

Halifax Declaration

319

individual contributions
to the Survey

199

media mentions

27,250,000

potential audience



Website

10,671

unique visitors

74,905

page views



Newsletter

4,947

subscribers

45%

Open rate



Instagram

1,480

followers



Facebook

4,334

followers



LinkedIn

1,641

followers





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MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-FOUNDERS

THE POWER OF US,
IGNITING CHANGE



We are immensely proud to present this annual report underscoring a year marked by achievements as considerable as they are transformative, along the breathtaking journey of the Michaëlle Jean Foundation.

The National Black Canadians Summit has transcended expectations. It grew into a movement that captures the hearts and minds of communities, on the move across the nation. Born out of collective wisdom, intense dedication and countless profoundly moving testimonies, the Manifesto for the Eradication of Racial Discrimination known as “The Halifax Declaration,” has become the expression of our unwavering commitment to Recognition, Justice, Development. Its journey from Halifax to the United Nations, in partnership with UNESCO, was not just a milestone but a powerful affirmation of our collaborative spirit and the global resonance of our cause.

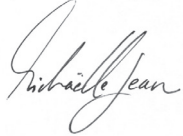
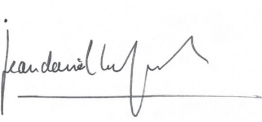
Our commitment to nurturing and supporting the next generation through the “Power of Youth” initiative, one of our flagship programs, opens up a wide, creative space for innovative civic action by young leaders for social change. This investment in youth, coupled with our strategic partnerships, has amplified our efforts, establishing a strong footing for sustained change.

The upcoming National Black Canadians Summit in Montréal, set for September 6–8, 2024, and the energy and formidable commitment it garners from communities across Canada is a testament to the momentum driving those who are calling with all their might, with all their combined efforts, for the advent of a fairer, more inclusive society. The enthusiasm of cities such as Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver to host the next summits attests to our ability to persuade people of the urgent need for collective action, as well as to the profound and tangible impact of the synergies we are creating to counter the harmful effects of systemic racism.

With heartfelt gratitude, we thank every individual and partner who has journeyed with us this past year. Your support fuels our mission and amplifies our impact, bringing us closer to the vision of a just, equitable, and inclusive society.

Together, we are not just dreaming of a better world; we are laying the groundwork for its realization. Let us continue to bring together all the movers and shakers on the ground, across all generations, including creative minds, public and private decision-makers, along with institutional actors, around the objective of combating all forms of exclusion—racism being one of its most recurrent and devastating incarnations— driven always by a vision that binds us together, by actions that propel us forward.

In unity and hope,



Jean-Daniel Lafond and Michaëlle Jean
Co-founders and co-chairs, Michaëlle Jean Foundation

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE POWER OF YOUTH
FOCUS ON PARTNERSHIP



We are constantly inspired by the recipients of Youth Ottawa’s Spirit of the Capital awards, through which we met Drayton Mulindabigwi Jabo, who has gone on to create Novas Group. We recognize Templeton Sawyer who vlogged from the 2022 National Black Canadians Summit and recently launched Alive House. We celebrate the achievements of Marina Mathieu, a Power of Youth grant recipient for her project Renaissance.

None of this would be possible without the steadfast support of our partners who share our vision and values. It is through collaboration and collective effort that we are able to scale our reach and maximize our impact. I am immensely grateful to organizations such as TD, Canadian Race Relations Foundation the Black Opportunity Fund and Network for the Advance of Black Communities for their commitment and generous support.

TD’s presenting sponsorship of the National Black Canadians Summit provided a platform for dialogue and collaboration, empowering young leaders to address pressing issues facing Black communities across the country. Similarly, the Canadian Race Relations Foundation’s support of the Power of Youth initiative has been instrumental in fostering inclusive spaces and empowering youth to become agents of change within their communities.

Furthermore, the Halifax Declaration, made possible by the generous support of the Black Opportunity Fund and Network for the Advance of Black Communities, represents a significant milestone in our collective efforts to advance equity and inclusion.

As we look ahead, let us continue to harness the power of youth and the strength of partnership to build a more just, inclusive, and equitable society for all.

At the heart of our mission lies the belief in the transformative power of youth. Time and time again, they have proven themselves as catalysts for positive change, demonstrating remarkable initiative and unwavering dedication to civic engagement. Through our programs and initiatives, we have witnessed firsthand the incredible impact that young people can have when given the opportunity to amplify their voices and drive meaningful action.

Tara Lapointe
Executive Director, Michaëlle Jean Foundation

CHAPTER 1

WITH YOUTH, FOR YOUTH



Creation of a Youth Advisory Committee

Aligned with our motto "with youth, for youth" our Foundation created a Youth Advisory Committee, underscoring our dedication to fostering youth engagement and inclusivity in our programs. Chaired by youth board member Dave D'Oyen, our Youth Advisory Committee welcomes these dynamic young leaders from across Canada.

These leaders, many of whom were youth delegates at the 2022 National Black Canadians Summit, are now integral to our Foundation's journey towards youth inclusivity and empowerment, particularly through their involvement in assessing applications for our Power of Youth initiative. Our Youth Advisory Committee began their onboarding with a virtual orientation session held on September 16th. Tasked with assessing applications for our Power of Youth

initiative, these young leaders are set to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of our initiatives. The formation of our Youth Advisory Committee represents a significant stride in our journey toward fostering youth inclusivity, ensuring their active involvement in decision-making processes that steer the course of our Foundation.

Arizona Commanda-Boissoneau

Arizona is an Ojibway-Anishinaabe-kwe from Garden River First Nation and Nipissing First Nation who belongs to the sturgeon clan, holds a B.A. in Indigenous Studies from Trent University and is a graduate of the Indigenous Community and Social Development program from Georgian College.

Bets Joseph

Bets is a bilingual corporate strategist in Montreal who aids clients in overcoming challenges such profitability, organizational structure, and growth strategy.

© Youth Advisory Committee Meeting, Edward Matwawana, Tara Lapointe, Nick Veltmeyer / Michaëlle Jean Foundation

Born in Haiti, raised in Ottawa, he holds degrees from Carleton University and McGill University.

Clèche Kokolo

Clèche is a human rights and gender equality advocate, named one of Canada's Top 100 Black Women to Watch for her community work. She holds a Bachelor of Arts with distinctions from the University of Manitoba and is now in legal studies at McGill University.

Emmanuel Antonin

Emmanuel is studying Criminology at the University of Ottawa, holds a position at the Ottawa Community Housing Foundation, and is a co-founder of Novas Group.

Léandre J. Nawej

Léandre has 8 plus years of multi-sectoral experience in communications, policy, and program design, and is currently Programs and Partnerships Manager of the Rideau Hall Foundation.

Mamadou Oury Diallo

Mamadou holds a master's degree in public administration from the Université de Moncton and is a project and development officer with the District scolaire francophone Sud.

Star Lewis

Star is a Juris Doctor candidate at Queen's University, holds a bachelor's in psychology from the University of Ottawa, and serves on the Board of Directors for Tropicana Community Services Organization.

Templeton Sawyer

Templeton is a community leader, podcaster, and co-founder of Alive House, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing proactive and diversified services to people experiencing homelessness in Canada.



Launch of a new program: Power of Youth

The impact of Power of Youth is already being felt across Canada, and it has quickly become a flagship program of our Foundation, offering a powerful opportunity to amplify the work of young Black leaders igniting change in their communities. The inception of our Power of Youth program stemmed from our commitment to include the voices of young leaders in the National Black Canadians Summit and the Halifax Declaration. We officially launched our Power of Youth program on July 18th,

designed to support youth-led projects addressing the issues aligned with the Halifax Declaration, empowering young Black people to take a leading role in advancing solutions in their communities. We provide grants of up to \$5,000 for projects led by Black youth between the ages of 16-30 and to-date thirty-five projects across Canada have received funding, encompassing a diverse array of initiatives reflecting the many sectors covered in the Halifax Declaration including health, arts and culture, employment, food security and more.

Power of Youth serves as a platform, connecting the efforts of Black youth across the country, their innovative ideas and community impact standing as a testament to the collective action and unity in diversity that the Halifax Declaration embodies. Their projects are not just initiatives; they are sparks of change, lighting the way toward a more inclusive, just, and vibrant society where the contributions and voices of young Black Canadians are recognized, valued, and celebrated. We look forward to following this inaugural Power of Youth cohort, always learning, and shaping our future programs to support them in their journey.

"Youth have the energy and vision needed to contribute to social progress but are not always given the space or resources to do so or taken seriously. Young Black Canadians face additional barriers as a result of age discrimination and racism-which is why it's been so important for us to give young, racialized people the opportunity to lead and engage in anti-racism efforts and community initiatives."

~ Mohammed Hashim, Executive Director, Canadians Race Relations Foundation

Power of Youth 2023 Recipients

- MINA ABDI
- BINTU ADAMA
- TONI AGBAJE-OJO
- HASSAN AHMED
- JOSEPH AKANGBE
- CARMELLE FREUDLYNE AMOUSSOU
- ANDRE ANDERSON
- DARA BAKARE
- MARTIN BELPORO
- DEBORA BOMOLO
- FRANCK-MALEEK DJAMAT-DUBOIS
- MWENDA DYCK
- NAÏKA EDOUARD
- BENAZIR TOM ERDIMI
- MYRIAM GEORGES-ESTIGÈNE
- SEKRANA GRANT
- DRAYTON MULINDABIGWI JABO
- KOLADE KOLAWOLE-BOBOYE
- NADIRA KULANE
- RENEE LAWRENCE-TAYFFI
- MARINA MATHIEU
- KIERA MEEKS
- AURÉLIE MILORD
- CHRISTINA MONABEKA
- TAÏNA MUETH
- DINA NYJONG
- BRIDGET FRIMPOMAH OFOSU
- EDEN BELLE O'NEILL
- YVONNE OSAGIE
- AMA OUATTARA
- BREANNA PHILLIP
- MONIQUE PITT
- ASIAH SPARKS
- TYNEISHA THOMAS
- JOELLE ALEXANDRIA WEIR

Power of Youth is supported financially by presenting sponsor Canadian Race Relations Foundation; other partners include the Vancouver Foundation, Definity and Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation.



Revitalizing 4th Wall: Making the Invisible Visible

The Michaëlle Jean Foundation's 4th Wall: Making the Invisible Visible, has undergone a revitalization, reaffirming our commitment to providing marginalized youth with a platform to engage in meaningful artistic expression and community dialogue. Held at the CEE

© 4th Wall Unveiling in Scarborough with Amir Akbari, Leyland Adams / Mohamed Zalloufi

Centre for Young Black Professionals, the 2023 edition of our program empowered young artists to address social issues through their artwork, amplifying their voices and experiences.



© Walk With Amal / Nick Veltmeyer

The theme was inspired through a partnership with the Luminato Festival and the Walk with Amal, a symbolic puppet advocating for refugee and migrant children's rights through the arts.

On Juneteenth, young Hip-Hop artists from R.I.S.E. Edutainment (Reaching Intelligent Souls Everywhere) engaged in dialogue, reflecting on their experiences of “displacement and belonging” and expressing themselves through various art forms. As a result, a mural was created by Amir Akbari and Leyland Adams assisted by youth from the community Mark Issac, Rohit Sharma, Valaree Danao and Marquise McLeod, encapsulating the collective emotions and experiences shared during the 4th Wall event. On September 18th, we collaborated with RISE and Luminato to unveil the mural located on the exterior of the CEE Centre, titled "Marching Toward Freedom." It symbolizes strength, unity, and determination, reflecting the community's commitment to advocating for a better world through collective action.

Our enduring commitment to fostering inclusive spaces for artistic expression and dialogue with the 4th Wall: Making the Invisible Visible, has led to a signed Memorandum of Understanding with the National Gallery of Canada. This collaboration marks a pivotal expansion of our initiative, The 4th Wall: Making the Invisible Visible, to amplify the voices and artistic endeavours of marginalized youth within prestigious cultural institutions.

Reimagining Creative Social Entrepreneurship for Youth

The Michaëlle Jean Foundation is excited to consolidate our many efforts over the years to support young creative and social entrepreneurs. In a significant stride towards nurturing the next generation of creative leaders, the Michaëlle Jean Foundation has deepened our partnership with Desjardins, forging a path to empower underserved youth

through the arts, creativity, and social entrepreneurship. This partnership is crucial to support our commitment to developing a Creative Social Entrepreneurship initiative, evolving from our ongoing efforts to support young creative social entrepreneurs through bursaries and initiatives.

Our Creative Social Entrepreneurship initiative will bolster, unite, and highlight community organizations assisting young artist entrepreneurs nationwide. With Desjardins' support, we aspire to create a sustainable national network that will have a lasting impact on Canada's creative economy. This initiative is founded on a model that values unity in diversity and collective action, aiming to simultaneously connect and support both young creatives and the essential community organizations that serve them.

Our partnership with Desjardins, a financial institution grounded in a cooperative model that treats its members as family and aims to dismantle barriers to financial health for marginalized communities, has been invaluable. Together, we are co-developing our Creative Social Entrepreneurship initiative with an initial commitment of \$200k from Desjardins. This program is designed to support innovative youth eager to make a difference through their creative and entrepreneurial ventures, overcoming marginalization to effect substantive change at the core of society.

CHAPTER 2

THE LEGACY OF
THE 2022 NATIONAL BLACK
CANADIANS SUMMIT



3rd National Black Canadians Summit 2022 Impact Report

The Michaëlle Jean Foundation is dedicated to confronting the widespread challenge of youth exclusion, which leads to numerous societal deficits and inequalities, particularly the profound and insidious impact of racism. Launched in 2017 in response to a rallying cry from emerging artists and activists of African descent, the National Black Canadians Summit was established to unite the efforts of Black Canadians nationwide towards achieving improved outcomes for the community as a whole.

As part of our ongoing work to evaluate, document, and communicate about the 2022 National Black Canadians Summit, in the fall of 2022 we published an impact report, highlighting its major role as a platform for people of African descent living in Canada. The 2022 Summit served as a pivotal platform for individuals of African descent across Canada, drawing 1200 attendees who experienced a profound sense of fulfillment and commitment to advocacy. We are grateful to many key partners in community, government, and the private sector, including our Presenting Sponsor, TD Bank Group. The event, encapsulated

© National Black Canadians Summit 2022 with Vanessa Hartley and Alfred Burgesson / Kwality Kontent

by the motto Our Time is Now, witnessed active participation from Cabinet ministers, Senators, representatives of the United Nations, business leaders, influential change-makers, and young community members, fostering intergenerational collaboration.

The 2022 Summit led to the proclamation of the Halifax Declaration, a Manifesto for the Eradication of Racial Discrimination, and a Summit legacy project, Power of Youth (see chapter 1).

Youth Participation at the Summit

The 2022 Summit saw the active involvement of 435 youth delegates who were able to attend the Summit free of charge thanks to the support of the Summit Youth Champion John Beck. The Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs further facilitated participation by

covering travel and accommodation costs for over 40 youth from across the province. Youth delegates were involved in all aspects of the Summit and had their own dedicated space during the After Dark youth event held at the Light House Arts Centre.

"The Summit was a life-changing experience for me. It opened my eyes to the effect I have on others and how much of a difference I can make - we can all make, one together."

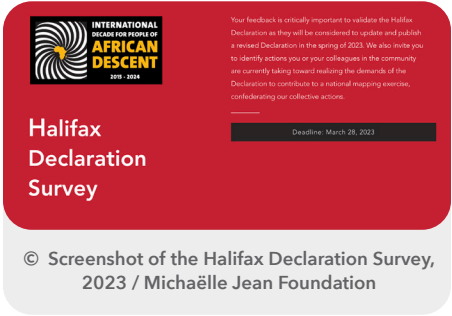
~ Alisha, NBCS 2022 Youth Delegate, 21

"Young people from Black communities across Canada are at the crossroads of unique and daunting challenges stemming from the devastating impact of racial discrimination. Their willingness to speak out, with admirable eloquence, and to act is striking. Their contribution to the Halifax Declaration has been remarkable, in all the issues addressed and all the solutions put forward, and it deserves to be celebrated!"

~ The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean



© National Black Canadians Summit 2022 with Drayton Mulindabigwi Jabo, Emmanuel Antonin and Richard Popoola / Kwality Kontent



Halifax Declaration National Survey

Before publishing a written version of the Halifax Declaration, we conducted a national survey, reaffirming key themes and essential facts that were prominently discussed during the 2022 Summit. This validation work allowed our Foundation to collect an inventory of organizations and their actions to advance the issues identified in the Declaration. We teamed up with two partners on this work – the Network for the Advancement of Black Communities (NABC), led by Amanuel Melles, and Argyle Integrated Public Relations Agency. NABC used its national networks and research capacity to share the Declaration with Summit participants and key stakeholders across the country. Argyle provided significant in-kind services to support all aspects of the outreach to the community, the publication of the Declaration, and government relations work.

Halifax Declaration Launch Event

The launch celebration of the Halifax Declaration at the Light House Arts Centre in downtown Halifax marked a historic milestone in the ongoing work of the Michaëlle Jean Foundation with the African Nova Scotian community. Attended by approximately 100 community members, distinguished guests, and influential figures, the event served as a platform to commemorate the achievements and aspirations encapsulated in the Halifax Declaration. Notable attendees included the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Mayor Mike Savage, and other key figures who have championed the rights and empowerment of the African Nova Scotian community. The event highlighted the progress made since the 2022 Summit and emphasized the importance of intergenerational collaboration, with active participation from youth performers, photographers, and videographers.



© United Nations Permanent Forum for People of African Descent with Michaëlle Jean / Rights Reserved



© United Nations Permanent Forum for People of African Descent with Michaëlle Jean and Louis-Edgar Jean-François / Louis Edgar Jean François

Halifax Declaration Media Coverage and Outreach

The dissemination of the Halifax Declaration and the Halifax Declaration Launch garnered widespread media attention, including interviews with the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean and Nova Scotian poet El Jones on CBC, and significant coverage by independent black journalists. Initial media reports indicated extensive coverage, with CBC emerging as a prominent platform for spreading awareness. The Launch Event was covered live by CBC Nova Scotia and complemented by a sit-down interview with TRH Michaëlle Jean.



© Halifax Declaration Launching with Michaëlle Jean / Alvero Wiggins

UN Permanent Forum for People of African Descent

Our co-Founders, the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean and Jean-Daniel Lafond, along with Summit 2022 Co-chairs DeRico Symonds and Vanessa Fells, joined over 40 Canadian civil society leaders and hundreds of international delegates at the Second Edition of the United Nations Permanent Forum for People of African Descent. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNESCO collaborated with the Michaëlle Jean Foundation to host a Side Event, acknowledging the significant mobilization of Canadian grassroots for the eradication of systemic racial discrimination, as exemplified in the Halifax Declaration. The Declaration was formally submitted as an official document of the permanent forum during the closing ceremony.



CHAPTER 3

SPOTLIGHT ON
COMMUNITY PARTNERS

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the support and dedication of our community partners. Their contributions have not only amplified our impact but have also enriched the entrepreneurial ecosystem with a spirit of inclusivity and innovation. Looking forward, we are excited to continue this journey together, furthering our mission to bring concepts to reality.

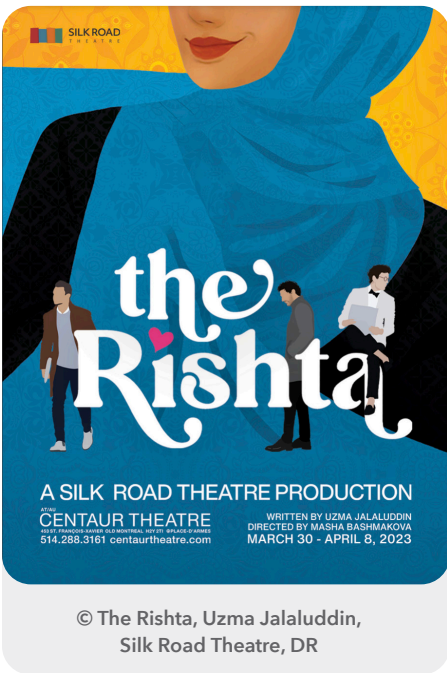


Youth Ottawa
Youth Ottawa has been a cornerstone in our endeavours to empower the youth in the local community of our head office, especially in the realms of creativity and social entrepreneurship. We are very grateful to the team at Youth Ottawa who have been instrumental in charting the direction for our Creative Youth and Social Entrepreneurship Program, offering us

invaluable guidance and support along the way. Throughout the past year we have also benefited from the excellent creative work of Hot Shoe Productions, a youth-led social enterprise supported by Youth Ottawa. We remained committed to our ongoing sponsorship of the Arts and Culture award category at Youth Ottawa's Spirit of the Capital Awards. This initiative has allowed us to recognize and celebrate the

© RBC Spirit of the Capital Awards
2023's Get to know you session /
Hot Shoe Productions

exceptional talents of Jayden Croucher, Nick Gray, Ollie Milling, and Fatimah Karim this year. Each recipient has uniquely contributed to the cultural fabric of our community, using their art to voice the unspoken, challenge societal norms, and embrace diversity in all its forms.



Silk Road Institute
In our ongoing efforts to recognize and support the work of the Silk Road Institute, we were immensely pleased this year to support the Rishta, penned by Uzma Jalaluddin and directed by Masha Bashmakova, a play that masterfully blends humor with poignant insights into the family dynamics of a South Asian Muslim family in Canada. The play premiered in conjunction with a forum, providing space for meaningful dialogue on inclusivity and the transformative power of artistic expression, focusing on the experiences of Muslim communities in Canada. The Silk Road Theatre, North America's first professional Muslim theatre company, has been a beacon of

innovation and inclusivity in the arts. Silk Road has continually pushed boundaries, creating spaces for stories that reflect the diversity and vibrancy of Muslim experiences in Canada. As we reflect on our ongoing partnership with the Silk Road Institute, we are reminded of the power of the arts to bridge divides, heal wounds, and foster a more inclusive society.

R.I.S.E. Edutainment
We are honoured to spotlight R.I.S.E. Edutainment (Reaching Intelligent Souls Everywhere), an organization that has been pivotal in transforming the lives of youth and emerging artists through the power of art and expression. Their

approach enables performance artists to create art that is not only meaningful but deeply rooted in self-knowledge and self-expression.


We are very grateful to R.I.S.E. in their efforts to collaborate on our 4th Wall: Making the Invisible Visible. We are proud to stand alongside R.I.S.E. in their ongoing mission to create opportunities for artists to develop skills, acquire resources and build their networks, bridging the gap between emerging and professional artists.



© 4th Wall Kick Off in Scarborough with Michaëlle Jean, Jean-Daniel Lafond, Randell Adjei, Amir Akbari / Abby Wedderburn

BLACK DIPLOMATS ACADEMY'S GLOBAL SUMMIT

10am - 3pm Hybrid Downtown Toronto

What Can You Expect?

- Access to decision-making movers and shakers in the Permanent Forum for People of African Descent and beyond
- Professional network expansion into the diplomatic sphere
- Inspiring solutions-focused discussions that positively affect Black communities
- Open-networking with potential recruits
- Active engagement with community-based organizations and youth groups advancing human rights

Itinerary

Day 1: International Decade for People of African Descent and the Implementation of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent

Day 2: Reduced Inequalities - Prioritizing Women, Youth and Equitable Access to all things Technology

Day 3: Climate Change, Inclusion and Economic Turbulence

Day 4: Peace, Security and Strong Institutions

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel

108 Chestnut St. Toronto Ontario, M5G 1R3 Questions? E-mail: Globalsummit@dylott.com

[Register Here!](#)

Sneak Peek Speakers

Edward Matwawana
Executive Director and Founder of DYLOTT and the Black Diplomats Academy

Dr. Joseph M. Nelson
Director of Policy Planning and International Affairs

Marie Gilbert
Executive Director of the Black Caucus in Canada

Emine Tufekci
Executive Director of the Black Caucus in Canada

Elkay Adams
Executive Director of the Black Caucus in Canada

Kemi Oluwalanle
Executive Director of the Black Caucus in Canada

Natasha Bhandal Singh
Executive Director of the Black Caucus in Canada

Nicholas Marston
Executive Director of the Black Caucus in Canada

Anjum Sultan
Executive Director of the Black Caucus in Canada

Taylor Marlow
Executive Director of the Black Caucus in Canada

Special Remarks
Dr. King Charles III
President of the Commonwealth

Special Remarks
Dr. King Charles III
President of the Commonwealth

© Black Diplomacy Global Summit / Dylott

Black Diplomats Academy

The Black Diplomats Academy of Developing Young Leaders of Tomorrow Today (DYLOTT), shares our commitment to empower and uplift young leaders, particularly within Black communities. DYLOTT hosted Black Futures: 1st Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum for People of African Descent (PFPAD) Debrief, an event that served not only as a platform for dialogue and exchange but also as a springboard for further collaboration with our Foundation. This initiative was instrumental in reinforcing our Foundation's support for the Canadian delegation's efforts at the PFPAD, while simultaneously continuing the ongoing work around the Halifax Declaration and the upcoming 2024 National Black Canadians Summit. Our Director of Programs, Edward Matwawana served as a lecturer and mentor for the Black Diplomats Academy and gave a compelling address at the Black



© Black Diplomacy Global Summit with Edward Matwawana/ Rights Reserved

Diplomacy Global Summit, contributing to a shared vision for another Decade centering youth of African descent.

The Novas Group

The Novas Group is committed to transforming the entrepreneurial landscape through innovation, creativity, and an inclusive approach that embraces diversity at every level. The Novas Group envisions a world where the journey of idea generation, cultivation, and sustenance is met with unwavering support and longevity. We celebrate their efforts to use their creativity and innovation to reshape industries, economies, and societies. Through their integrated solutions, they aspire to be catalysts that fuel this transformation on a global scale. We have had the privilege of helping them launch and sustain projects that align with core values of creativity, equity, diversity, inclusion, and youth empowerment.

Outside Looking In

Outside Looking In is an Indigenous-led organization created in 2007 to “empower Indigenous youth today, to create their own tomorrow.” Outside Looking In is not just about dance; it’s a profound and truly national effort offering motivation and support for completing studies and forging a successful career—a vital bridge for Indigenous youth, who face daunting challenges and carry the weight of some of the highest suicide rates among young people. This initiative transcends the conventional; it intertwines dance with community and trust building, offering not just an outlet for expression but a deeply rooted support system that has a hugely inspiring legacy of positive impact. Our attendance at their annual showcase in Toronto was more than a gesture; it was a powerful declaration of solidarity, commitment, and an unwavering belief in the transformative power of the arts. It’s a gathering that transcends geographical boundaries, pulling together local programs from diverse communities across the country into a singular, pulsating heartbeat of collective empowerment.



© Outside Looking In with Michaëlle Jean and Larissa Crawford and Zyra / George Pimentel

REMERCIEMENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TRH Michaëlle Jean, Co-founder and Co-chair
Jean-Daniel Lafond, Co-founder and Co-chair
Michelle Douglas, Treasurer
Arni Thorsteinson, Director
Dave Doyen, Director
Larissa Crawford, Director
Patricia Fourcand, Director
Robert Peck, Director
Zainab Muse, Director

Associate Board Members

Jay Rosenweig
John Beck
Julie Segal
Stephen Watson

OUR TEAM

Tara Lapointe, Executive Director
Edward Matwawana, Director of programs
Kadé Rémy (with the Foundation until August 29th, 2023),
Communications Advisor
Nick Veltmeyer, Program Officer
Caroline Kayll (with the Foundation until March 23th, 2023),
Administrative and Operations Coordinator
Charlotte Adeito Duarte (with the Foundation until
July 5th, 2023), Administrative and Operations Coordinator

Summer Employees

Sarra BenDaly, Marketing and Outreach Coordinator
Ariella Ritter Gubbay, Development Coordinator
Thomas Pouta, Digital Content Creator

OUR FRIENDS AND DONORS

African Nova Scotian Affairs
Air Canada
Black Opportunity Fund
Canada Council for the Arts
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
Canada Race Relations Foundation
Canadian Commission for UNESCO
CBC
Dalhousie University
Definity
Definity insurance

Delmore “Buddy” Daye Learning Institute
Discover Halifax
Dream Legacy Foundation
Economic Development Canada (EDC)
Enbridge
Federation of Black Canadians
Funeral Services Association of Canada
Halifax
John Beck Youth Delegate Champion
Majda Films International
Nova Scotia
Sobeys
TD Ready Commitment
Alison Duke
Arni Thorsteinson
Belvedere Funeral Home
Calvin Gutkin
Erene Anthony
Felicia Nagata
GFD
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Morse & Son Limited
Nigel Henriques
Pam Moss
Paul Hamel
Pyrox- Industries
Raymond S. Fournier
Robert Peck
Robert Potter
Scott Miller
Select Community Funeral Homes
Sydney Memorial Chapel

A special thanks to all the participants to the NBCS2022 Summit and all our friends, champions and supporters mentioned in our Summit Impact Report

Financial statements are available on request from FMJF.

OUR MISSION

We support youth-led mobilization towards inclusion and racial justice through creativity, the arts and innovation initiatives.



FONDATION
michaëlle jean
FOUNDATION

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Ottawa, ON K1N 6Z4
Tel: 613-562-9393
fmjf.ca

Keep in touch!

Don't miss any of our news.
Access our numerous
online resources:

