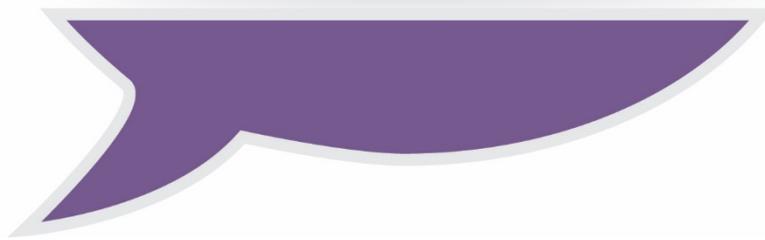




# THE BISHOP'S FORUM

A civic leadership institute for English-speaking youth | Un institut de leadership civique pour les jeunes Québécois d'expression anglaise



## PROGRAM

**Friday, August 13 – Tuesday, August 17, 2021**

Pm8wzowinnoak Bishop's kchi adalagakidimek aoak kzalziwi w8banakii aln8baïkik.  
Bishop's University is proud to be located on the traditional territory of the Abenaki people.  
L'Université Bishop's est fière d'être située sur le territoire traditionnel du peuple Abénaki.

6:00 p.m.

**Exchange with Elder Vicky Boldo**



**Vicky Boldo**

Special Advisor, Indigenous Student Support,  
Bishop's University

Vicky Boldo is a Cree-Métis adoptée from the Sixties Scoop era. She is a writer, research coordinator and research advisor, cultural educator/facilitator and a registered energy medicine practitioner (ANQ) and has authored and co-authored a number of articles on social work and her personal healing journey. She is a Board Vice-Chair for the National Sixties Scoop Healing Foundation and recently left Concordia University where she built healthy, vibrant and balanced relationships in providing cultural support to the Otsenhákta Student Centre and was a member of the Indigenous Directions Leadership Council. Vicky is excited to be joining the Bishops University community as special advisor, Indigenous student support in August 2021.

She has collaborated with organizations such as the Montreal Indigenous Community NETWORK, Dawson College and McGill University, and is a sought-after guest lecturer and speaker on cultural safety/awareness, intercultural adoption, trauma, and sensitivity training for various institutions including Montreal's Police Service, Mediciens du Monde, and Health Canada. Vicky provides cultural support to front-line workers in the Urban Indigenous community and was also present in this capacity for the TRC, MMIW, Sixties Scoop and Day School application and consultation sessions. Most importantly, Vicky is a daughter, sister, auntie and proud mother of four and grandmother of 11. The 30+ years healing journey that Vicky has been on gives her the passion and focus to give back to the community and to use her voice and drum song for those that are still muted by colonial oppression.



**Michael Goldbloom, C.M.**

Chair, Bishop's Forum  
Principal & Vice-Chancellor, Bishop's University

Michael Goldbloom holds a B.A. in Modern European History and Literature from Harvard University and a Bachelor of Civil Law and a Bachelor of Common Law from McGill University.

He worked as an editorial writer at *The Gazette* in Montreal before beginning his professional career as a labour lawyer at Martineau Walker (now Fasken). In 1991 he became President and Chief Executive Officer of the Montreal YMCA. From 1994 to 2001 he served as Publisher of *The Gazette*. In 2002, he was a Visiting Scholar at the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada. In 2003 he was named Deputy Publisher of the *Toronto Star*, and in 2004 became its Publisher. In 2007 he was appointed Vice-Principal (Public Affairs) and Senior Fellow in Media and Public Policy at McGill University. In August of 2008 he became the 18th Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Bishop's University.

In December 2013, Michael was appointed to the Order of Canada for helping to establish several transformative civic organizations in Montreal and for his dedication to building bridges between the city's English- and French-speaking communities.

Michael has an extensive record of community leadership including service as President of Alliance Quebec and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ville Marie Social Services Centre, Selwyn House School and the YMCA of Quebec Foundation. He was a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Batshaw Youth and Family Centres. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Bureau de Coopération interuniversitaire and as a Co-chair of the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada. In April 2018, he was appointed Chair of the Board of Directors of CBC/Radio-Canada.



**Yolande James**  
Director, Bishop's Forum

Yolande James graduated from the Université de Montréal with a degree in Civil Law in 2000, and from Queen's University with a degree in Common Law in 2003. She was admitted to the Barreau du Québec in 2004. She articulated in the Quebec Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and worked as a policy advisor in the Minister's office in 2004.

Yolande was elected to the National Assembly in the riding of Nelligan in a by-election held on September 20th 2004, and was re-elected in 2007, 2008 and 2012. She decided not to stand in 2014. As an MNA, she served as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, from March 2005 to February 2007, as Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, from April 2007 to August 2010, and as Minister responsible for Families, from May 2010 to September 2012. From September 2012 to April 2013 she served as Assistant Parliamentary leader for the Official Opposition.

Since leaving politics, Yolande has provided political analysis on both Radio-Canada and CBC television. She is a regular on Radio Canada's daily political commentary program "Les EX". She participates in events related to the Maison de la famille project of WIAIH (West Island Association for the Intellectually Handicapped), offering services for those with intellectual disabilities or autism.

She served as a member of the Board of the Office Québec-Amériques pour la jeunesse from 2005 to 2007, and while at the Université de Montréal, she was a member of the organizing committee for Black History Month. In July 2020, she was appointed Chair of the Bishop's Council.

Yolande James was the highly successful Director of the Bishop's Forum in 2019.



**Denise Lauzière**

Associate Director, Bishop's Forum

Denise Lauzière joined Bishop's University in 2013. She is the Chief of Staff of the Office of the Principal & Vice-Chancellor. In 2003, after working for the Canadian Education Association in Toronto for 13 years as Director of Professional Development and Assistant Executive Director, Denise came to Sherbrooke to take on the position of Executive Director of the Eastern Townships Alzheimer Society.

In 2005, she fulfilled a professional objective by attending law school. Denise graduated from *l'Université de Sherbrooke* in 2008 and has been a member of the *Barreau du Québec* since 2010. She practiced immigration law. Denise is a member since 2012 and a vice-president (2014) of the Ethics Committee for Research on Humans of the Research Centre of the Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke (CIUSSS de l'Estrie – CHUS).

She earned a Certificate in public administration at the *École nationale d'administration publique* in 2018.

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7:00 p.m.

**Opening Dinner**

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

7:00-8:25 a.m. **Breakfast and group time**

8:30-10:00 a.m. **Demographics: Quebec's English-Speaking Community**  
**Michael Goldbloom, Bishop's University, Principal and Vice-Chancellor**

**Parliamentary Commissions Explained**  
**Yolande James, Bishop's Forum Director**

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10:00-10:45 a.m. **Civil Service Opportunities**



### **Guy Laforest**

Director General, École nationale d'administration publique (ÉNAP)

Guy Laforest is Director General of the École nationale d'administration publique and has been a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada since 2014. He was also made a Knight of the Ordre de la Pléiade in 2013.

After a PhD in political science at McGill and two years at the University of Calgary as a lecturer and post-doctoral researcher, Mr. Laforest spent most of his career in the Political Science department at Université Laval. His main areas of teaching and research are political thought, intellectual history in Quebec and Canada, constitutional politics in Canada, theories of federalism and nationalism and comparative politics of intergovernmental relations in multinational states.

He was President of the Humanities Federation of Canada from 2017 to 2019, and has been a member of the Acfas Board of Directors since 2017, where he serves as the head of the Advisory Committee on Conference Follow-up. He is one of the regional advisors for Canada within the O.U.I. and is a member of the Universities Canada's Governance Committee.

In the scientific community, Mr. Laforest is a member of the Groupe de Recherche sur les Sociétés Plurinationales (GRSP) and of the Centre de Recherche Interdisciplinaire sur la Diversité et la Démocratie (CRIDAQ).

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11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Civic Engagement**



### **Jean Charest**

Partner, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Premier of Québec (2003-2012)

Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada (1993-1998)

As a former Deputy Prime Minister of Canada and a former Premier of Québec, Jean Charest is one of Canada's best known political figures.

The Honorable Jean Charest was notably the initiator of the negotiation for the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA). Furthermore, his government initiated an unprecedented labour mobility agreement between France and Québec, and was best known for a major initiative for the sustainable development of Northern Québec called “Plan Nord”.

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12:00 – 12:45 p.m.      **Lunch**

**SIGN UP FOR LUNCH WITH THE SPEAKERS**

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1:00 – 2:00 p.m. **Bill 96: Legal Implications**



**Marion Sandilands**

Associate, Conway Litigation

Legal Counsel, Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN)

Marion’s clients count on her to provide excellent service through timely, thoughtful, and on-point advice. She is particularly skilled at legal research and analysis. She is interested in all areas of law and is particularly passionate about constitutional and administrative law as well as advisory work. In her practice, she serves clients in both English and French.

During her career, Marion has acted for a wide range of clients including civil society organizations, school boards, parliamentarians and indigenous clients. She is known for her litigation services and has worked on judicial reviews, appeals and interventions, including appearing before the Supreme Court of Canada. She currently teaches Canadian Federalism Law at the University of Ottawa.

Marion joined Conway in 2019 after serving as Counsel to the Chief Justice of the Federal Court. She also previously served as a law clerk to the Honourable Andromache Karakatsanis at the Supreme Court of Canada, clerked for Justices Yves de Montigny and Marie-Josée Bédard at the Federal Court of Canada, and practiced at a boutique litigation firm in Ottawa.

Prior to her career in law, Marion worked in the field of international development where she helped manage overseas projects ranging from rural livelihoods to economic research. This work took her to Kenya, Vietnam, Senegal, and Mexico.

When Marion isn’t wrestling with legal matters or with her two little children, she can be found teaching, mentoring, singing, and curling.

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2:00 – 2:45 p.m.      **Health Break**

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3:00 – 6:00 p.m.      **Group Time: Work on Parliamentary Commission Presentation**

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6:00 – 7:00 p.m.      **Dinner**

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7:00 – 9:00 p.m. **CBC Trivia Night**

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

7:00-8:25 a.m. **Breakfast and group time**

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9:00 – 10:00 a.m. **Bill 96: Perspectives**



**Lise Ravary**  
Journalist and author

Lise Ravary was born in Montreal, in Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, and was educated for the most part by nuns who made her read Racine rather than novels for young girls. Very quickly, her curiosity overcame her studies.

Former editor-in-chief of *Chatelaine*, *Elle Quebec* and founding editor of *Elle Canada*, as well as former editor-in-chief of *enRoute*, *Air Canada*, Lise was until recently vice-president of Women's Publications and New Titles for Rogers Publishing, responsible for all the group's women's magazines. In 2011, she returned to freelance journalism to focus on writing full-time.

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10:00 – 11:30 a.m. **Community Organizations Panel**



**Matthew Aronson**  
Secretary of the Board  
Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN)

Matthew Aronson is a lawyer and member of the board of directors of the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN). He was born and raised in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce in Montreal's west end. Like many young Anglo-Quebecois remaining in Quebec after the 1995 Referendum, Matt embraced living in a French majority society while being acutely aware of the challenges facing English-speaking community vitality. Pursuing his undergraduate degree in Halifax helped to strengthen his resolve to live, work and raise a family in Quebec, and he returned to Montreal to pursue a graduate degree in Communications, and then, degrees in both Common and Civil Law.

After completing his legal studies, and working in corporate, real estate and immigration law in large firms and as in-house counsel, Matt turned to providing advice to small and medium-sized businesses, families, non-profit organizations and individuals in a boutique firm setting. Today, he heads the Immigration Working Group at Adessky Attorneys.

He has also been an active volunteer in his community for over a decade, contributing expertise in real estate and non-profit governance as a director of multiple community organizations. Before joining the board of directors of the QCGN, Matt sat on the boards of NDG Arts Week and of Notre-Dame-des-Arts, local NPOs dedicated to the promotions of local artists, as well as that of les Habitations Communautaires NDG, a non-

profit that develops social housing. He also volunteers as a presenter and moderator for workshops focused on legal matters, on the local riding association board for Minister of International affairs Marc Garneau, and as an ad hoc advisor to NDG Mayor Sue Montgomery.

In November 2020, Matt was elected Secretary of the QCGN, which advocates for the rights of Quebec's English-speaking minority. He presently lives in Westmount with his family, where he recently announced his candidacy for City Council.



**Cathy Brown**  
Executive Director  
Regional Development Network (RDN)

Cathy Brown became the Executive Director of RDN in August 2020. She is a graduate of CEGEP de la Gaspésie et des Îles and has worked in various roles at the Committee for Anglophone Social Action (CASA) since 2001 before becoming executive director in 2008. During her tenure, she led a significant expansion of program activities and service delivery at CASA for the benefit of the English-speaking communities along the Gaspé coast, particularly in the areas of health and social services, employment, and economic development (tourism). She has also participated on various provincial boards and committees including the Provincial Access to Health & Social Services Committee and is a founding board member for the Provincial Employment Roundtable (PERT).



**Jennifer Johnson**  
Executive Director  
Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN)

Jennifer Johnson has been the Executive Director of the Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN) since 2005 and employed by the organization since its inception in 2000. She is also the co-founder and Executive Director of the Québec Community Health and Social Services Foundation (QCHF). She has been working on access issues for health and social services for the English-speaking community of Quebec since 1995. She co-authored a book called *The Holland Centre Experience: A community development model for minorities*, which underscores the unique challenges a linguistic minority community faces in ensuring its long term vitality.



**Madeleine Lawler**  
President of the Board of Directors  
Youth 4 Youth (Y4Y) Québec

Madeleine Lawler was a participant in the 2019 Bishop's Forum before returning as a Coach and Youth Advisory Committee member for the 2020 edition. She is currently a law student at l'Université de Montréal and is a recent graduate of the Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management program at Carleton University. Madeleine has worked for various branches of the federal civil service, including Parks Canada and the Library of Parliament. Before becoming President of Y4Y Québec, she spent a year as a member of its Board of Directors and the Chair of the Policy Committee.

Madeleine has always been passionate about the issues of representation and accessibility. During her time as Team Lead with Parks Canada, she organized events in Montréal that aimed to bring nature closer to those who face barriers accessing the national park system. While at Carleton, she researched the under-participation of the Quebec English-speaking community in the provincial public service. As President of Y4Y Québec, she continues to be vocal

on the issues facing English-speaking youth and advocates for the presence of young English-speaking Quebecers at decision-making tables.



**Kasia Tomasinska**  
Director, Employment Services  
YES Employment & Entrepreneurship

Kasia Tomasinska a trilingual Director and Team Manager with 10+ years' experience in community economic development and educational program design. She is strongly committed to collaboration and partnership with all sectors, to stimulate local action and grassroots resources that help improve outcomes for youth, future leaders and community partners, within an innovative, inclusive and human centered framework.

As the Director of Employment Services at YES Employment + Entrepreneurship, she is responsible for leading a team of Career Counsellors, Project Managers and Coordinators in the growth and implementation of innovative programs built to educate and advance employment outcomes for job seekers, seasoned professionals, hustlers, new arrivals to Canada and any client seeking support. Kasia is passionate about social justice and the diversification of employment and community services in Montreal and its regions, while helping build resilient communities that value inclusivity, representation and opportunities for all.



**Chad Walcott**  
Engagement and Communications Director  
Provincial Employment Roundtable

Chad Walcott is an expert in community engagement. He has ten years of experience in politics and social development. During his career, he has developed and overseen several social impact campaigns focused on social and economic development. He currently holds the position of Director of Engagement and Communications at the Provincial Round Table on Employment (PERT), an organization that has the mandate to address the employment and employability challenges facing Quebec's English-speaking communities.



**Panel moderated by: Ahmad Hamdan**

Ahmad Hamdan holds a Bachelor of Science (major Computer Science, minor Entrepreneurship) and a Master's in Computer Science from Bishop's University. He teaches Computer Science at Bishop's College School in Lennoxville. Ahmad also works with Sherbrooke-based organization Actions Interculturelles, which facilitates sociocultural and economic integration of newcomers to the region.

Ahmad is a member of the Executive Committee of the Refugee Sponsorship Program at Bishop's and Assistant Director of the Arabic School in Sherbrooke. He is also a member of the Canadian Refugee Network and Canadian Council for Refugees. He led the Muslim Students' Association at Bishop's from 2017-2020 and is a past member of the Youth Council in Sherbrooke and Stanstead.

Ahmad is a past Bishop's Forum participant.

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

## Anti-Racism Conversation



### Will Prosper

Documentary filmmaker, civil rights activist

Will Prosper is a documentary film maker and civil rights activist. A former RCMP officer, he co-founded Montréal-Nord Républik, a citizens' movement against police brutality and economic oppression. He is also the co-founder of the Hoodstock Social Forum, a space for dialogue and social innovation for the co-creation of inclusive, safe and dynamic urban spaces. Over the years, Will has contributed to important civil society institutions in Quebec, such as the Popular Commission on Political Repression, the Ligue des droits et libertés, the Coalition for Equality and Against Systemic Racism, and the Faut qu'on se parle Collective. He writes and frequently appears in the media on questions of social justice and human rights.



### France Stohner

Mental health counsellor

Municipal Candidate, Côte-des-Neiges—Notre-Dame-de-Grâce

France was born in the Philippines and grew up in Montreal. As an uninvited settler immigrant on Turtle Island, she was raised in a family with limited resources, and struggled to finish high school. Despite this, France overcame the challenges that many immigrant and racialized families face. In order to finish university, she worked for many years in the service industry. She further pursued a Master's degree in Counselling, Psychotherapy and Spirituality from the universities of Ottawa and Saint-Paul, to serve the needs of immigrant communities.

France now works as a mental health counselor, and continues to champion for equality and justice as a long-time community organizer, and new mother. She is currently a political candidate in the next municipal election for the district of Snowdon in the Côte-des-Neiges - Notre-Dame-de-Grâce borough. A neighbourhood with one the strongest Filipino populations in Montreal. She strives to nurture a culture of politics that is more attentive, accessible and exemplary of the multifaceted communities she serves. Throughout her life, France faced and triumphed over many challenges, and continues to build and surround herself with community.

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12:30 – 1:15 p.m.

### Lunch

**SIGN UP FOR LUNCH WITH THE SPEAKERS**

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1:15 – 2:30 p.m.

### Group Time: Work on Parliamentary Commission Presentation

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2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

### Municipal Elections Panel



### Balarama Holness

Educator, researcher

Mayoral Candidate, City of Montreal

Balarama Holness is a teacher with a Master's Degree in Education, a former professional football player, and currently a law student at McGill University. He is also founder of Montreal in Action, through which he was largely responsible for forcing the City of Montreal's inquiry into systemic racism, whose findings and recommendations were released on June 15th 2020.

Balarama is an expert on systemic discrimination and its prevalence in sectors such as employment, public security, the environment and culture.



**Lyssa Paquette**

Manager of Student Recruitment and Retention, Bishop’s University  
Municipal Counsellor, Sainte-Edwidge-de-Clifton

While Lyssa’s family roots are in the Eastern Townships region, she grew up in London, Ontario, and graduated from Bishop’s with a double major in Political Studies and International Studies and a minor in French Language Studies. Lyssa is the Manager of Student Recruitment and Retention at Bishop’s University and is also a Municipal Councilor for Sainte-Edwidge de Clifton. Sainte-Edwidge is a small municipality of roughly 500 residents in the beautiful MRC of Coaticook. Lyssa’s fun fact: she LOVES horses and dogs and can be found at rodeos, races or hiking the mountains in Quebec.



**France Stohner**

Mental Health Counsellor  
Municipal Candidate, Côte-des-Neiges—Notre-Dame-de-Grâce

See biography above.



**Panel moderated by: Jonathan Montpetit**

Jonathan Montpetit is a senior digital journalist at CBC Montreal, where he covers politics and social issues.

Before joining CBC, he worked in the Montreal bureau of The Canadian Press. He won a National Magazine Award for his reporting from Afghanistan and a national RTDNA award for his coverage of far-right groups in Quebec.

He will be a William Southam Journalism Fellow at Massey College this academic year.

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3:30 – 3:45 p.m.

**Check-in time: All groups**

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3:45 – 5:00 p.m.

**Group Time: Work on Parliamentary Commission Presentation**

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6:30 p.m.

**Dinner**

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7:30 p.m.

## CBC Podcast Listening Event: "Telling Our Twisted Histories", with Vicky Boldo and Ossie Michelin



### Vicky Boldo

Special Advisor, Indigenous Student Support, Bishop's University

Vicky Boldo is a Cree-Métis adoptée from the Sixties Scoop era. She is a writer, research coordinator and research advisor, cultural educator/facilitator and a registered energy medicine practitioner (ANQ) and has authored and co-authored a number of articles on social work and her personal healing journey. She is a Board Vice-Chair for the National Sixties Scoop Healing Foundation and recently left Concordia University where she built healthy, vibrant and balanced relationships in providing cultural support to the Otsenhákta Student Centre and was a member of the Indigenous Directions Leadership Council. Vicky is excited to be joining the Bishops University community as special advisor, Indigenous student support in August 2021.

She has collaborated with organizations such as the Montreal Indigenous Community NETWORK, Dawson College and McGill University, and is a sought-after guest lecturer and speaker on cultural safety/awareness, intercultural adoption, trauma, and sensitivity training for various institutions including Montreal's Police Service, Mediciens du Monde, and Health Canada. Vicky provides cultural support to front-line workers in the Urban Indigenous community and was also present in this capacity for the TRC, MMIW, Sixties Scoop and Day School application and consultation sessions. Most importantly, Vicky is a daughter, sister, auntie and proud mother of four and grandmother of 11. The 30+ years healing journey that Vicky has been on gives her the passion and focus to give back to the community and to use her voice and drum song for those that are still muted by colonial oppression.

### Ossie Michelin

CBC Producer

Ossie Michelin is a freelance journalist from North West River, Labrador. He comes from a long line of storytellers, and continues this tradition in his own way. Ossie's heritage and upbringing instilled in him a lifelong love of the natural world and especially of the Labrador environment. The focus of his journalism is northern and Indigenous issues. Learn more about his work at: <http://osmich.ca/>

7:00 – 9:25 a.m. **Breakfast and group time**

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10:00 – 11:00 a.m. **Linguistic Issues**



**Christopher Skeete**

MNA for Sainte-Rose

Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier for Relations with English-Speaking Quebecers

Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister Responsible for the Fight Against Racism

Christopher Skeete, born September 20, 1980, is a member of the National Assembly (MNA) in the Quebec legislature. He is the youngest son of a family of two children, his father is from Trinidad and Tobago and his mother is French-Canadian.

He is a member of the Coalition Avenir Quebec since its inception and was appointed, in 2012, vice-president of the CAQ for Quebec-west.

Mr. Skeete was elected for the first time in 2018 as a MNA for the riding of Sainte-Rose, in Laval. This was his third candidacy after losing in 2012 in the riding of Vimont and 2014 in the riding of Fabre.

After his election in 2018, Christopher Skeete was nominated as parliamentary Assistant to the Premier for Relations with English-Speaking Quebecers. This mandate aims at building bridges between the Quebec government and English-speaking communities of Quebec and Mr. Skeete has been working to consolidate rapports between linguistic communities.

Since the beginning of his mandate, he has served on various parliamentary committees including the Committee on Culture and Education and the Select Committee on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors. He has also been assigned by Premier Legault to an anti-racism task force to address the problem of racism in Quebec. This task force was formed following George Floyd's death, which aims at ending discrimination towards visible minority groups, including native communities.

In February 2021, Premier Legault nominated Christopher Skeete as the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister Responsible for the Fight Against Racism.

In addition to his political career, Mr. Skeete is the CEO of a medical firm specializing in diagnostic tests and vaccines and has also been vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Laval. He is a former mentor at the University of Concordia. In 2021, Christopher Skeete obtained his Master's degree in Business Administration at l'Université du Québec à Montréal.

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11:00 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.

## Linguistic Issues



### **The Honourable Mélanie Joly**

Member of Parliament for Ahuntsic—Cartierville  
Minister of Economic Development  
Minister of Official Languages

The Honourable Mélanie Joly was first elected to represent Ahuntsic-Cartierville in the House of Commons in 2015.

In her ministerial roles, Minister Joly has worked to promote Canadian culture, and to grow and increase the visibility of Canada's tourism sector. She has also worked to safeguard Canada's two official languages while promoting the use of French in Canada and around the world, including in the digital sphere.

Prior to entering federal politics, Minister Joly founded the Vrai changement pour Montréal party and ran for mayor of Montréal in 2013 under its banner.

Minister Joly holds an Honours Bachelor of Law from the Université de Montréal and a Magister Juris in European and Comparative Law from the University of Oxford. She is the author of *Changing the Rules of the Game*, in which she shares her vision for public policy and civic engagement. She was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum.

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12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

## Lunch

**SIGN UP FOR LUNCH WITH THE SPEAKERS**

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1:30 – 2:00 p.m.

## Group Time: Work on Parliamentary Commission Presentation

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2:00 – 2:45 p.m.

## Health Break – Yoga in the Quad



### **Sonia Patenaude**

Interim Director of Communications, Bishop's University  
Yoga Instructor

Sonia currently holds the position of Manager of Communications at Bishop's University. Upon obtaining her BA in Music (voice) in 2006, she was hired as the Audience Development and Communications Officer for Centennial Theatre.

Her work as Audience Development and Communications Officer has brought her to work closely with students from all artistic disciplines at Bishop's creating synergies to promote events and enhance collaboration between artists in training. Through audience development, Sonia explored links to be made between creativity and various programs of studies at Bishop's to bring a democratic approach to artistic endeavors – making connection between art and sociology, psychology and organic science.

Over the years, Sonia has been involved as a volunteer in her community in various roles and fields : President and Administrator - PPO Ayer's Cliff Elementary School, Arts and Culture correspondent on The Friday Drive (CJMQ), Yoga guide – Women's Basketball at Champlain College, President and Administrator – Compagnie de danse Axile. She is currently pursuing a 300-hour Yoga Teacher Certification.

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2:45 – 3:00 p.m.      **Check-in time: All groups**

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3:00 – 6:00 p.m.      **Group Time: Work on Parliamentary Commission Presentations**

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6:00 p.m.              **Closing Dinner**

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

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7:00 – 8:55 a.m.      **Breakfast and group time**

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9:30 – 10:30 a.m.      **Mental Health Session**

**Ayan Mahdi**

Co-Founder, The Lavender Collective

Ayan Mahdi is co-founder of the Lavender Collective, a Black-led community effort which advocates for culturally relevant mental health related needs in BIPOC communities, through education, network, and resource building.

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10:30 – 11:30 a.m.      **Group Time: Work on Parliamentary Commissions**

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## PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONERS



### **Dr. Jenn Cianca**

Professor, Department of Classical Studies and Liberal Arts, Bishop's University  
Chair, Joint Board and Senate Task Force on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Jenn Cianca is cross-appointed as associate professor in the Department of Classical Studies and the Liberal Arts Programme at Bishop's University.

She holds degrees from Bishop's University (BA, Classics and Music) and from the University of Toronto (MA, PhD, Religion).

Her current work focuses on pilgrimage (ancient & contemporary), and on space & place, including the relationship between spatiality & social justice.

Since returning to Bishop's as a professor, she has been involved in a number of projects as member or advisor, including the Gender Equity Committee (formerly the Status of Women Committee), the Bishop's University Pride Alliance, and the Bishop's University Singers. Jenn looks forward to rolling up her sleeves and doing the work with this new and promising task force.



### **Celine Cooper**

Managing Director, Consortium of English-language CEGEPS, Colleges and Universities of Quebec.

Celine Cooper is the Managing Director, Consortium of English-language CEGEPS, Colleges and Universities of Quebec based at Bishop's University. A former politics editor at The Canadian Encyclopedia and columnist with the Montreal Gazette, she has appeared frequently as a political analyst on television and radio public affairs programs in Quebec and internationally.

Celine is president and chair of the governing board for the Fraser-Hickson Institute, and former chairperson of the board of directors for the Association for Canadian Studies. She holds degrees from Queen's University and York University, and is a part-time instructor at Concordia University's School of Community and Public Affairs.



**William Floch**

Assistant Secretary, Secretariat for Relations with English-speaking Quebecers

On November 24, 2017, William Floch was appointed as the first Secrétaire adjoint (Assistant Secretary) in the Government of Quebec’s Ministère du Conseil exécutif with the responsibility to establish the Secretariat for relations with English-speaking

Quebecers (SRQEA).

Prior to this appointment, Bill worked in the area of research and policy development for the Department of Canadian Heritage beginning in the early 1990s. Before embarking on his career in government, Bill worked as a teacher and principal in the English-language school system in Quebec and also worked in the community sector for Townshippers’ Association and Alliance Quebec.

Bill is a graduate of Bishop’s University where he was an active participant in university life, serving as Editor of The Campus student newspaper and playing hockey for the Gaiters.



**Daniel Fournier**

Chancellor, Bishop’s University

Daniel Fournier grew up in Montreal. He studied History at Princeton University and Jurisprudence at Oxford University, as a Rhodes Scholar. He took a term off to play for the Canadian Football League’s Ottawa Rough Riders.

He has 40 years of business experience primarily in the real estate industry. From 2010 to 2019, he was Chair and Chief Executive Officer at Ivanhoé Cambridge, a real estate subsidiary of Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec. Prior to joining Ivanhoé Cambridge, he was Chair of the Board of Genivar, now WSP Global, and a member of Canadian Tire’s Board of Directors. He was also a director of the Summit Industrial Income REIT and of Standard Life (Canada), now part of Manulife.

In recent years, Mr. Fournier has chaired fundraising campaigns for La Maison du Père, The Lighthouse Children and Families, and the Institute for Research. In recent years, Mr. Fournier has chaired fundraising campaigns for La Maison du Père, The Lighthouse Children and Families, and the Institute for Research in Immunology and Cancer (IRIC). Until February 2020, he was the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the McCord Museum Foundation in Montreal.

**Michael Goldbloom**

Principal and Vice-Chancellor

*See biography on Friday, August 13*

**Yolande James**

Director, Bishop’s Forum

*See biography on Friday, August 13*



## **The Honourable Marlene Jennings**

Former Member of Parliament

The Honourable Marlene Jennings is a retired lawyer and former Member of Parliament who is a valued contributor to Quebec's English-speaking community on a range of issues ranging from education to health and access to justice. Jennings was the first Black woman from Quebec to be elected to Parliament where she represented the riding of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine from 1997 to 2011. During her tenure in the House of Commons she was Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for International Cooperation and Parliamentary Secretary to the Solicitor General of Canada. From 2004 to October 2005, she was Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister with a special emphasis on Canada-U.S. relations. Prior to that she was the government appointed trustee at the English Montreal School Board where she accompanied the board in implementing governance reforms. In 2015, she chaired the Elections Systems Study Panel which handed down recommendations aimed at protecting the constitutional rights of English-speaking Quebecers. Marlene sat on the Comité consultatif sur la Réalité policière that conducted consultations as part of a larger effort to modernize Quebec's police forces.

In November 2020, Marlene was elected President of the Quebec Community Groups Network which advocates for the rights of Quebec's English-speaking minority.



## **Dr. Patrick McBride**

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Bishop's University

Dr. Patrick McBride studied Classics and Ancient History at the University of New Brunswick (BA), English Language and Literature at Queen's University (BA), and Medieval Studies at the University Toronto (MA, PhD). At Bishop's University, he teaches courses on Medieval and Renaissance Studies as well as the History of English and Communication. Beyond academia, he is Partner and Managing Editor in a Toronto-based communications firm, where he works with multi-national corporations and small businesses to develop strategic content.

Dr. McBride's research expertise involves the study of ancient and medieval languages, in particular of the impact of language development on intellectual history. He has contributed numerous translations to books, and his most recent book, *Biblical Epics in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages* (2017), studies the evolution of Latin biblical epic in late Antiquity and its influence on the emergence of Christian writing in early England.



**Christopher Skeete**

MNA for Sainte-Rose

Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier for Relations with English-Speaking  
Quebecers

Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister Responsible for the Fight Against Racism

*See biography on Monday, August 16*

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11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Parliamentary Commission Presentations**

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1:00 – 2:00 p.m. **Lunch, Conclusion and Next Steps**

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**Departure**

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## COACHES AND STAFF

### *Coaches*



#### **Marin Algattus**

Marin Algattus was born and raised in Montreal, Quebec. She has a bachelors in Community, Public Affairs and Policy Studies from Concordia University; and a Diploma of College Studies in Early Childhood Education from Vanier College. Marin is an administrative assistant and project coordinator at Centre d'Encadrement pour Jeunes Femmes Immigrantes, a non-profit organization that helps newcomers in Quebec through development and support services. \



#### **Hayley Campbell**

Hayley Campbell was raised in Shawville, located in the Outaouais region. She is a Community Engagement Officer at the Regional Association of West Quebecers, a non-profit organization that supports the English-speaking population in the Outaouais. Hayley enjoys working in her community and for her community.

Hayley is a past participant of the Bishop's Forum, having attended in 2017 and 2018, and as a coach in 2019. She is a member of the Forum's Youth Advisory Committee.

In her spare time, Hayley is involved with Youth for Youth Québec as a member of the Board of Directors and chair of the Regional Table Committee. She is a long-time volunteer and Director of the Pontiac Agricultural Society. Hayley also enjoys advising at Alpha Phi. In 2018, Hayley was honoured with the OCGN Young Quebecers Leading the Way Award.



#### **Holly Campbell**

Holly was born and raised in the Outaouais region, residing in Shawville, Quebec, a town of a little over 1,600 people. Holly works in the Accounting Department for a major construction company in the Ottawa Valley.

Holly continues to get involved within her community as a volunteer and Director of the Shawville Fair – a five-day agricultural based event that draws thousands of visitors to the area each Labour Day weekend. As a past Shawville Fair Ambassador (2013), she continues to be involved in the Shawville Fair Ambassador program as a committee member. Holly has gotten involved with Youth for Youth Québec and continues to be involved with Alpha Phi as an advisor to the McGill University chapter.

In 2019, Holly was recognized by the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions' Top 10 under 40 Program, highlighting 10 volunteers in the fair industry. She was acknowledged for her volunteer involvement with the Pontiac Agricultural Society.



**Kétura Daméus**

Kétura Daméus was born in Haiti but grew up in Montreal and Terrebonne. She is a Bishop’s alumna and is currently studying Human Resources at Université de Montréal. Kétura is passionate about social justice, and she is actively implicated in the children’s and youth ministry of her church. She strives for an empowered youth.

Kétura first participated in the Bishop’s Forum in 2019 and had a blast meeting and working with engaged peers from across the province, which is what drove her to return this year as a coach and a member of the Youth Advisory Committee.

In 2015, Kétura received the Lieutenant Governor’s Youth Medal for her implication in her high school and her community. In 2019, she participated in a consultation on the Official Languages Act, organized by the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages.



**Jamie Fabian**

Jamie was a 2018 Bishop's Forum participant and 2019 Bishop's forum coach. He is currently in his last year of his Bachelor's degree at Concordia in Community, Public Affairs and Public Policy. Jamie additionally works as the youngest ever Schoolboard Commissioner for the English Montreal School Board, and as a communications and public relations assistant for the Quebec Community Groups Network.

Jamie’s fields of interest include foreign affairs, economics, and minority rights.



**Donovan Faraoni**

Donovan Faraoni was born in BC, with a multi-cultural upbringing between Western Canada, Italy and Quebec. He graduated from Pearson United World College in 2020 where he completed his IB Diploma with peers from over 180 countries. Today he is studying Biology and Political Studies at Bishop’s University as a Chancellor’s Scholar.

Donovan loves spending time outdoors, with a strong track record in community actions for sustainability. He received a national Youth Service Award for Environmental Stewardship, has served on regional Youth Councils in both official languages as well as on the RCMP National Youth Advisory Committee. He believes strongly in student-led initiatives and research, training his peers in marine safety supervision as a Shoremaster Coordinator at Pearson UWC, and volunteering as an assistant teacher at a children's Yoseikan Budo class for four years.

Donovan’s career aim is to work in environmental policy design. He is currently researching the role of municipal governments in Canada, with a focus on whether they play a functionally constitutional role. He looks forward to bringing his passion for inclusive and collaborative solutions to his second year at the Bishop’s Forum.



**Rezkalla Farkouh**

Rezkalla Farkouh arrived in Canada five years ago as a Syrian refugee. He completed three years of a Bachelor's degree in Health Sciences at Bishop's University before being admitted to the Pharmacy School at the University of British Columbia. In the Eastern Townships, he volunteered for Estrie Aide and Lennoxville Community Aid centre. He took part in the 2018 and 2020 Bishop's Forum. In addition to his interest in direct patient care, Rezkalla has a passion for public health advocacy and the advancement of the healthcare system. He is currently involved in a project funded by the Government of Quebec to assess the impact of COVID-19 on the psychological and physical health of Quebecers.



**Ahmad Hamdan**

Ahmad Hamdan holds a Bachelor of Science (major Computer Science, minor Entrepreneurship) and a Master's in Computer Science from Bishop's University. He teaches Computer Science at Bishop's College School in Lennoxville. Ahmad also works with Sherbrooke-based organization Actions Interculturelles, which facilitates sociocultural and economic integration of newcomers to the region.

Ahmad is a member of the Executive Committee of the Refugee Sponsorship Program at Bishop's and Assistant Director of the Arabic School in Sherbrooke. He is also a member of the Canadian Refugee Network and Canadian Council for Refugees. He led the Muslim Students' Association at Bishop's from 2017-2020 and is a past member of the Youth Council in Sherbrooke and Stanstead.



**Madeleine Lawler**

Madeleine Lawler was a participant in the 2019 Bishop's Forum before returning as a Coach and Youth Advisory Committee member for the 2020 edition. She is currently a law student at l'Université de Montréal and is a recent graduate of the Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management program at Carleton University. Madeleine has worked for various branches of the federal civil service, including Parks Canada and the Library of Parliament. Before becoming President of Youth 4 Youth (Y4Y) Québec, she spent a year as a member of its Board of Directors and the Chair of the Policy Committee.

Madeleine has always been passionate about the issues of representation and accessibility. During her time as Team Lead with Parks Canada, she organized events in Montréal that aimed to bring nature closer to those who face barriers accessing the national park system. While at Carleton, she researched the under-participation of the Québec English-speaking community in the provincial public service. As President of Y4Y Québec, she continues to be vocal on the issues facing English-speaking youth and advocates for the presence of young English-speaking Quebecers at decision-making tables.



**Malcolm Lewis-Richmond**

Malcolm Lewis-Richmond holds a degree in linguistics from the Université du Québec à Montréal and is the founding president of Youth 4 Youth Québec, a non-profit group that represents Quebec's English-speaking linguistic minority youth community. A runner-up for the QCGN's Young Quebecers Leading the Way award in 2017, he is interested in building bridges between the English and French-speaking communities. He is passionate about adequately representing the needs of linguistic minority communities through campaigns. He currently works in policy and communications for the largest Canadian union representing public service professionals.



**Maria Mahdessian, Communications Manager, Youth 4 Youth (Y4Y) Québec**

Maria, Y4Y Québec's Communication Manager since December, is a sucker for visual communication and tends to have an eagle eye for details. She received her MA in Design Research from Bern University of the Arts in Switzerland and her BFA in Design from Concordia University in Montréal. She is interested in using her creativity, design, and communications expertise to give voice to individuals, who feel left out of society, and to raise awareness on topics of disparities in rights, basic needs and vulnerabilities. Born in Montréal and raised in Beirut with an English-educational background Maria recognizes the challenges English-speakers face while living in Québec.



**Kathleen Mulawka, Executive Director, Youth 4 Youth (Y4Y) Québec**

Originally from Ontario, Kathleen developed a passion for French and the Québécois culture from an early age. A Bishop's University graduate, Kathleen recently completed graduate studies from Université de Montréal, Kathleen successfully achieved a life long goal of pursuing higher education in her second language. Her diverse experience in the public and non-profit sectors have taken her across the world to engage youth through education, exchanges, volunteerism and leadership development.



**Caleb Owusu-Acheaw**

Caleb is currently a graduate student at the University of Ottawa in Public Administration. A born and raised Montréaler, he holds a Bachelor's degree from Concordia University in Political Science and Economics. In addition to serving as a member of Y4Y Québec's Board of Directors, his community involvement includes the Quebec Liberal Party's youth wing and volunteering with local Ghanaian associations in the Montreal area. Caleb's personal interests include ecofiscal policies, sustainable development and constitutional law.



### **Jon Marvin Reyes**

Jon Marvin Reyes was born and raised in the Philippines and immigrated to Montreal, Quebec with his family in 2014. He graduated from Dawson College in 2020 and currently studies Political Science and International Development Studies at McGill University. His passion for community and public service has led him to serve various institutions. In his home country, he served as a secretary of his secondary school's student organization where he received a Leadership Award in recognition of his volunteer works. In Montreal, he volunteered as a Youth Chapter Leader for CFC-Youth for Christ, a religious community that aims to evangelize youth people around the world. He was also a Member of the Executive Committee of Dawson College's Law, Society, and Justice profile. Today, he takes part as the Vice President of Communications and Media of McGill University Filipino Asian Students Association and as a Peer Reviewer at the McGill Journal of Political Studies. As a former participant and coach of the Bishop's Forum, Jon Marvin is eager to pursue a career in the legal and political field where he can help facilitate the needs of immigrants and the growing Filipino community in Canada.

### ***Support Staff***



### **Sarah Haddon**

Special Projects Officer, Office of the Principal, Bishop's University

Sarah Haddon graduated from Bishop's University in 2001 with a degree in English literature. After completing her Master's at the University of Ottawa in 2002, Sarah returned to the Eastern Townships and joined the marketing and communications team at a local insurance assistance company. In 2012 she was back on the Bishop's campus as the Alumni Relations Coordinator in the Advancement Office, a position she enjoyed for three years. After a brief hiatus and time spent working as a freelance editor and translator, Sarah returned to Bishop's in early 2019 to take on the role of Special Projects Officer in the Office of the Principal.

## YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Dorcas Adebogun, Past Participant** Sherbrooke, QC

**Hayley Campbell, Past Participant and Coach** Shawville, QC

**Holly Campbell, Past Participant and Coach** Shawville, QC

**Kétura Daméus, Past Participant and Coach** Montreal, QC

**Christina Nancy Eyangos, Past Participant and Coach** Montreal, QC

**Donovan Faraoni, Past Participant and Coach** Sherbrooke, QC

**Rezkalla Farkouh, Past Participant and Coach** Vancouver, BC

**Madeleine Lawler, Past Participant and Coach** Montreal, QC

**Malcolm Lewis-Richmond, Past Participant and Coach** Gatineau, QC

**Mary Lynne Loftus, Past Participant** Montreal, QC

**Elisabeth Paul, Past Participant** Ottawa, ON

**Jon Marvin Reyes, Past Participant and Coach** Montreal, QC

PARTNERS

