

RESEARCH  
**IMPACT**  
CANADA

RÉSEAU **IMPACT**  
RECHERCHE  
CANADA

# ANNUAL REPORT

2022



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This report was prepared by Sylvia Urbanik, Knowledge Mobilization Specialist at Research Impact Canada.

## REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



Welcomed 1 new member



Hosted the Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum 2022 - virtually & in person!



Expanded our partnership with the Future Skills Centre



Hired 9 additional full time RIC-FSC staff



Congratulated our 2nd cohort of RIC Engaged Scholarship Award Winners

# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR: *EMERGENCE*

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For many of us, the world emerged from virtual to blended operations in 2022. The pandemic taught us to value the benefits of virtual work and remember the joys of working in-person. While RIC has always operated mostly online as a network distributed across Canada and the United Kingdom, we've organized hybrid events such as the Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum and the RIC Annual Meeting to great success.

The virtual Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum in June 2022 included six in-person events across the country, including British Columbia, Alberta, and Ontario. We had over 300 registrants for the virtual conference and full rooms for the in-person events. Thank you to all who participated, and we look forward to seeing you all at our next Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum in 2024!

As part of our continued efforts to recognize those doing excellent work in knowledge mobilization, we awarded Research Impact Canada Engaged Scholarship Awards to four graduate students across Canada. And we will launch a professional award to recognize contributions of well-deserved staff working in impact and knowledge mobilization in 2023 as well.

Lastly, our partnerships at RIC have grown. In 2022, we expanded on providing knowledge mobilization services to the Future Skills Centre and are now building a refreshed pan-Canadian community of practice for skills and workforce development service providers.

In short, over the pandemic, we've welcomed eight new institutions as members into our network, hosted two Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forums, expanded our partnership with FSC, and continued international collaborations. We emerge from 2022 with excitement in the continued growth of the knowledge mobilization field. I want to say "we're back" but really, we never went away.



**David J. Phipps, PhD., MBA**

Network Director, Research Impact Canada; and  
Assistant VP Research Strategy & Impact, York University



## WHO ARE WE?



- ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY
- BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY
- CARLETON UNIVERSITY
- CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
- KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
- LONDON SOUTH BANK UNIVERSITY
- MCMASTER UNIVERSITY
- MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY
- ONTARIO SHORES
- SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
- UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
- UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON, UK
- UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
- UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
- UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
- UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL
- UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA
- UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À MONTRÉAL
- UNIVERSITY OF REGINA
- UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
- UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
- UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG
- YORK UNIVERSITY

We are a pan-Canadian network of **23 institutions** with a goal of maximizing the **impact** of academic research for the public good



**23**  
Institutions  
and counting



**60+**  
People dedicated  
to Research Impact



**16**  
Years of turning  
research into action

## MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER:

EST 1892

# LSBU

This year the RIC network continued to grow, and we welcomed our second institution from outside of Canada: London Southbank University (LSBU)! With an emphasis on real world impact through insight and engagement, LSBU is committed to producing research and innovation that tackles global and civic challenges, generating critical insights, and sustainable solutions to transform the lives of individuals, communities, businesses and society.

# NETWORK UPDATES



## RIC ANNUAL MEETING

Research Impact Canada's 2022 Annual Meeting was hosted in Winnipeg from September 19-21st. After two years of completely virtual meetings, we met in a hybrid format at the University of Winnipeg. This year's annual meeting had an especially strong focus on member presentations where participants shared stories, successes, and examples of knowledge mobilization from their practice at their respective institutions.



## RENEWING OUR COMMITMENT TO BILINGUALISM

Research Impact Canada strives to be a French/English bilingual network. This year we reaffirmed our commitment to bilingualism. Members of the Bilingualism Working group developed guidelines and an action plan for bilingualism, which was officially adopted at the annual meeting. These resources can be found on the RIC website. We have also made more commitments in resources, hiring, interpreters, translations, and "French-first" engagement for the Network.



## STRATEGIC PLANNING

The RIC network is in the process of developing its Strategic Plan for the next few years. At the RIC Annual Meeting, members identified several priorities that the network will be focusing on in this plan, including the development of regional programming, professional development, and equity, diversity, and inclusion. We're starting consultations with members over the course of 2023 with the aim of finalizing the strategic plan which would be released at the hybrid Annual Meeting 2023 (slated for Sept 2023) in Calgary!

## NETWORK UPDATES



### **EXPANSION OF MOBILIZE U**

We expanded on an 8-week self-directed course for faculty researchers, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, staff, alumni, and community partners interested in learning more about knowledge mobilization. We partnered with several institutions in the network to launch MobilizeU, a summer course with a co-developed curriculum. In 2022, through the work of RIC's Professional Development Committee, MobilizeU's reach expanded further, with 22 institutions from the RIC network participating and including 300 registrants!

## MEET THE EXPANDED RIC-FSC TEAM

In 2019, Research Impact Canada was brought on to support knowledge mobilization for the Future Skills Centre. The purpose of this partnership was to help foster a network of innovative partners in the skills and workforce development sector preparing Canadians for the future of work.

As part of this partnership with the Future Skills Centre, Research Impact Canada is helping bring together a pan-Canadian community to encourage the adoption of effective workplace and learning practices across the skills development and training sector. As part of this work, we've hired new staff. Meet the full team at York University below!

[Learn more](#) about this expanded partnership with the Future Skills Centre

## OPERATIONS



**David Phipps**  
DIRECTOR,  
RESEARCH IMPACT CANADA



**Connie Tang**  
DIRECTOR, STRATEGY  
& BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



**Sandy Chan**  
OPERATIONS OFFICER



**Louis Melançon**  
BILINGUAL  
RESEARCH ASSISTANT

## KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION



**Julia Levin**  
MANAGER,  
KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION



**Sylvia Urbanik**  
KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION  
SPECIALIST



**Imane Khozam**  
BILINGUAL KNOWLEDGE  
MOBILIZATION SPECIALIST



**Elisabeth Huang**  
BILINGUAL KNOWLEDGE  
MOBILIZATION SPECIALIST

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



**Trudy Button**  
MANAGER,  
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT  
FOR SKILLS INNOVATION



**Crystal Olson**  
SKILLS SECTOR PARTNERSHIP  
COORDINATOR



**Marie Page**  
SKILLS SECTOR PARTNERSHIP  
COORDINATOR



**Meghan Realesmith**  
SKILLS SECTOR PARTNERSHIP  
COORDINATOR

## EVALUATION & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



**Bissy Waariyo**  
MANAGER,  
EVALUATION AND CONTINUOUS  
IMPROVEMENT



**Kim Knight**  
EVALUATION AND  
RESEARCH ANALYST



**Valentina Latorre Franky**  
EVALUATION AND  
RESEARCH ANALYST

## KMB YORK UNIT



**Michael Johnny**  
MANAGER,  
KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION



**Krista Jensen**  
SENIOR KNOWLEDGE  
MOBILIZATION SPECIALIST

# NETWORK UPDATES



## ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS

This year, RIC has continued to expand our partnerships with other organizations focused on research impact.



ARIS: We continue to collaborate with our US colleagues in the Advancing Research Impact in Society network. In 2022 some of RIC's Evaluation Committee members met with the evaluation team for ARIS to share lessons we are each learning.



CARA: We were delighted to partner with the Canadian Association of Research Administrators at their first in person event in three years. We not only exhibited and participated on panels and in workshops we were delighted there were a total of eight knowledge mobilization sessions and the Network was involved in only two of them. This signals that knowledge mobilization is becoming a feature for research offices.



AESIS: We partnered with Network for Advancing and Evaluating the Societal Impact of Science on their Impact of Science Conference in Leiden, Netherlands and were represented by Network Director, David Phipps who spoke on one panel and delivered a keynote address



Canadian Forum on Innovation and Societal Impact: Hosted by Sandra Lapointe (from RIC member, McMaster University), this forum brought together over 100 participants from all sectors. RIC was pleased to be a partner in this event where we participated in round tables, breakout sessions and on panels.



# RIC ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Research Impact Canada Engaged Scholarship Award recognizes students who have contributed to engaged scholarship, co-creation of knowledge, or knowledge translation. This year we hosted a second round of the award. The following outstanding students won.



**Claire Kemp**

University of Guelph, Environmental Science (Masters Winner)  
Project: Optimizing Community-Based Wildlife Monitoring:  
Prioritizing Indigenous Knowledge & Values



**Hannah Marcus**

University of Alberta, Public Health (Masters Winner)  
Project: Climate Adaptation in the WASH Sector of East Africa's  
Lake Victoria Basin



**Maji Shaikh**

University of Ottawa, Human Kinetics (Doctoral Winner)  
Project: Development and Evaluation of a Trauma-Sensitive Sport  
Program for Underserved Youth: The Bounce Back League



**Christine Wildman**

University of Guelph, Sociology (Doctoral Winner)  
Project: Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer +  
(2SLGBTQ+) Community and Life During a Global Pandemic: A  
Resistance Based Photovoice Collective

## Honourable mentions:

Sophie Lightfoot (University of Ottawa)

Nabilah Gulamhusein (University of Calgary)





# CANADIAN KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION FORUM 2022

In June, Research Impact Canada hosted the Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum 2022. This biennial event provides opportunities for professional development, learning, and networking for those interested in research impact as well as knowledge mobilization, translation, and exchange. The most recent forum took place in an online format during the week of June 13-17th 2022. In addition to the national event, we hosted six regional half-day events in-person across the country.

The 2022 theme was Responding to New Realities: Learning from the past and present to inform the future. The theme recognized that to create change in our communities, we must move beyond raising awareness in the what and why of our research. CKF22 provided a space to share and learn from each other and hear unique perspectives on how knowledge mobilization has informed research and practice.



271

Attendees



85

Speakers



35

Sessions

In addition to the virtual event, we hosted in-person regional gatherings in the following cities:

Vancouver - Health xChange followed by Get Connected

Calgary - Calgary Knowledge Mobilization Meetup

Guelph - Sharing Knowledge with Indigenous Communities

Toronto - The Future Skills Needed for Knowledge Mobilization

Ottawa - Mobilizing Morning

St. Catherine's - Mobilizing Knowledge for the Adoption of Best Practices in Horticulture Production



## ANNOUNCING 2 NEW AWARDS

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Peter Levesque founded the Institute for Knowledge Mobilization in 2011 to build knowledge mobilization capacity in Canada and was the original founder of the Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum in 2012. During this year's Forum, Research Impact Canada announced two new awards recognizing the contributions Peter Levesque has made to knowledge mobilization in Canada.

### **Research Impact Canada Award of Excellence in KMb**

At an in-person event for mobilizers in the Toronto area, we announced a dedicated award made to Peter that recognizes his leadership for knowledge mobilization in Canada. The Governance Committee of Research Impact Canada unanimously endorsed the *Research Impact Canada award of Excellence in Knowledge Mobilization*, recognizing Peter's early efforts bringing this diverse group together through workshops, tool development, and forums. We provided Peter with the award for his contributions to knowledge mobilization over the years and announced the creation of an award in his name: the Peter Levesque Award for Contributions to Knowledge Mobilization as a Profession.

### **Peter N. Levesque Award for Advancing KMb as a Profession**

This award will be made to an individual or a team that has shown consistent efforts and developed tools, training, and incentives that support skills and career paths for professional knowledge mobilizers in Canada. Details will be announced later in 2023, and the award will be bestowed at future Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forums.



# WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT US

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*"RIC continues to be an important institutional membership for Athabasca University, especially as we work to build culture and capacity for knowledge mobilization and research impact."*

*- MacKinley Darlington, Athabasca University*

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*Being involved in Research Impact Canada has ensured we have a space and place for comradery, creativity, learning, and growth. Dr RIC and all the other activities keeps the pep in my step, it's rejuvenating.*

*- Lupin Battersby, Simon Fraser University*

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"Research Impact Canada (RIC) is critical in the success of my day-to-day operations managing an institutional service unit. This community of practice provides numerous touch points for me to engage with colleagues to connect, learn and share important aspects of KMb practice. Further, RIC has grown to where it is seen as a national and international leader in knowledge mobilization (KMb). In essence, we have a perfect structure; we can safely engage amongst ourselves to learn and understand more about this emerging profession. And through our network leadership efforts, our successes are shared nationally and globally which provides critical validation about our services to campus and community".

*- Michael Johnny, York University*

# GET IN TOUCH!

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Here are ways to stay connected and up to date about RIC activities.



## **Research Impact Canada Website**

Check out the [RIC Website](#) for our latest blog posts, journal clubs, knowledge mobilization resources and more!



## **Newsletter**

RIC's monthly newsletter highlights news from the network and shares opportunities upcoming events and opportunities in knowledge mobilization. [Sign up to stay up to date!](#)



## **Social Media**

Connect with us on our social media – we're active on both [LinkedIN](#) and [Twitter!](#)

# JOIN THE NETWORK!

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Interested in becoming a part of the [Research Impact Canada Network](#)? RIC is seeking new academic members who are actively building their knowledge mobilization capacity, including Canadian and international institutions that have:

- Documented commitment to institutional knowledge mobilization and research impact: an established university plan, research plan, engagement plan, or other document that identifies knowledge mobilization or a related activity as an institutional priority
- Established investment in knowledge mobilization supports (such as community/public engagement, CBR, research support, communication, social innovation)
- Desire to share their expertise as well as learn from others

If this describes your institution, please send us an email at [info@researchimpact.ca!](mailto:info@researchimpact.ca)