







Writing Projects

Program assignment: Write a fact sheet about the RCMP. Click image to see full PDF.

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Writing Projects

Program assignment: Write a biography about a classmate. Click image to see full PDF.

#### Maria DiGiacomo

Public Relations Professional



As a child, Maria DiGiacomo knew she loved the creativity and expressiveness of fashion: designing and making clothes for her dolls and styling herself. She also loved to write and developed a passion for travel and European culture.

Optimistic and driven, she is the first person in her proud Sicilian family to go to university. In her third year of sociology at McMaster University, Hamilton native DiGiacomo realized that adding a communications major to her curriculum could be the way to focus her love of storytelling. She doubled-down — overloaded her agenda with the courses she would need to graduate with a double-major in her last year — graduating with distinction in 2022.

With her degree in hand, DiGiacomo saw public relations could be the way to unite her many strengths and interests

in service of the fashion industry. With this in mind she enrolled in the Public Relations and Corporate Communications program at Sheridan College, the best in southern Ontario, and set out to get experience in the field.

"You can never be overdressed or overeducated," says DiGiacomo in her curated Instagram posts.

Initiative and persistence opened doors for Maria and she was able to secure two positions with fashion shows within a month of starting the program at Sheridan.

First of all, she volunteered with Startup Fashion Week in Toronto, an international event. There she worked on media lists, pitching, key messaging, event planning and attended launch parties.

The next event was Fashion Art Toronto, where this outgoing young professional honed her skills in onsite public relations and had the exciting chance to interview a designer. DiGiacomo jumped at the opportunity when another interviewer was unavailable at the last minute. She credits her ability to thrive in spontaneity to her "vie en rose" world outlook.

While she works hard, fashioning her career and labouring as a marketing associate for Costco, DiGiacomo makes it clear that she holds her family and friends close to her heart and would do anything to be there for them. She describes herself as an "old soul" and a "typical middle child" with a strong connection to her Sicilian roots and European background. With personal priorities in mind and a confidence belying her youth, Maria strides down the runway toward a bright and colourful future.

Writing Projects

Program assignment: Write a pitch letter to a journalist for a research report. Click image to see full PDF.

#### Pitch Letter – Freedom on the ne



1. In some countries, the government BLG Read the FOTN report on internet freed (because in Canada, we can do that!) (https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-net/20



#freedomonthenet #freedomhouse #st

2. Imagine not being able to see this twee turned off the web. That's a daily reality f users. Check out this infographic to see (https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-net/2022/ hattering)

> **Counting the Ways Governments Plunge User** In over two-thirds of countries covered by Freedom on a access to foreign information sources using at least of

Blocks on foreign websites 🛐 ks on social media platforms 😰 Restrictions on circumvention technology vs restricting foreign websites and content 💷

November 21, 2022 Nahayat Tizhoosh

Pitch Letter – Freedom on the net – Catriona Berry

Producer, CBC News Network's Power & Politics https://twitter.com/NahavatT

Dear Nahayat,

I read your article on Toomaj Salehi, the Iranian rapper who is part of a movement fighting internet censorship. In it you bring an empathetic voice to an issue that Freedom House is built on: the role of the internet in democracy. We thank you for that, profusely and want to share our annual report: *Freedom* on the Net 2022.

As a Washington D.C. based advocacy group committed to advancing democracy in the digital age, the research we do sheds light on the need for universal policies around communication technology and the opportunity to protect human rights.

Our report shows that<sup>1</sup>:

- Global internet freedom declined for the 12th consecutive year.
- <u>Governments are breaking apart the global internet to create more
  </u> controllable online spaces.
- China was the world's worst environment for internet freedom for the eighth consecutive year.
- A record 26 countries experienced internet freedom improvements.
- Human rights hang in the balance amid a competition to control the web.

As one of the top three "free" countries in the report, Canada has a social responsibility to share our good fortune and good policies. We would like to add your skills as a journalist and communicator to our advocacy initiatives. We can share some really great infographics for your story.

Can we count on you to share the important findings of our report?

Catriona Berry, Public Relations Manager, Freedom House 289-259-3250 <u>catrionasplace@gmail.com</u>



"Freedom House is founded on the core conviction that freedom flourishes in democratic nations where governments are accountable to their people.'

#freedomonthenet #internetforeveryone #raiseyourvoice

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Freedom "Freedom House is founded on the core conviction that freedom flourishes in democratic nations where governments are accountable to their people."



House

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Writing Projects

Program assignment: Write a press release for Raleigh Canada. Click image to see full PDF.





Writing Projects

Program assignment: Write 10 key messages about a topic for the health minister. Click image to see full PDF.

Writing + Design

Newsletter redesign for Burlington Humane Society. Click images to see full PDF.

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Writing + Design

Program Assignment: Interview and profile a PR Professional. Click images to see full PDF.

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Writing + Design

Personalized stationery for service representatives. Environmental edition. Click images to see full PDF.



Writing + Design

Newsletters to promote LVNG with Lung Cancer Community engagement. Click images to see full PDF.







Catriona Berry

Communications & Design

Style Tile branding exercise & communications identity redesign.







**Brand Inspiration** 









Colour Pallette

PMS 200

CMYK: 17 100 87 7

RGB: 192 32 50

HEX: #BA122B



PMS 319

CMYK: 66 0 22 00

RGB: 58 193 204

HEX: #3AC1CC

PMS 130

CMYK: 0 28 100 0 RGB: 242 169 0 HEX: #F2A900

Warm Grey CMYK: 49 46 46 9 RGB: 133 124 122 HEX: #857C7A



CMYK: 80 80 80 100 HEX: #000000

Typefaces

Headlines Hey Lovely ABEDEFGHIJKLM

NOPERSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijk(m nopgrstuwwyz

Body Type

Proxima Nova Light Proxima Nova Semi-Bold Proxima Nova Italic

ABCDEFGHIJKLM NOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklm nopqrstuvwxyz

Brand Description

Optimistic, energetic & cheerful. Eclectic & versatile.

Photo Credits: 1, 2, 4: Catriona Berry. 3: Adobe Stock Font Credits: Hey Lovely: 50Fox Studio; Proxima Nova: Mark Simonson, Adobe Fonts

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Branding for artist & designer. Click images to visit properties.



https://m.facebook.com > ... > Catriona's Place Art & Design

 $\label{eq:catrionalson} Catrionalson Place Art & Design | Facebook \\ \mbox{Artist and designer creating original paintings and drawings; acrylic on canvas, pen & ink on paper. Page <math display="inline">\cdot$  Visual Arts.







Branding for Toronto-based event planning company.







Sharm Simon, CM 416.618.5396 289.232.4229 slsolutions@rogers.con

L Solutions ent Management Inc. 194 Cliff Road ississauga, Ontario SULUTIONS event management inc.

Helping YOU find YOUR Event Solution



> Find us on Facebook o sharm\_slsolutions o @SLSolutionsInc

**SL**UTIONS



Logo Design





















Layout Design





Photography

Click to view on-line

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**Communications & Design** 





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Appendix

## Sheridan College Public Relations & Corporate Communications

## Program Curriculum

- Introduction to Marketing and Communications
  - Career Management for PR Practitioners
    - Writing for Public Relations 1 & 2
    - Applied Communications Research
- Performance Techniques for Media Relations
  - Introduction to Public Relations
  - Communication Design and Technology
    - Social Media Technology for PR
      - Special Events Planning
    - Strategic Communications Planning
    - Public Relations and Philanthropy
      - Issues and Crisis Management
        - Internal Communications
          - Work Placement

### PANEL ON RESEARCH ETHICS

Navigating the ethics of human research

## **TCPS 2: CORE 2022**

# Certificate of Completion

This document certifies that

## Catriona Berry

successfully completed the Course on Research Ethics based on the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS 2: CORE 2022)

Certificate # 0000841567

**9 September, 2022**