AKFC Moving the Needle: Reimagining Canada's Development and Humanitarian Engaement

Featured Speakers



Opening Remarks: Valerie Percival, Associate Professor and Associate Director, NPSIA, Carleton University

Valerie Percival (MA DrPH) is an Associate Professor at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA) at Carleton University and a Fellow at the Wilson Center. Her research focuses on the interrelationships among health, gender, and peace and violence. She is a Commissioner for The Lancet Commission on Peaceful Societies through Health Equity and Gender Equality and has led the research and writing of the Commission Report.



Moderator: Kate Higgins, Chief Executive Officer, Cooperation Canada

Kate Higgins is the Chief Executive Officer of Cooperation Canada, a network of more than 100 Canadian international cooperation and humanitarian organizations. Previously, she served as the Deputy Executive Director of Oxfam Canada, in addition to serving as Interim Executive Director in 2020. Kate has also worked in senior strategy and policy roles at CIVICUS, the North-South Institute, and the Overseas Development Institute. Kate started her career at the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), and she has degrees in economics and development studies from the University of Sydney and the University of Oxford.



Panelist: Yiagadeesen (Teddy) Samy, Director and Professor of International Affairs, NPSIA, Carleton University

Teddy Y. Samy is the Director and a Full Professor at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University. An economist by training, his current research interests include fragile states, domestic resource mobilization, foreign aid, trade and women's economic empowerment, and deindustrialization and income inequality.



Panelist: Chinelo Agom-Eze, Senior Policy Advisor, Canadian Foodgrains Bank

Chinelo is a Senior Policy Advisor working with Canadian Foodgrains Bank on food assistance and nexus issues. She's trained as a lawyer, has a Master's degree in International Studies and Diplomacy, and a PhD in law. She has worked in the international development space for about 8 years. Prior to joining the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, she worked as a Humanitarian Diplomacy Advisor with the International Committee of the Red Cross in diplomatic relations with the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States.



Panelist: Robert Greenhill, Executive Chair, Global Canada

Robert Greenhill is Executive Chair of Global Canada, an NGO focused on enhancing Canada's positive global impact, and Senior Fellow at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI). Previous roles include Federal Deputy Minister and President of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); President of the International Group of Bombardier Inc.; Managing Director and Chief Business Officer of the World Economic Forum; Brookings Nonresident Senior Fellow; and Professor of Practice at McGill University.



Panelist: Louise Holt, Former Director General, Global Affairs Canada

Louise is a former senior executive with over 30 years in Canadian public service. As Director General for Social Development at Global Affairs Canada, she played a key role in advancing the Feminist International Assistance Policy and the \$300M Partnership for Gender Equality. With expertise in gender equality, sexual and reproductive health, child protection, health and education in development, Louise remains engaged in working with people and organizations to foster leadership and organizational effectiveness.

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