



**GLOCAL**  
FOUNDATION OF CANADA

2022

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

# CONNECT WITH GLOCAL

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# ABOUT US

A decorative graphic in the top right corner consisting of a purple circle on the left and a network diagram on the right. The network diagram features a central node connected to several other nodes, with lines radiating outwards. The nodes are represented by small blue circles, and the lines are white. The background of the network diagram is a light purple color.

Established by a group of young Canadians from across the country, **GLOCAL** is a national not-for-profit organization that promotes civic awareness through local engagement and global understanding in Canada. We currently have offices in Ottawa, Vancouver and Winnipeg.

The four pillars of our activities are **youth engagement**, **digital citizenship**, **accessibility of civic information**, and **knowledge mobilization**.

Our flagship project, **YouCount.ca**, promotes **digital citizenship** by hosting online profiles of political representatives at three levels of government and offering quality, non-partisan resources on topics of interest to Canadians.

The goal of our digital initiatives and community outreach is to improve the infrastructure and accessibility of public information, in an effort to **combat misinformation**, **information overload**, and **low-information rationality** in the digital age.

# RESEARCH & PUBLIC EDUCATION

## MITACS-funded Research Project: Understanding Local Governance in Canada

Since 2019, more than 15 researchers have been working to assemble foundational information about our democratic institutions and political representatives at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels for access on YouCount.ca. This year, we concentrated particularly on the municipal aspect of this research and focused our efforts on one of the most complicated features of our federal system—local governance.

The realization of a significant knowledge gap in local governance was the impetus for our multi-year research plan, which commenced this year with a survey of the different local governance structures across Canada and a brief discussion of the implications for civic engagement at the local level.

Funded by the MITACS Accelerate program, this project was executed by a team of 10 student researchers from the University of British Columbia with advisory support from Professor Fred Cutler of the Political Science department.



### **Ask Eager Beaver**

Ask Eager Beaver is a feature of Youcount.ca that allows users to submit questions about Canadian government and politics to a “Frequently Asked Questions” collection, with the most popular and salient questions to be sent out to primary sources for trusted answers. So far, we have received high-quality answers from civil servants and academics, and have supplemented these with in-house research where an appropriate primary source was someone we had on hand (e.g. a political scientist specializing in the appropriate topic).

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Recently, we have expanded from questions about democratic institutions such as elections and Parliament to systems navigation questions about government departments our users may need to interact with, like immigration for students and newcomers in general, elections agencies for overseas Canadians, and various other departments responsible for everything from healthcare to ID. The goal of Ask Eager Beaver is to demystify institutions for curious audiences who may want to know but are unsure of how or whom to ask.

”  
**What are you  
curious about?**



## Legislative Updates

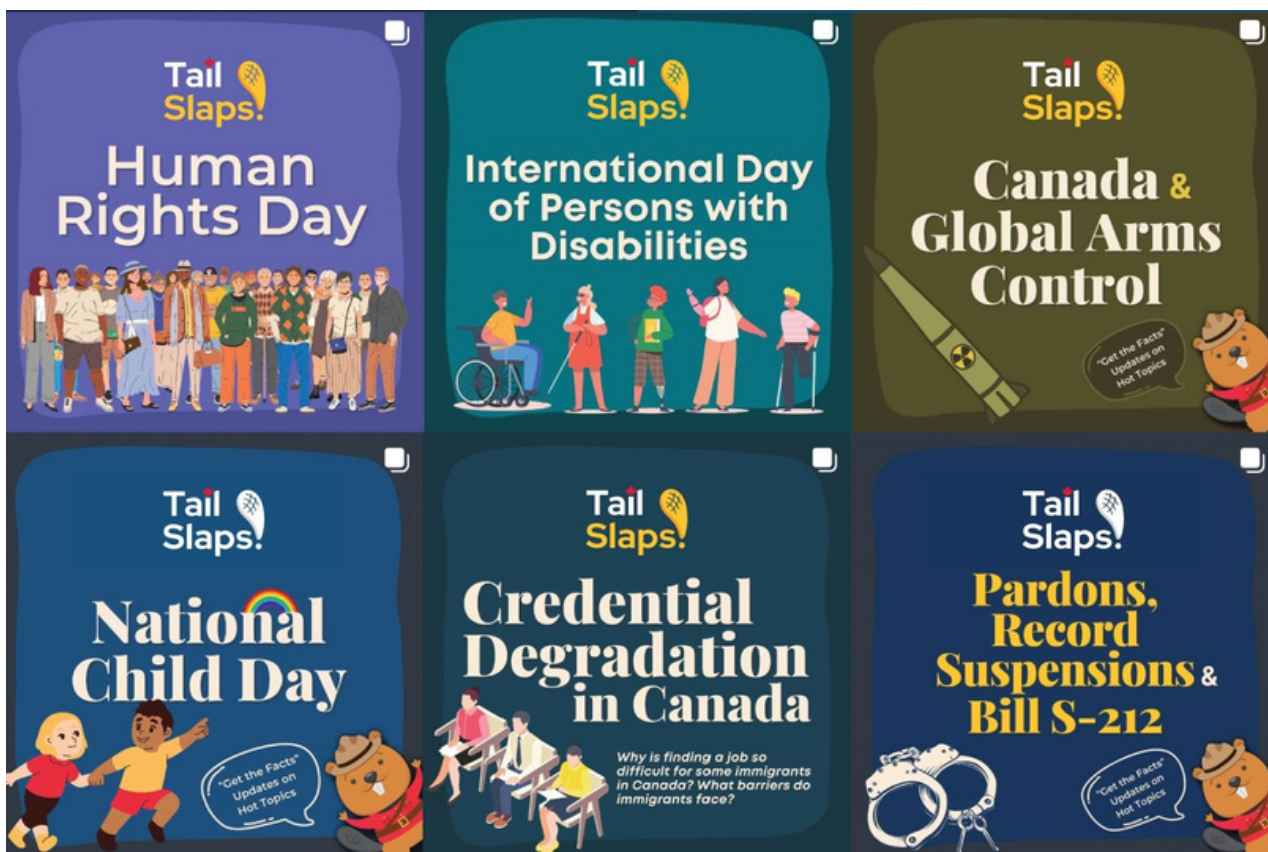
We established a schedule for weekly posts about what Canadian legislatures have been up to. Beginning by documenting major legislative activity in the House of Commons and the Senate once a week, with a deeper dive into a single piece of legislation, we have recently expanded to cover subnational legislatures as well.

Occasionally, these updates are paired with brief educational content about a procedure or event that has happened in a legislature recently, such as a motion of unanimous consent in the House of Commons, or the meaning of pro forma bills.



## Tail Slaps!

In 2022, we began Tail Slaps!, a series of informational posts on social media that cover hot topics and salient issues in Canada as they occur in real-time. Following the objectives of our Educational Posts and Legislative Updates, these posts serve as explainers of current and commemorative events for Canadian public interest.





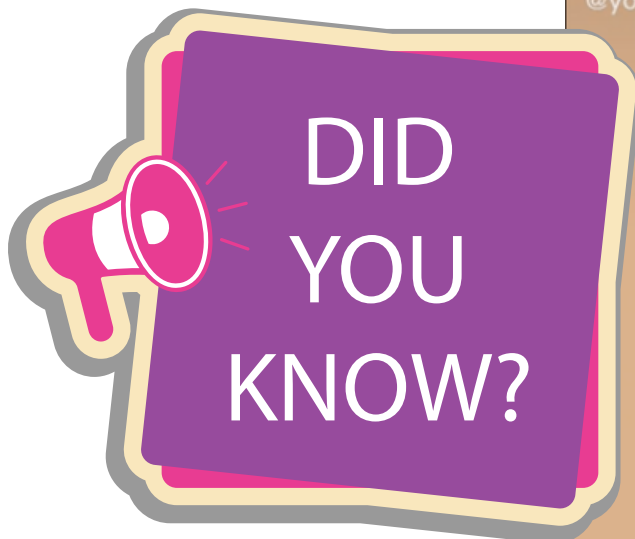
## Quick Bites

In 2022, we began preparing content for a series of explainers—either short text pieces or scripts to be read for audio(visual) presentations. Like Ask Eager Beaver questions, they take a concept or topic in Canadian politics and offer a brief explanation. These also include quick explainers of ideas from political science, like partisanship or strategic voting, and make them accessible to the average reader (or listener or viewer). We look forward to operationalizing these explainers for public consumption in 2023.



## Trivia

Both for specific occasions (like holidays or outreach events) and in order to keep a general vault of fun facts and 'Did You Know?' content, we collected trivia appropriate to various topics of Canadian politics, government and history. These ranged from quirky coincidences to interesting statistical data points.



## Monthly Commemorations

Acknowledging various commemorative months and days in Canada, our Research Team curated trivia, historical highlights, and statistics on Canadians who are celebrated in these commemorations, such as Asian Heritage Month, Pride Month, and National Indigenous History Month. These highlights were shared in our respective newsletters and on social media.

## Independent Research

Throughout 2022, our Research Team has conducted a series of deep dives into particular areas of interest on Canadian politics, including:

- Official communications to the public and multiple literacies
- Federalism and the division of powers in political practice
- Political theory as a grounder for digital civil society and the normative limits to a digital public square
- An overview of homelessness in Canada from a policy-oriented perspective

These research projects are also used to stock the library and generate future toolkits and other content.

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# Digital Outreach

## Flagship Project: [YouCount.ca](#)

Two years after its initial soft launch, we celebrated the second birthday of our online civic engagement platform—YouCount.ca!

Available in 109 languages, YouCount.ca is a one-stop digital platform for Canadians to navigate the country's political institutions with ease and engage directly with their representatives at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels.

### Find My Representatives

By entering their postcode or the name of a nearby landmark, users can access profiles with essential information about their political representatives at three levels of Canadian government. In 2022, we concentrate our efforts on collating a complete database of current political representatives at the municipal level YouCount.ca.

In 2023, we look forward to a complete listing of representatives for each municipality in Canada with corresponding data for an interactive boundary map, making it even easier for users to locate and interact with their representatives.

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We also look forward to engaging more political representatives to directly update their information on YouCount.ca and to use the platform as an engagement tool with their constituents and other interested Canadians.

### **Ask Eager Beaver**

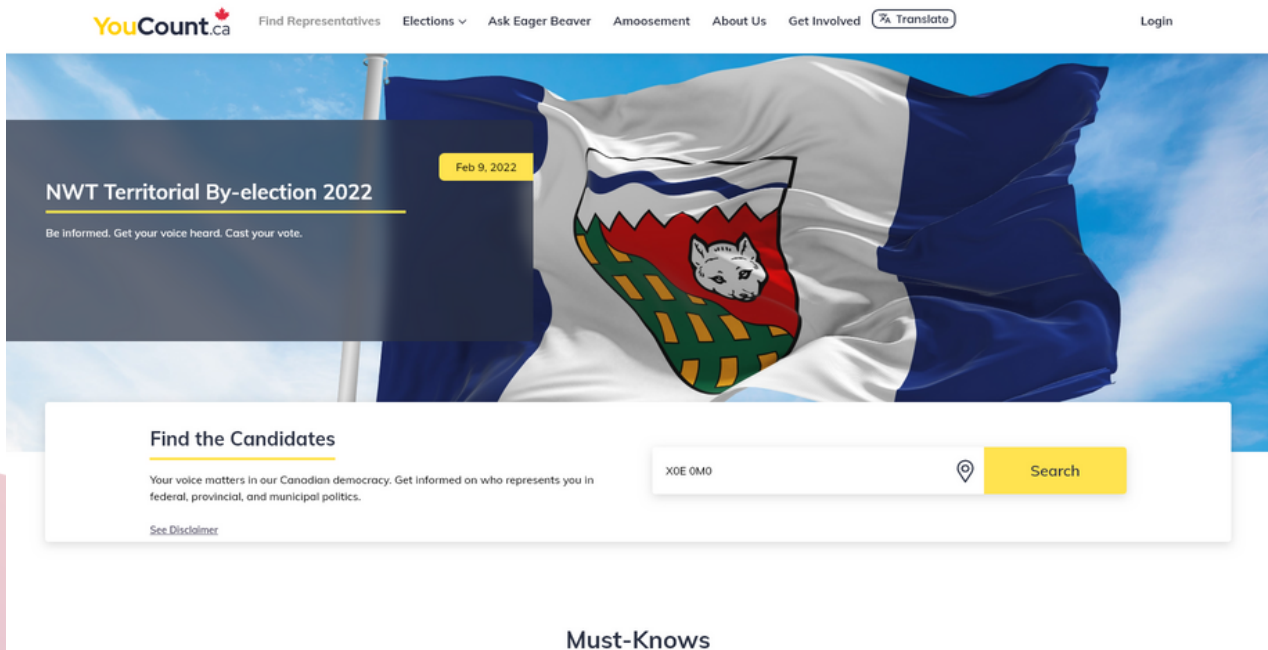
Ask Eager Beaver is a user-friendly feature on YouCount.ca that allows users to access information provided by primary sources on commonly-asked questions about Canadian politics, our democratic institutions, and other topics of Canadian interest. In 2021, Ask Eager Beaver was piloted to allow users to vote on questions of their interest—including the question, ‘what is a constitutional monarchy in the Canadian context’, which was submitted to Buckingham Palace by one of our members in London!

In 2022, we continued our outreach efforts to other primary sources with questions related to their field, which we look forward to curating on a new-and-improved version of Ask Eager Beaver throughout 2023. Through this feature, we seek to create an interactive platform for the public to engage directly with politicians, public officials, and academics.

## Election Modules (NWT Territorial By-Election; Ontario General Election)

In 2022, we had the opportunity to develop these modules further in our support of the territorial by-election in Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh (Northwest Territories) and Ontario’s 43rd general election.

By gathering publicly-available information on election candidates from campaign websites, social media platforms, and direct outreach, our comparison tool allowed users to compare candidates based on their biography, policy priorities, messages to constituents, and reasons for running in the election – basic information that is not easily accessible for many voters.



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## Most Visited Pages on YouCount.ca in 2022

Top 20-viewed politician profiles:

1. Tito-Dante Marimpietri [youcount.ca/representatives/15020](https://youcount.ca/representatives/15020)
2. John Sless [youcount.ca/representatives/13483](https://youcount.ca/representatives/13483)
3. Nathalie Ricard [youcount.ca/representatives/13215](https://youcount.ca/representatives/13215)
4. Kristina Tesser Derksen [youcount.ca/representatives/11334](https://youcount.ca/representatives/11334)
5. Justin Trudeau [youcount.ca/representatives/17099](https://youcount.ca/representatives/17099)
6. Tom Osborne [youcount.ca/representatives/16472](https://youcount.ca/representatives/16472)
7. John Gray [youcount.ca/representatives/15022](https://youcount.ca/representatives/15022)
8. Andrew Parsons [youcount.ca/representatives/16436](https://youcount.ca/representatives/16436)
9. Rosemary McConkey [youcount.ca/representatives/15024](https://youcount.ca/representatives/15024)
10. Victor Pietrangelo [youcount.ca/representatives/16273](https://youcount.ca/representatives/16273)
11. Shawn Nason [youcount.ca/representatives/13194](https://youcount.ca/representatives/13194)
12. Jason Luan [youcount.ca/representatives/11665](https://youcount.ca/representatives/11665)
13. Tony Wakeham [youcount.ca/representatives/16467](https://youcount.ca/representatives/16467)
14. Clifford Small [youcount.ca/representatives/17081](https://youcount.ca/representatives/17081)
15. Bob Chapman [youcount.ca/representatives/15023](https://youcount.ca/representatives/15023)
16. Craig Pardy [youcount.ca/representatives/16435](https://youcount.ca/representatives/16435)
17. John Dunstall [youcount.ca/representatives/12046](https://youcount.ca/representatives/12046)
18. John Horgan [youcount.ca/representatives/410](https://youcount.ca/representatives/410)
19. Honourable Ernie Hudson [youcount.ca/representatives/1519](https://youcount.ca/representatives/1519)
20. Steve Crocker [youcount.ca/representatives/16439](https://youcount.ca/representatives/16439)



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## Social Media

In 2022, we maintained a social media presence as part of our goal of promoting civic awareness and digital citizenship. With a cross-platform approach to maximize user-engagement, we created content that spanned Instagram, Tik Tok, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

Expanding on our digital initiatives in 2021, our Educational Posts have continued to offer simple yet substantive 150-word explanations of Canadian politics and our democratic institutions, while our Did You Know? series consists of fun facts and statistics from primary and/or peer-reviewed sources to pique users' interest in a greater civic effort. Our Research and Communications teams have continued to work closely together to present quick-and-easy updates in legislation at the provincial and federal levels for users to learn about and stay up-to-date on governmental processes in real-time. Legislative Updates offer insight into the process of creating laws, the stages and sponsors of certain bills, and what those updates may mean for different groups across Canada.

Our engagement with younger audiences using Tik Tok and other platforms has continued well in 2022. Our series, Where Am I? / Où Suis-Je? sees members of our team film a landmark or their surrounding

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landscape in Canada for audiences to guess the location. Encouraging users to pick up on context clues and to conduct their own research to identify the location featured in the video, this geolocation game allows users to learn more about parts of Canada they may be unfamiliar with, and to connect with other Canadians across the country!

In the fall of 2022, we piloted a new series titled Tail Slaps!, which covers hot topics and salient issues in Canada as they occur in real-time. This year, we curated information for public interest on the gendered impacts of COVID-19, the fourth vaccination against COVID-19, COVID-19 and its effect on the Supply Chain in Canada, the Opioid Crisis, the federal inquiry on the Emergencies Act in Canada, carbon capture in Canada, and Doug Ford and parliamentary privilege. Alongside these topics, we also acknowledged Canadian holidays in various commemorative days. Each post of this Tail Slaps! subgroup aims to explain the history and meaning of important days to deepen Canadians' understanding of our country's heritage. In 2022, we covered Canadian Thanksgiving, Persons Day, Halloween, Indigenous Veterans Day, and Remembrance Day.

## Instagram

### Top-Liked Posts in 2022:

1. Truth and Reconciliation Week 2022: Remembering the Children
2. Truth and Reconciliation Week 2022: How to Take Part
3. Where Am I? - Granville Island, Vancouver
4. Where Am I? - Bow Falls
5. Truth and Reconciliation Week 2022: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People
6. Did You Know? Traditionally, newly chosen Speakers of the House are physically “dragged” to the Speakers’ Chair
7. Navigating the Parliament Online
8. Truth and Reconciliation Week 2022: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
9. Educational: Who is the Speaker of the House of Commons?
10. Bill 227: The Turban Day Act - Legislative Assembly of Manitoba



**SCAN ME**

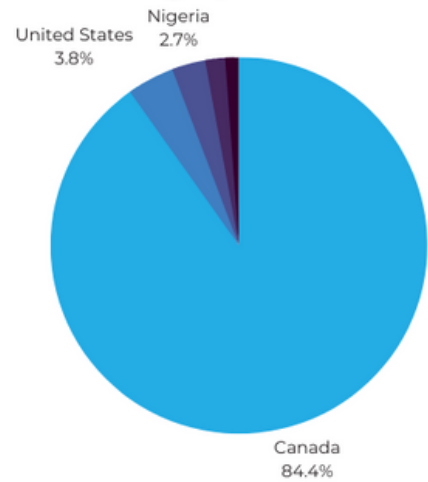


01

# TOP COUNTRIES OF OUR INSTAGRAM AUDIENCES

The pie chart below visualizes **YouCount.ca's** Instagram account's audience's demographics.

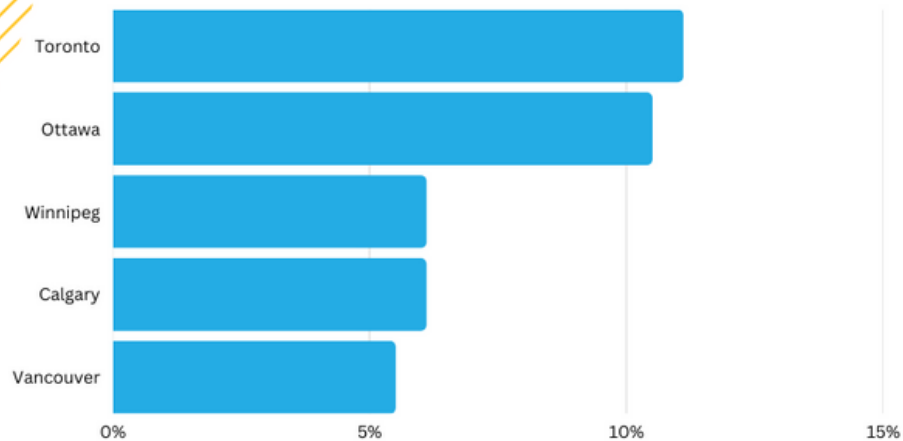
Countries	Percentage
Canada	84.4%
United States	3.8%
Nigeria	2.7%
Austria	1.6%
India	1.1%



02

# TOP CITIES OF OF OUR INSTAGRAM AUDIENCES

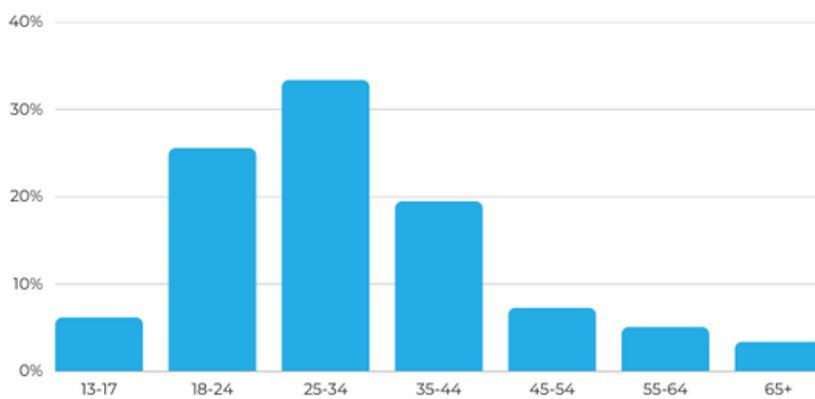
The graph below shows **YouCount.ca's** Instagram account's audience locations in Canada.



03

## AGE RANGE FOR INSTAGRAM

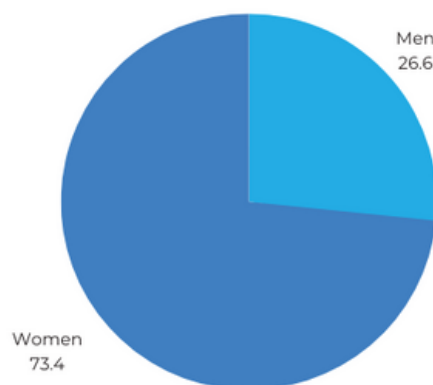
The graph below shows YouCount.ca's Instagram account's age demographic.



04

## GENDER OF OUR INSTAGRAM AUDIENCES

The graph below shows YouCount.ca's Instagram account's gender demographic.

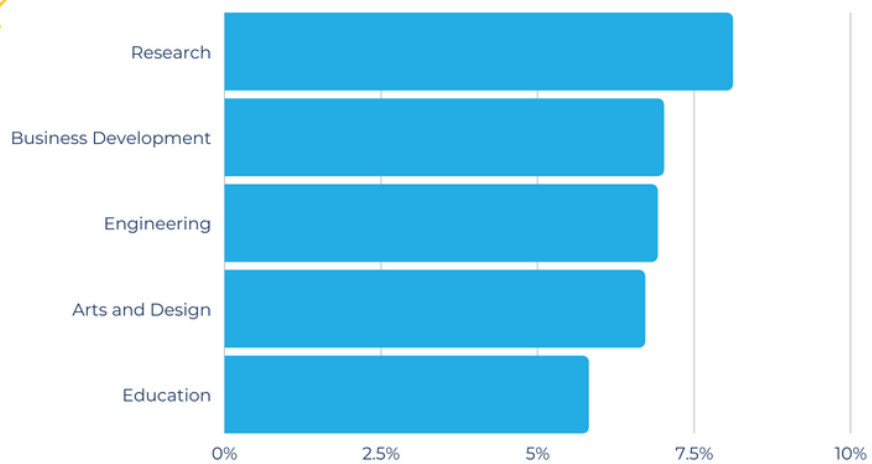


## LinkedIn

01

### JOB FUNCTION

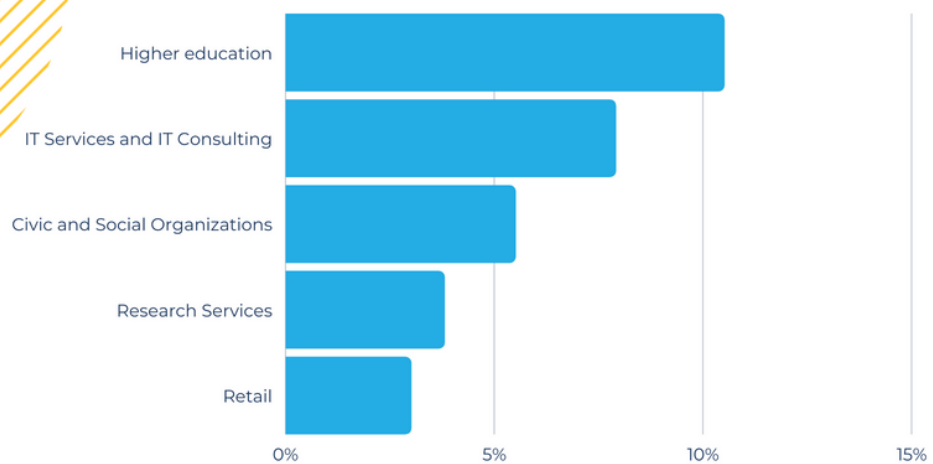
Top 5 job titles of GLOCAL Foundation of Canada's LinkedIn visitors and audiences.



02

### INDUSTRY

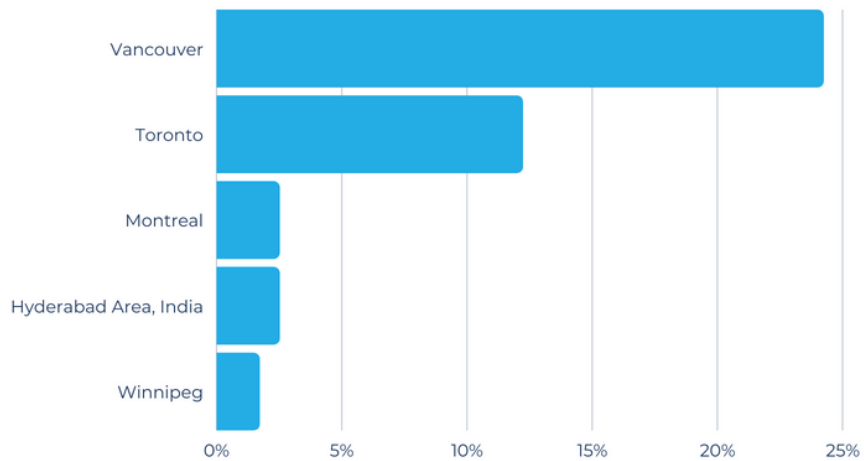
Top 5 industries of GLOCAL Foundation of Canada's LinkedIn visitors and audiences.



03

## LOCATION

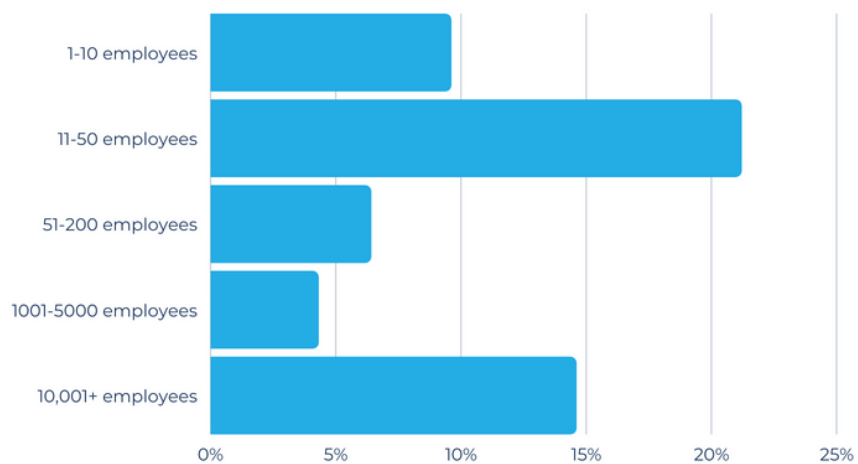
Top 5 cities of the visitors and audiences of GLOCAL Foundation of Canada's.



04

## COMPANY SIZE

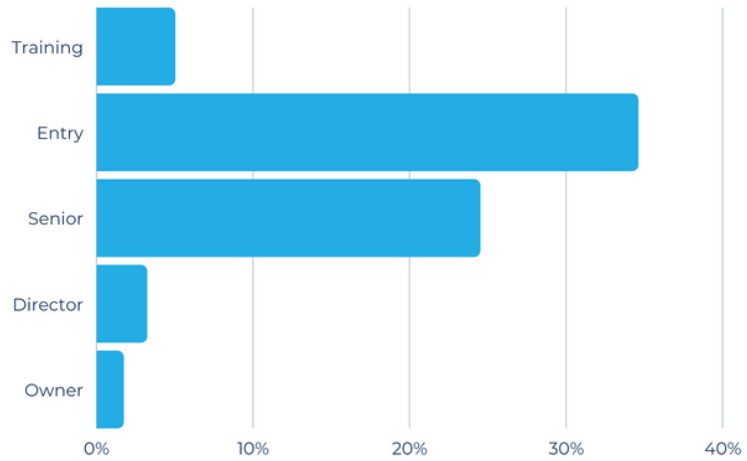
Top 5 company size of GLOCAL Foundation of Canada's LinkedIn visitors and audiences.



05

# SENIORITY

Top 5 seniorities of GLOCAL Foundation of Canada's LinkedIn visitors and audiences.



SCAN ME



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## Success with #YCTruthandReconciliationWeek2022

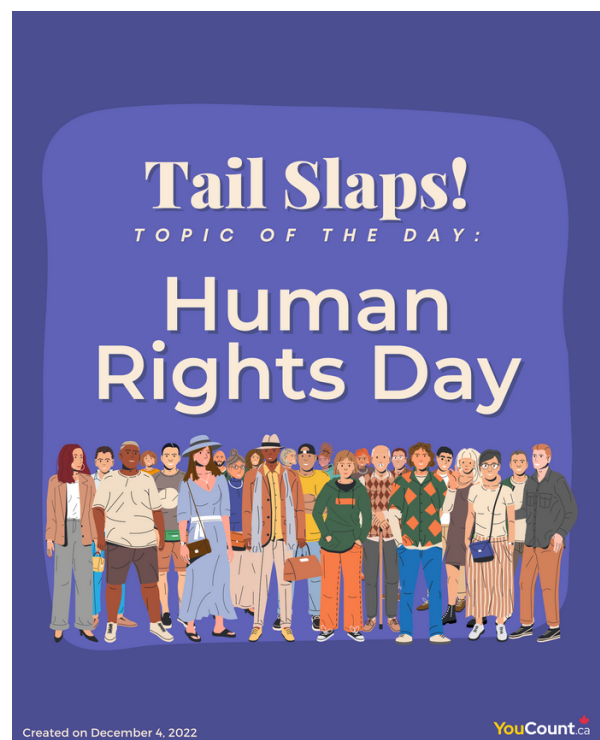
Our most successful campaign this year was a series of posts throughout Truth and Reconciliation Week 2022 covering the following topics about Indigenous matters:

- Truth and Reconciliation Week 2022: How to Take Part provides online and in-person resources for readers to learn more about Indigenous peoples in Canada, their history and ongoing struggles, and personal acts of reconciliation.
- What is Reconciliation? explores the definition of Reconciliation from the perspective of Indigenous writers and introduces the Principles of Truth and Reconciliation.

These post also establishes YouCount's commitment to upholding the tenth principle: "Reconciliation requires sustained public education and dialogue, including youth engagement, about the history and legacy of residential schools, Treaties, and Aboriginal rights, as well as the historical and contemporary contributions of Aboriginal peoples to Canadian society."



- The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples post discusses its purpose and importance to Indigenous peoples as well as the fraught timeline of its introduction to Canada.
- Remembering the Children sheds light on the horrors Indigenous children underwent in the Government of Canada's federally mandated Indian Residential School system. The post also provides age-appropriate resources for younger children to learn about Indigenous history.
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation explains the history behind its establishment. It also discusses Orange Shirt Day, a movement started by Phyllis Webstad years prior.



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## Newsletter

In January 2022, we launched our first monthly newsletter, which highlights curated research and data in coincidence with commemorative months and salient issues of Canadian public interest. These newsletters facilitate our efforts to improve the accessibility of information by bringing key insights directly to our subscribers' mailboxes. Among our subscribers are users of YouCount.ca and legislators, both of which are encouraged to share our curated research and data with their peers and constituents, respectively. Our newsletters also include updates at GLOCAL, including employment opportunities and the launch of new products and services to the public.

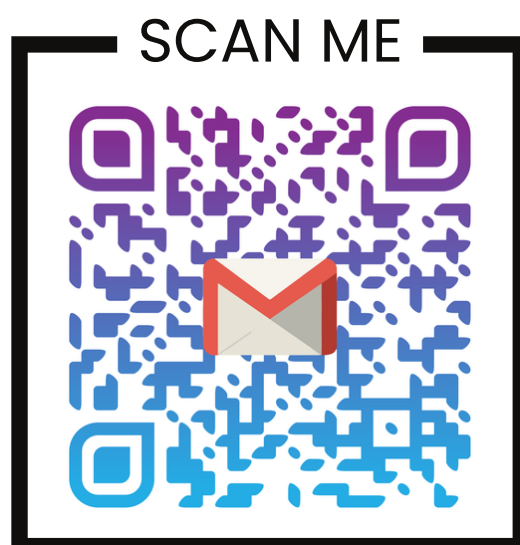
Our newsletter has proven to be an effective channel of communication with legislators, and we look forward to strengthening our outreach efforts with this tool in 2023.

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In 2022, we issued 9 newsletters to our audiences with staggering success in open rates.

Top 5 best-performing newsletters -

1. Commemorate Indigenous History Month With Your Constituents! Commémorez le Mois de l'histoire autochtone avec vos électeurs! (80.2% opens; 71.3% clicks)
2. Share your land acknowledgement with young Canadians in your riding! (64.2% opens; 51.8% clicks)
3. Commemorate Asian, Jewish, and Dutch Heritage With Your Constituents! Commémorez l'héritage asiatique, juif et néerlandais avec vos électeurs! (53.3% opens; 44.4% clicks)
4. Commemorate Pride Month With Your Constituents! Commémorez le mois de la fierté avec vos électeurs! (52% opens; 43.2% clicks)
5. GLOCAL – Virtual Employment and Volunteering Opportunities for Your Constituents! Opportunités virtuelles d'emploi et de bénévolat pour vos électeurs! (48.4% opens; 38.6% clicks)



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# Events & Programs

## LEGISTalk & Chamber Chatter

In 2022, we endeavored upon our previous ‘Invite My MP’ series to create two new segmental conversations with legislators—‘LEGISTalk’ invites legislators to speak about their sponsorship of a select bill and the implications it might have for Canadians, while ‘Chamber Chatter’ comprises of quick and fun questions to get to know the legislator a bit. These conversations allow young Canadians to understand the role of legislators and their work, while also supporting legislators in digitizing their traditional outreach with our virtual, non-partisan interviews.

## GLOCAL Roundtable Luncheon for National Indigenous History Month at UBC

In May 2022, we hosted a roundtable luncheon at UBC’s School of Public Policy and Global Affairs in early commemoration of National Indigenous History Month. With legislators, UBC staff, and GLOCAL team members in attendance, this event strived to facilitate an open dialogue on how young Canadians and immigrants can be better informed on Indigenous matters and better empowered to be active participants in reconciliation.

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## C-Dem Forum on Electoral Democracy at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy

In May 2022, two of our members represented GLOCAL at the annual C-Dem Forum on Electoral Democracy at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy (University of Toronto). C-Dem (The Consortium on Electoral Democracy/Consortium de la démocratie électorale) is a dynamic research network across Canada that addresses urgent questions about political engagement, underrepresentation, levels of government, the evolution of public opinion between and across elections, and data collection practices with an evidence-based, cooperative approach to studying electoral democracy, during federal elections as well as sub-nationally and between elections. As partners of C-Dem, our representing attendees had the opportunity to share GLOCAL's efforts throughout the past year and lend their input to C-Dem's prospective initiatives.

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# Funding

GLOCAL is funded by founder contributions, private donations and grants. In the past year, we received funding from the following sources:

## MITACS

MITACS Accelerate is Canada's premier research internship program. It connects companies with over 50 research-based universities through graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, who apply their specialized expertise to business challenges. Interns transfer their skills from theory to real-world application, while the companies gain a competitive advantage by accessing high-quality research expertise. Open to all disciplines and industry sectors, projects can span a wide range of areas, including manufacturing, technical innovation, business processes, IT, social sciences, design, and more.

Result: Successful, with funding for 10 student interns at the University of British Columbia.

## Canada Summer Jobs

CSJ is a program under Youth Employment and Skills Strategy, which aims to provide flexible and holistic services to help all young Canadians develop

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The CSJ program objectives align with the redesigned Youth Employment and Skills Strategy and are as follows: provide quality work experiences for youth, respond to national and local priorities to improve access to the labour market for youth who face unique barriers, provide opportunities for youth to develop and improve their skills. The program provides wage subsidies to employers from not-for-profit organizations, the public sector, and private sector organizations with 50 or fewer full-time employees, to create quality summer work experiences for young people aged 15 to 30 years.

Result: Successful, with funding for 6 positions. This was our second year receiving funding from CSJ, and we hope to receive funding again in 2023. These positions function well as ‘probationary’ positions as a means to build understanding and trust between ourselves and new employees.

## **Innovate BC**

The Innovator Skills Initiative is designed to increase diversity in the tech sector and help B.C.-based businesses fill talent shortages and grow. The program provides grants to employers that are hiring for tech or tech-related roles. The program aims to help more under-represented people get their first job in the tech sector by ensuring

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placements for under-represented people are available. Employers will offer valuable paid work experience to prepare individuals for ongoing employment.

Digital Skills for Youth (DS4Y) is a program funded by the Federal Government of Canada through Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), that aims to match underemployed youth with small to medium-sized businesses (SMBs) and not-for-profit organizations to provide meaningful work experience to support their successful transition to career-oriented employment in the digital economy or with digital skills. Applicant organizations are eligible for a grant that covers the full wage of a Youth Intern (Intern) to create employment opportunities for youth to build digital skills essential for the digital economy. A training stipend is also provided to support youth in developing digital skills through the course of the placement.

Result: Successful, with funding for two employees (one employee funded by the Innovator Skills Initiative and one employee funded by the Digital Skills for Youth Program).

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# The GLOCAL Team

## Testimonials

“Working as a research assistant at GLOCAL gave me the freedom to develop projects related to interesting areas of political inquiry. This placement emphasized collaboration amongst researchers to improve the quality of created content, whether being individual tasks or complex, integrated projects. More surprisingly, this placement also encouraged me to develop improved management strategies, specifically in regards to team collaboration, recruitment, and content creation. The management and research team at GLOCAL has fostered an accepting, creative, and collaborative work environment.”

— Jack Campbell, Research Assistant

“My experience as the Indigenous Community Engagement office was a valuable experience and I enjoyed it very much! I learned quite a bit on Indigenous matters, especially with regard to their cuisine, residential schools, the truth and reconciliation commission, and Indigenous literature and media. I have gained extensive skills working with google spreadsheets and creating infographics, which are still a work in progress.

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as well, it was enjoyable to hear about other members' projects and their ideas during management meetings. Attending the guest speakers workshops was also informative, and I am looking forward to attending more in the future. Overall, I am quite happy with my CSJ experience at GLOCAL thus far and I am looking forward to continuing my work and supporting in any way I can."

— Allison Cadigal, Indigenous Community Engagement Officer

"The CSJ program in collaboration with the GLOCAL Foundation of Canada was a great learning opportunity during my academic years as an undergraduate student. Not only did it enable me to expand on my research and analytical skills that I had begun developing during my academic career at the University of Waterloo, but also allowed me to work with other individuals from varying educational backgrounds, in a shared and open environment where all thoughts and ideas were welcome.

I began working on smaller projects such as the Anti-Discrimination & Indigenous Matters Toolkit. Through such projects, I was able to hone my research skills by conducting literature reviews of various gray literature sources focusing on topics

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related to Internalized Bigotry, Lateral Violence, and the Model Minority Myth for both marginalized populations and Indigenous Peoples. As part of the CSJ program, my volunteer experience allowed me to continue this research to promote on our social media platforms while also investigating my own avenue of data collection and analysis with regards to past Canadian election results. As part of the program, I was able to develop and share my own research project with the team, identifying various patterns and trends for analysis and working alongside other team members to integrate various datasets for election forecasting. Ultimately my journey with the team in GLOCAL allowed me to refine my research and analytical skills in a manner that was beneficial to my growth and flexible enough to both cater to my interests while also challenging myself through new avenues I have never worked with before. In addition to the skills and experiences that I was able to develop during my time in the CSJ program with GLOCAL, I fully advocate for the remote learning model which was implemented to support the team. Not only did the remote learning model add additional flexibility for both students and staff to collaborate on projects with ease, but it also promoted diversity amongst team members by allowing individuals from all over Canada to share their experiences and political

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knowledge with regards to civic engagement. Many team members took the initiative to describe both the municipal and provincial standards from their respective locations providing deeper insight and expansive knowledge to educate others who may not be as familiar with their jurisdictions. Not only was I able to understand various perspectives of team members who came from different provinces and territories, but also various multicultural experiences of team members. This brought tremendous value to my learning experience as a research assistant as I was able to understand the diverse range of languages, religions and heritage which embody Canada and what it represents for all Canadians amongst the nation. Overall, my experience in GLOCAL was a transformative process thanks to a supportive team which allowed me to flourish in all aspects of my work. The skills that I was able to develop at GLOCAL with the CSJ program currently allow me to excel in my current workplace at the City of Toronto, where I continue to interact with many stakeholders and develop strong relationships with community members and political representatives.”

— Mohammed Sakib Wasif, Research Assistant

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“Working under the CSJ program at GLOCAL was a tremendously rewarding and a fulfilling experience.

During my term, as the Overseas Canadians Engagement Officer, I was able to make significant contributions pertaining to Canadian expatriate engagement by means of developing comprehensive databases; identifying concerns and issues of current expatriates; exploring ways on how Canada and Canadian organizations can improve their support and engagement with overseas Canadians; etc. I also had the pleasure of creating an e-Toolkit for Canadian expatriates designed to facilitate the process of voting overseas, including relevant steps and tips.

Overall, my aim during my role was to improve overseas Canadians’ access to Canadian issues and events as well as their involvement with Canadian matters such as voting and other forms of civic engagement.

Further, during the duration of my CSJ role, I was given exceptional guidance from my supervisor Faye, as well as from my fellow colleagues whom I collaborated with, received feedback from, and was provided with encouragement and support. I was also given the tools and resources I needed to help successfully accomplish my aims as the Overseas Canadians Engagement Officer.

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On the whole, working under the CSJ program was an extremely enjoyable, memorable, and fulfilling experience. I greatly appreciate the opportunities given to me to play my part in helping other Canadians stay connected with their home country. I would love to be involved in a similar capacity again and I would also recommend anyone to join the CSJ program with GLOCAL to make their summer all the more rewarding and impactful.”

— Dena Sharafdin, Overseas Canadians Engagement Officer

“My time with the GLOCAL Foundation of Canada was an incredible opportunity that came at the perfect time in life and career journey. As an Indigenous Community Engagement Officer I was able to build relationships with Indigenous communities, organizations, experts and stakeholders to better educational content and the organization itself. What I enjoyed most about this role was the flexibility and trust that GLOCAL provided me to determine my own deliverables, outcomes and projects. The organization provides each employee with their own platform to do good, and this is something I admire about GLOCAL. As GLOCAL is a remote non-profit it is an incredible platform to bring together people from various locations, backgrounds and aspirations.

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As a team we met weekly to provide updates, feedback and decide on operational strategies. Everyone's opinion was valued and taken seriously during these team sessions. Beyond the job description, GLOCAL allowed for personal and skill development alongside work. The organization is keen to engage their employees both by their interests personally and the nature of their work. An organization like GLOCAL will succeed as it is changing with the new way of the workforce and employing those who have a genuine interest in their cause."

— Jerina Forestall, Indigenous Community Engagement Officer

"This is my second consecutive summer internship working with GLOCAL, both of which have generously been funded by the CSJ program. During the summer of 2021, I had the privilege of working as a Research Assistant, and now have the pleasure of being back in 2022 as a Compliance Officer. As a Research Assistant, I was given the opportunity to tailor my research to my academic background and interests. As such, I completed two e-toolkits regarding Canada's judicial system and building public trust in the non-profit sector respectively. This summer, I had the opportunity to expand on my judicial system e-toolkit, and

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designed a more extensive project meant to introduce Canadians to the judicial system, including a large bank of legal resources and information regarding each court.

Having just completed my first year of law school, my work responsibilities have evolved to coincide with my new areas of scholarly interest. As a Compliance Officer, my work focuses on ensuring that GLOCAL's activities are in compliance with federal and provincial election laws. I have also had the opportunity to explore areas of work that I had not previously been introduced to, such as applying to grants. I am grateful for the wide variety of tasks I have been assigned, as well as the various competencies I have developed throughout my two summers at GLOCAL.

One of the main factors that has allowed me to thrive has been GLOCAL's remote work environment. During both my CSJ internships with GLOCAL, team communication has occurred primarily through workplace management channels such as Lark. In addition, all GLOCAL employees and interns attend a daily team meeting where we share the projects we're working on and our progress, which has enabled me to get to know my peers and stay accountable. Given that GLOCAL's mandate serves all Canadians, the remote work environment

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has been essential, as it allows individuals from every corner of the country to participate without many of the accessibility barriers such as costs of relocating to an expensive city. GLOCAL also uses a variety of tools, in addition to our daily check-in meeting, to ensure that we are meeting our goals. For example, we fill in a daily work journal listing the tasks we complete and the time we spend, as well as use digital tools such as Click-Up. The combination has allowed me to maintain high levels of productivity while remaining independent.”

— Nina Russell, Compliance Officer



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We'd love to hear from you!



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