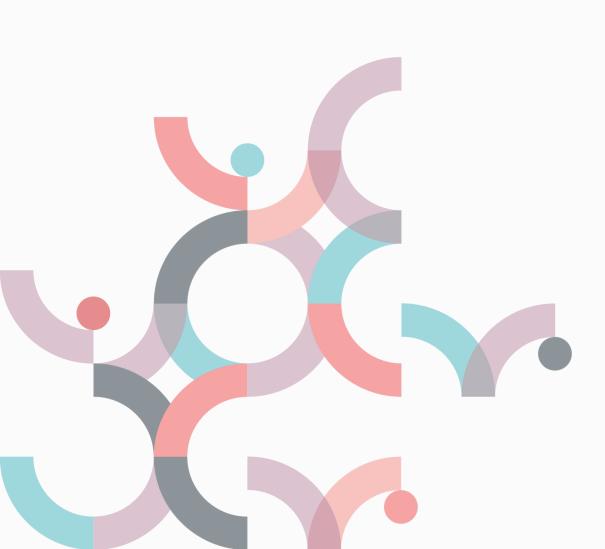


# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT









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# Message from the Network Director

#### Renewal.

This was a year of renewal for Research Impact Canada.

We renewed the RIC Inter-Institutional Agreement for another threeyear term from 2024 to 2027. York has been invited to retain the role of Lead Institution for another three years. It was excellent working with the 37 member institutions to review and refresh the agreement and secure all member signatures. The agreement outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Lead Institution and the commitment needed from members for collective impact. It sets the stage of the next three years.

We also renewed the <u>RIC Strategic Plan 2024-2027</u>. This was an 18month process of consultation and iteration with all RIC members. The RIC Implementation Committee was instrumental in refining our priorities and how to implement them. The RIC Strategic Plan guides our work in three main areas: building capacity of members; elevating the knowledge mobilization profession; and maintaining strategic partnerships. The RIC staff are to be complimented and thanked for supporting this process.

In terms of network growth, this was another banner year for new RIC members. RIC welcomed eight new members in 2024. Due to the volume of new member requests, we will review our new member application criteria and process. This demand for knowledge mobilization services renews our commitment and affirms the significant and unique value of the Network's offerings to RIC members.

As we close this year, it is my pleasure to thank the RIC members, Committees, and the amazing RIC staff: Connie Tang, Sandy Chan, and Sophie Ashton. 2025 will see an energized RIC Network with a renewed mandate and membership. Thank you for joining us.





**David J. Phipps**, Assistant Vice-President, Research Strategy and Impact, York University and Network Director, Research Impact Canada

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### Overview

#### Research Impact Canada is a pan-Canadian network of 37 members with the goal of maximizing research for public good.

We are an **open** and **collaborative** bilingual network working with both academic and non-academic stakeholders across various organizations – including librarians, researchers, research administrative staff, academics, students, faculties, public sector leaders, and community partners. We are proud to support all subject matter disciplines dedicated to building capacity and mobilizing knowledge.



### What We Do

We are a national leader in helping universities and other organizations create **value** and **impact** from knowledge. Through a focus on **sharing best practices**, **co-developing resources**, and **delivering training** in knowledge mobilization, we help build institutional capacity to turn knowledge into action.



Build institutional supports for knowledge mobilization to maximize societal impacts of research



Help researchers and partners **demonstrate the impact of their research** excellence



Facilitate a **community** of practice by developing and sharing best practices, services, and tools

years of turning

research into impact

**100+** people dedicated to research impact

### RIC Strategic Plan 2024-2027

This year, RIC launched our <u>2024-2027 Strategic Plan</u> to pave the direction for the Network's future for the next few years. We listened carefully to our members' voices and needs and focused on three key areas: building capacity of members, building the knowledge mobilization profession, and building and maintaining strategic partnerships. The strategic plan will be guided by our principles of reciprocity, access, member-driven governance, financial accountability, and commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF NETWORK MEMBERS	<ul> <li>Developing regional and language focused programming</li> <li>Developing capacity building resources</li> <li>Telling the stories of institutional successes</li> <li>Fostering network connections and collaborations</li> </ul>
BUILDING THE KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION PROFESSION	<ul> <li>Growing and diversifying our membership</li> <li>Advocacy for a pan-Canadian knowledge mobilization strategy</li> <li>Recognition of knowledge mobilization excellence</li> <li>Contributing to regional and national conferences</li> </ul>
BUILDING AND MAINTAINING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS	<ul> <li>Connecting impact networks internationally</li> <li>Maintaining and strengthening existing partnerships</li> <li>Identifying emerging partnerships</li> </ul>
	ACCESS MEMBER-DRIVEN GOVERNANCE  FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION & ACCESSIBILIT

During our <u>annual meeting in September</u>, we asked members which of the RIC priorities were important to them and their institutions and how to action them. We also wanted to know how RIC could support their institutional success stories and hear their thoughts on the long-term growth and sustainability of the Network.



R P

> Many of the RIC members commented that **RIC's strategic priorities aligned with their institution's strategic plans** and that they intended to utilize the learnings, offerings, resources, and connections from the Network to strengthen their institution's capacity-building and work profession.



Furthermore, **RIC can continue featuring success stories** at Dr. RIC sessions, committee meetings, sharing the news in other KMb spaces, and highlighting them in the annual reports, newsletters, and on social media.



Suggestions for **long-term growth** and **sustainability** included creating regional spaces, a buddy system based on shared interests, building an accessible, online directory of all the RIC members, accepting in-kind contributions from funders, and creating subgroups for members interested in specific topics/holding specific roles.

#### What Members Are Saying About Us $\frac{5}{2}$



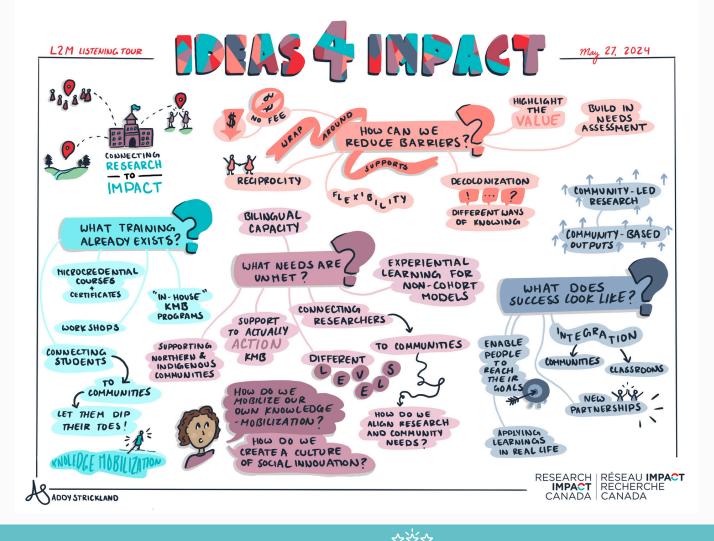
"Research Impact Canada provides **valuable opportunity to connect** with knowledge mobilization and research impact colleagues from across Canada and beyond. **Having facilitated access to thought partners who share the goal of generating societal impact** from academic research enables Athabasca University (AU) to provide better supports and opportunity to our faculty members, their research teams, collaborators, and partners. [...] Expanding capacity building opportunities related to knowledge mobilization, social innovation, and research impact has been a focus at AU over the past year, which has **aligned well with the ambition and opportunities being pursued by RIC**."

- MacKinley Darlington, Interim Director, AU Press, Athabasca University

### Lab to Market Grant Application

Research Impact Canada, led by York University, submitted a proposal for the Tri-Council's <u>Lab to Market Grant Competition</u>. Unfortunately, our application to fund training in knowledge mobilization and social innovation was unsuccessful. Nonetheless, we assembled a novel network of academic institutions and collaborating partners. Many positive relationships evolved through the process of writing the proposal. We will find ways to grow our collaborations and continue to keep knowledge mobilization and social innovation on the Tri-council and governments' radars. The work of Research Impact Canada continues.

Thank you to our partners, RIC Implementation Committee, and all attendees who participated in our pan-Canadian Listening Tour - your time, energy, and commitment to our application was invaluable.



#### What Members Are Saying About Us $\hat{\underline{A}}$

"Being a member of RIC has been especially beneficial to us this year as we are embarking on developing an impact framework for the institution. Both through webinar presentations and personal connections, RIC members have shared with us frameworks, tools, and resources that have guided us through the information-gathering phase of developing an impact framework - a process that would feel overwhelming without these connections. [...] Overall, our membership in RIC has underscored to our institution and its leadership the importance of knowledge mobilization, signaling our commitment to becoming more 'impact ready' and 'impact friendly."

- Kayla May, Knowledge Mobilization Specialist, Chronic Pain Centre of Excellence for Canadian Veterans (CPCoE)

#### **PAGE 07**

### Future Skills Centre

Our partnership with the Future Skills Centre (FSC) continues! This year, we hosted **three peer learning groups** (PLGs) for the FSC Community of Practice (CoP) on the following topics:



Leveraging Newcomer Talent to Empower Canadian's Workforce



Empowering Canada's Workforce for a Sustainable Future



Empowering Youth in Canada: Navigating Career Prospects and Well-Being

Based on the feedback received from the attendees, we learned that **our peer learning groups provide immense value to service providers in the skills development ecosystem**. Many attendees rated "**connecting with others**" as the number one reason for attending the PLGs. Attendees enjoyed being able to meet other professionals doing similar work in a more intimate setting as they could exchange ideas and find potential solutions in their line of work. Attendees also felt the PLGs **reinforced the meaningful work they did** when they met others who also felt the same way. They felt reaffirmed when hearing additional insights and ideas from others and said they would continue the conversations back at their own organizations after the sessions. Lastly, they enjoyed how **resources** were shared throughout the PLGs via links and initiatives discussed by their peers.

We look forward to continuing our contributions to FSC's knowledge mobilization mandate through these peer learning groups in the next year.



### New RIC Members

Matching last year's record growth, in 2024, RIC welcomed **eight** new members to our network! The cohort of new members include two francophone and one bilingual universities, a policy think tank, two mental health centres, a university from the United Kingdom (UK), and an undergraduate-only university. We are thrilled that the diversity of our membership continues to grow.

#### **CIGI CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE INNOVATION**

The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) is an independent, nonpartisan think tank whose peer-reviewed research, foresight, and trusted analyses influence policymakers to innovate. With a network of global experts and contributors, CIGI tackles the governance challenges and opportunities of data and transformative technologies (including AI) and their impact on the economy, security, democracy, and, ultimately, societies.

#### IN INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE

Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS) is a university dedicated exclusively to research and graduate training in strategic sectors in Quebec. For 55 years, it has actively contributed to Quebec's economic, social and cultural development, notably through technology transfer, knowledge mobilization, and partnerships that guide most of its research projects. It comprises four interdisciplinary research and training centers, located in Quebec City, Montreal, Laval and Varennes, focusing on strategic sectors: Centre Eau Terre Environnement, Centre Énergie Matériaux Télécommunications, Centre Urbanisation Culture Société and Centre Armand-Frappier Santé Biotechnologie.

### MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

MacEwan University is a public undergraduate university. Formerly a two-year college, in 2009, it became Alberta's sixth university. A student-centered approach is emphasized through interaction between academic staff and students, blended modes of course delivery, experiential learning opportunities, an emphasis on critical thinking, and high-quality student support. The university's focus on community-based learning introduces students to a range of Albertans in their cities and towns and connects its programming with the development of competencies in demand across the province.

### SAINT PAUL UNIVERSITY

Saint Paul University is the founding college of the University of Ottawa, with which it has been federated since 1965. A bilingual institution, it offers undergraduate and graduate study programs. The university is a hub for innovation through its research efforts and contributes to social, economic, and community development. Its strengths are in bridging areas of research and knowledge (e.g., Catholic and secular, English and French), as well as offering a unique angle in leadership through spirituality.

# CALCED THE ROYAL OTTAWA MENTAL HEALTH

The University of Ottawa Institute of Mental Health Research (IMHR) at The Royal is one of Canada's foremost research institutes focused on mental health. By being embedded in a hospital, it works to answer research questions and mobilizes its findings seamlessly by creating Interprofessional and Interdisciplinary teams of researchers, clinicians, learners, administrative, operational staff, patients, and their families. In doing so, it is able to accelerate its mission to deliver excellence in specialized mental health care, advocacy, research, and education.



### UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL (UK)

University of Bristol consistently ranks in the world's top 100 and UK's top 10 universities when it comes to research and teaching excellence. Its mission is to make a positive impact locally, nationally, and globally by addressing society's greatest challenges through distinctive education, innovative research, and values placed on excellence, inclusivity, and partnership. The university focuses on areas of disciplinary and interdisciplinary excellence and on ensuring inclusion and equity to enable an environment that creates quality, reputation, knowledge exchange, and impact.



### UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

Université Laval (ULaval) is a research-intensive university (member of the U15 group of Canadian research universities) committed to mobilizing knowledge for the purpose of generating tangible impacts on society. ULaval has always been a driving force of societal and technological changes, a commitment reaffirmed by its new strategic plan for 2023-2028. ULaval hosts 10 institutes, 47 research centres, more than 175 research chairs, and 6 prestigious Canada Excellence Research Chairs, covering a wide range of research topics.

### 

Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care is an academic and teaching hospital that provides specialized mental health, addiction and geriatric care. Located on the shores of Georgian Bay, it serves some of the most complex and disadvantaged individuals in Ontario and is the sole provider of highly secure forensic mental health services in the province. The Waypoint Research Institute (WRI) is an embedded research unit supporting research both within and external to Waypoint, working towards positive change that enhances care, outcomes and experiences. This work is increasingly informed by patient voices.

### Professional Development Committee

The Professional Committee will support two primary activities and two special projects for the upcoming year. The two primary activities are **MobilizeU webinars** and **KMb Exchange Program**.



MobilizeU webinars will align with the current MobilizeU course and branding and will be three webinars a year with topics informed by members. Format will vary from skillsbased to informative.



The KMb Exchange Program will continue to fund exchanges up to \$3,000 across the RIC Network in areas of skills development, capacity building, and leadership development. Successful teams will need to disseminate the outputs and outcomes across the RIC Network.

The two special projects are the **Institutional KMb Strategy Module** and the **Masterclass Module Development**.



The **Institutional KMb Strategy Module** will be a forthcoming resource and tool to help RIC members with institutional-level KMb planning.



The **Masterclass Module** will be developed in collaboration with the MobilizeU Working Group to advance the curricular developments of MobilizeU and support ongoing skills development across RIC.

### **RIC Committee Updates**

### **Evaluation Committee**

The Evaluation Committee has commissioned Stephen MacGregor (now Assistant Professor at University of Calgary) and his team once again to develop a paper on **Institutional KMb Strategy**. RIC members have been interviewed for their experiences and insights on strategic planning at their institution. The eventual plan is to turn the paper into a resourceful learning module with slides and worksheets as complementary planning tools.

Ongoing evaluation of the RIC Network from the Evaluation committee has also informed us of the value RIC members see in being part of RIC. Some benefits include:







Empowering members with practical KMb training opportunities

The expansion of language accessibility and inclusivity

Institutional success stories being showcased to a larger reach Fostering connections and collaborative

partnerships

We need to be much more connected in order to move things forward [...] Research Impact Canada is doing one of the most important things we can do for the field.

### Francophone and Bilingualism Committee

For the upcoming year, the Francophone and Bilingualism Committee plans to work closely with **other francophone groups in Canada to facilitate KMb activities**. We will recruit new francophone members outside of the major cities of Montreal, Quebec City, Ottawa and ensure RIC events and webinars are promoted in both languages to reflect the Network's <u>Bilingualism Guidelines</u>.

### Mobilize U Committee

In 2024, the MobilizeU Committee hosted the third, annual Research Impact Canada-wide MobilizeU program. Out of 361 accepted applications, **188 (52% completion rate) participants were trained** in knowledge mobilization theory and skills from institutions across Canada, England, and all the way to Chile. The course was successfully delivered via the *Canvas* learning management system for the first time, streamlining course content and communications and automating some administrative tasks. For the first time, **two guest lectures were delivered live in French** on Zoom. **Breakout room facilitators were piloted** and survey results showed higher satisfaction with breakout rooms among participants than in previous years.

For next year, some of the core content will be remade to ensure alignment with learning outcomes. French-first sessions will remain a priority, as will the breakout room facilitators. **RIC institutions will have 10 spaces instead of 15 going forward** to accommodate a growing network and the committee will work to streamline the registration process to maximize the number of active participants in the course.

> Although I thought I had a good understanding of the subject, the course broadened my horizons and greatly helped me to think more deeply about the research I am currently conducting and what I hope to achieve from it. - *Mobilize U attendee*



# Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum

After several years of virtual-first events, the Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum (CKF) 2024 returned to in person. Held from June 19-21 in Montreal at the Grande Bibliothèque, the Forum brought together over **175 participants** for three days of networking, learning, and collaboration.



With the theme "Building Capacity for Knowledge Mobilization and Research Impact," CKF24 featured nearly 50 sessions, including lightning talks, interactive workshops, and roundtable discussions. Participants shared best practices, tools, and insights aimed at advancing the field of knowledge mobilization, emphasizing the importance of building capacity to achieve real research impact. The program featured translated, live content as well as French-first content, including French plenary and breakout sessions.

The program was designed to promote active engagement, with morning plenaries followed by interactive workshops and discussions in the afternoon. This structure allowed participants to delve deeper into key topics while also creating space for meaningful connections and collaborations across sectors. The next iteration of the Forum will be held in 2026 in Toronto!

#### Peter Levesque Award

This year, Research Impact Canada presented the inaugural version of the **Peter Levesque Award for Knowledge Mobilization** 

**Leadership**. This award recognizes individuals and teams who have made significant contributions to advancing knowledge mobilization and building capacity for impactful



L-R: Peter Levesque, Karine Souffez (INRS), Connie Tang (RIC), Julie Dirwimmer (FRQ)

research. It was presented at the Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum 2024 held at the Grande Bibliothèque in Montreal on June 19-21, 2024. Two outstanding teams were recognized for their work.

### Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum



**Krista Jensen** and **Lupin Battersby** were recognized for their work spearheading **MobilizeU**, an innovative knowledge mobilization training that has become a flagship program of Research Impact Canada. The course has successfully trained over a thousand participants, strengthening knowledge mobilization skills in both academic and community settings. The program continues to expand with plans for a full French curriculum in the works.



#### Équipe RENARD: Innovating Global Training in Knowledge Mobilization

The Équipe RENARD Team, led by **Christian Dagenais** and including **Esther Mc Sween-Cadieux**, **Aurélie Hot**, and **Valéry Ridde**, was awarded for their exceptional work on **Knowledge Transfer MOOCs**, which addresses the growing demand for knowledge mobilization training worldwide, particularly in low- and middle-income Francophone countries. Their efforts have made high-quality knowledge mobilization training accessible globally, with a particular focus on Francophone communities.



L-R: Krista Jensen (York U), Lupin Battersby (Simon Fraser U), Peter Levesque, Christian Daegenais (Équip RENARD), Aurélie Hot (Équip RENARD)

#### What Members Are Saying About Us 222

"Being the only knowledge mobilization person in my office, and one of few in my entire institution, I often feel alone in my work. Over the past year, I was able to attend the CARA Conference, the Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum, and the RIC Annual Meeting and **connect with so many people in the knowledge mobilization space across different sizes of institutions**. It feels very reassuring to know that I **am not the only person doing this type of work** and **now I have tons of people I can reach out to** if I have a question. Everyone is so nice and helpful; RIC is such a great network to be part of."

- Nicole Westlund Stewart, Research & Knowledge Mobilization Facilitator (Social Sciences and Humanities), Lakehead University



# RIC Engaged Scholarship Award

The **Research Impact Canada (RIC) Engaged Scholarship Award for Graduate Students** recognizes graduate students who conduct research projects following engaged scholarship principles that lead to increased awareness of audiences beyond academia or changes in stakeholder actions, practices, guidelines, or policies.

RIC is thrilled to announce the RIC 2024 Engaged Scholarship Award for Graduate Students. Two winners were chosen for the Doctorate and Master's categories.

### **Doctorate Winners**





#### Liam Michaud

York University, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Socio-Legal Studies

**Project**: A Legal & Policy Ethnography in an Era of Overdose: Foregrounding the experiences of people who use drugs of reforms across health & justice sectors

#### **Dina Idriss-Wheeler**

University of Ottawa, Interdisciplinary School of Health Sciences, Population Health Program **Project:** Exploring intimate partner violence (IPV) and access to services in Ontario's journey from pandemic lockdown to recovery: Perspectives from IPV survivors and providers

### Master's Winners





#### **Bincy Baby**

University of Waterloo, Faculty of Science, Pharmacy **Project:** User Experience with Medication Adherence Technologies: Determining Usability by Capabilities in Older Adults

#### Ronessa Dass

McMaster University, School of Rehabilitation Science, Rehabilitation Sciences **Project:** Defining the impacts of brain fog in Veterans with chronic pain

### **RIC Annual Meeting**

<u>RIC's annual meeting</u> took place on September 18-20, 2024 in Ottawa this year. The meeting was an opportunity for RIC members to connect in person and participate in engaging activities, discuss the initiatives and priorities of the Network's future, learn how other RIC member institutions prioritize and conduct knowledge mobilization, and hear from keynote speakers.



L-R: Caroline Flocari (Carleton U), Roberto Ortiz Nunez (U Ottawa)

This year's annual meeting included a panel

presentation by <u>CityStudio Ottawa</u>, a presentation from <u>Dr. Ian Graham</u>, a well-known figure in the field of knowledge translation/mobilization (implementation) science, and a hands-on workshop led by <u>Evidence for</u> <u>Democracy</u>.

Thank you to **University of Ottawa** (Roberto Ortiz Nunez) and **Carleton University** (Caroline Flocari) for co-hosting, the presenters who contributed their presentations, and the RIC members for joining in person and virtually.

We look forward to next year's annual meeting in Vancouver!

### What Members Are Saying About Us

"We wanted to share how **being part of RIC has truly enriched our work and created some valuable connections** across Concordia. Since joining, we've established **great partnerships**, such as our collaboration with Giovanna de Moura Rocha Lima, who's consulting with us on our Pathways to Impact project. We're also **staying connected to our neighbors** at UQAM, and we're planning **future collaborations** with Evidence for Democracy and the Centre for International Governance Innovation. A recent highlight was meeting Rodney Day, Vice– Chancellor of Research & Innovation at London South Bank University, which **opens up even more potential**. Additionally, **getting insights** from the University of Calgary on their DORA implementation **has been especially useful**."

- Monica Mulrennan, Associate Vice-President, Research (Development & Outreach), Concordia University

### **ACFAS Collogue**

In May this year, three RIC members collaborated to host a hybrid, knowledge mobilization exchange for the pan-Canadian Francophone community at ACFAS 2024 in Ottawa with the support of the RIC Network. The initiative between the University of Ottawa (Roberto Ortiz Nunez), Université de Montréal (Elisabeth Tutschek), and Université du Québec à Montréal (Julie Médam) invited prominent keynote speakers and brought together experts and practitioners for moderated, peer learning discussions on strategies and challenges facing the Francophones community in the knowledge mobilization field. Attendance for the collogue exceeded expectations – almost 40

attendees attended the session throughout the day.

The results were built connections with various Francophone groups across Canada (leading to potential future partnerships), knowledge exchange of ideas and takeaway inspirations, and a forthcoming, bilinugal ACFAS 2024 report back.



L-R: Connie Tang (RIC), Julie Médam (UQAM), Roberto Ortiz Nunez (Ü Ottawa), Elisabeth Tutschek (U Montreal)

#### What Members Are Saying About Us

"UQAM's participation in the RIC has enabled us to draw inspiration from the best practices of our members and to set up various initiatives to support **knowledge mobilization**, including the 'Knowledge in Action' call. [...] The 'Knowledge in Action' call is the first institutional initiative at UQAM to 'develop knowledge-sharing tools with a partner community' and 'increase the social impact of our projects' and 'increase the social impact of research'. This project was strongly inspired by initiatives from other RIC members (U Calgary, U de Montréal, U British Columbia, U Ottawa)."

- Julie Médam, Conseillère séniore et cheffe d'équipe, Développement de partenariats stratégiques, Service des partenariats et du soutien à l'innovation, Université du Ouébec à Montréal

### Genome Hub - Investments in Knowledge Mobilization for **Genomics and Climate-Smart Agriculture**

This year, some RIC members successfully secured \$6.6 million in federal funding from Genome Canada to co-host two genomics hubs at the University of Guelph.

The Agricultural Genomics Action Centre will bring together participants across the genomics ecosystem, support teams in their mobilization and commercialization of project knowledge, train researchers and students, and synthesize learnings from across projects to inform agri-food policy and practice. It will be led by Elizabeth Shantz and Jessica Bowes, assistant vice-president, research (innovation and knowledge mobilization), at University of Guelph, alongside Lupin Battersby of Simon Fraser University and Nancy Tout of the Global Institute for Food Security at the University of Saskatchewan.

The Climate Smart-Data Collaboration Centre will support research data sharing, management and governance across projects by creating a data ecosystem featuring common frameworks for data exchange and sharing, community-developed data standards, open-source and reusable data processing toolkits, consensus-driven data governance, and training to develop community data competency. It will be led by Michelle Edwards, director, Agri-Food Data Canada at the University of Guelph, alongside William Hsiao of Simon Fraser University and Claude Robert of the Université Laval.

### What Members Are Saying About Us



"Our membership in the RIC Network was instrumental to the success of a new grant from Genome Canada to establish the Agricultural Genomics Action Centre, a knowledge mobilization hub in climate-smart agriculture. **RIC helped to support** partnership outreach - with a number of RIC institutions coming on as partners. [...] The RIC Network itself is also partnering with the Hub, offering access to knowledge mobilization training and resources customized for our audience; the expertise of this Network was recognized as a key contributor to success."

- Elizabeth Shantz, Knowledge Mobilization Manager, Arrell Food Institute, University of Guelph

### French Translation of University of Calgary's "Knowledge Engagement Impact Assessment Toolkit"

A collaboration between **Université du Québec à Montréal** (UQAM) and **University of Calgary** (UCalgary), with RIC's support, created the Frenchtranslated version of the "<u>Knowledge Engagement Impact Assessment</u> <u>Toolkit</u>." It was officially launched this year! The initiative came from UQAM, which is currently working on developing more knowledge mobilization resources in French for its faculty, staff, and students to use widely across campus. Since the official launch of the French-translated toolkit by UQAM in April this year, it has been downloaded **67** times! The French-translated toolkit is available on the RIC website for anyone to download and use.

Many thanks to the UQAM team (Julie Médam, Maude Léonard, Valérie Vincent, and Anik Landry) and the UCalgary team (Stephanie Warner, Sarelle Azuelos, and Marta Cyperling) for making this happen. We look forward to facilitating more KMb tools and content in French in the future.



Official launch of the French-translated toolkit at UQAM

### **RIC Regional Meetings - Ontario & Alberta**

In July of this year, RIC hosted its first-ever **RIC Ontario Regional Meeting** online. The goal of the initial meeting was to bring together members of the network located in Ontario to foster connections and begin discussing regional needs and opportunities.

RIC members were invited to share a two-minute 'elevator pitch' about knowledge mobilization work currently happening at their institutions. A facilitated discussion soon followed around shared interests and opportunities for collaboration.

Thank you to Michael Johnny (York University) and Shahad Al-saqqar (McMaster University) for leading these meetings.

In December, a **RIC Alberta Regional Meeting** was scheduled among the five post-secondary institutions that are part of the network - University of Alberta, University of Calgary, Athabasca University, MacEwan University, and Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT).

The initial meeting allowed the Albertan members to discuss how their institutions are approaching research impact and their connections to RIC. They are



L-R: Reisa Klein (U Alberta), Stephanie Warner (U Calgary), Thane Chambers (U Alberta), Vicky Qualie (NAIT), and Sarelle Azuelos (U Calgary)

seeking to build on existing commitments to societal impacts of research. Thank you to Stephanie Warner for organizing the initial meeting. We know there will be more to come!

With the Network having grown so large across Canada and even spanning into the United Kingdom, these regional meetings have been helpful for RIC members to convene around shared interests, including geographical regions. We look forward to seeing more of these regional meetings next year!

### That's A Wrap

#### Conclusion

This year has been a powerful reflection of the impact we can achieve together. We expanded our reach, strengthened partnerships, and achieved a clear direction for our Network's future. Through innovation, collaboration, and dedication, we've made a tangible difference through our shared goal of societal impact. As we close this chapter, we celebrate these positive outcomes and extend our gratitude to everyone who contributed to making this year a resounding success.

#### RIC Team



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**Connie Tang** Director, Strategy and Business Development, Research Impact Canada <u>tangcyorku.ca</u>



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# **Get in Touch**



### Join the Network!

Interested in becoming a part of the Research Impact Canada Network?

Click <u>here</u> to find out more information and contact <u>info@researchimpact.ca</u> for deadlines.

**Prepared By:** Sandy Chan, Knowledge Mobilization Specialist, Research Impact Canada Here are ways to stay connected and up to date on RIC activities.

### **RIC** website

Check out the <u>RIC website</u> for our latest blog posts, journal clubs, knowledge mobilization resources and more!

### Newsletter

RIC's monthly newsletter highlights news from the network and shares upcoming events and opportunities in knowledge mobilization. <u>Sign up</u> to stay up to date!

### Social Media

Connect with us on our social media – we're on LinkedIn!