

# School of Public Policy and Administration

## NEWSLETTER

March 2022 – Volume 10, Issue 9

### MPPAL Update



**MPPAL student Paula Tablon Modica** presented her MRP poster at the [Canadian Health & Wellbeing in Developmental Disabilities Virtual Conference](#) (February 9-10, 2022). At this conference, Paula presented her MRP as a research poster entitled, ***Advisory perspectives of co-creating a Canadian autism mental health literacy resource: A preliminary qualitative analysis***. This work primarily focuses on stakeholder engagement experiences. Specifically, the research is looking at autistic adults' and caregivers' experiences of co-creating national mental health literacy resources and participating in a national mental health promotion project. The CHWDD Conference brought together professionals from different fields (e.g., health care, research, community, administrators, education, policy) working to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities across the lifespan, related to health, mental health and well-being.

Paula also participated in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Knowledge Now initiative launched in 2021, highlighting the diverse and cutting-edge graduate research from York University's 10 Faculties. This initiative features short interviews with nominated Master and Doctoral-level students to share their research and how their research can impact society. Paula and other scholars are spotlighted on the [Knowledge Now website](#).

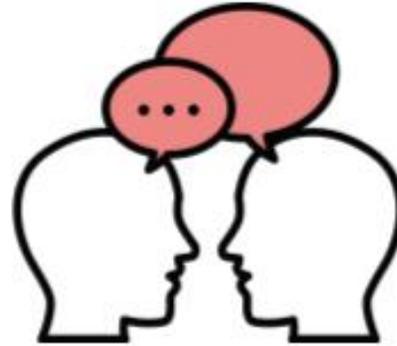
*“In January 2022, I had the privilege of participating in the 2022 Knowledge Now initiative after being nominated by the Masters of Public Policy, Administration and Law's Graduate Program Director, Dr. Naomi Couto. I showcased my interdisciplinary Major Research Paper (Supervisor: Dr. Jonathan Weiss, Faculty of Health - Psychology Department) through a recorded interview exploring stakeholder engagement experiences of autistic adults and caregivers in a national mental health literacy promotion project ([Autism Mental Health Literacy Project](#)). With support from Dr. Couto, I can bridge my autism research work and academic pursuit in MPPAL in ways that I did not know were possible. The opportunity to represent the MPPAL and disseminate the work I've been involved in over the past two years is very humbling. It also encourages me to continue working on projects that promote the well-being of priority populations.” – Paula Tablon Modica*

## MPPAL Update

For the second year in a row, York MPPAL students competed virtually in the CAPP/PA National Public Administration Case competition. Carleton University officially hosted, although the competition took place via Zoom due to COVID-19. Five outstanding students (Gillian Wassmansdorf, Lauren Dranitsaris, Gurkamal Dhahan, Arman Hamidan and Maggie de Barra) proudly represented York, finishing tied-fourth among 14 others from across Canada. Professor Zac Spicer coached the team for the first time this year.



The case this year focused on rough sleeping and homeless encampments. York's team was praised for their forward thinking approach to the policy problem and the way in which they humanized the complex challenges that encampment residents confront on a daily basis. The judges were particularly struck by the team's focus on data collection, stabilizing the health, safety and sanitary conditions of encampments and building supportive pathways for encampment residents to move to permanent housing.



THE PPASA and UPSC Proudly Presents:

## **LEFT MEETS RIGHT**

Engage in an Evening of Open Dialogue

Thursday, March 31, 2022  
Time: 7pm – 9pm via Zoom

Register through the link:

<https://tinyurl.com/leftmeetsright2022>

## York University Security Services Review

Recently the Vice President, Finance and Administration (VPFA) shared that York University is undertaking a review of its security services to develop an alternative delivery model to create a safe community for all. This is a forward-looking, community driven review which will utilize consultations with the York community to develop concrete actions for change. We have been appointed by the VPFA to help lead this process. Our team is made up of York students, faculty and staff who have diverse expertise and lived experiences to bring to this review. In addition, an external consultant, Dr. Shaheen Azmi, has been hired to support this review. The VPFA's announcement, which includes a full description of our team, can be found [here](#).

We are writing to invite you to participate and to help us in advancing this critical work.

This review will take an anti-racist, justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion lens. The Security Services Review is a commitment within the University's [Action Plan on Black Inclusion](#) and reflects similar work across the country, as described in the [Scarborough Charter on Anti-Black Racism and Black Inclusion in Canadian Higher Education](#).

To enable engagement and participation from the York community, a multi-faceted engagement and consultation process will take place over winter-spring 2022. The process will include written submissions, focus groups, town halls and small group meetings. You can learn more about the security services review by visiting our [website](#).

To support you in the consultation process, a [consultation brief](#) has been prepared. The brief provides background information and context for the review, it also includes guided questions to aid you in providing concrete recommendations.

Below are the various channels through which consultations will take place. If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to reach out at [securityreview@yorku.ca](mailto:securityreview@yorku.ca).

### **Written Submissions**

You can send your feedback directly to the secure email [securityreview@yorku.ca](mailto:securityreview@yorku.ca). Any personal information shared will be kept confidential; feedback will be aggregated in the final report (see [privacy statement](#)). If you wish, you can write directly to Dr. Shaheen Azmi in confidence at [securityreview@yorku.ca](mailto:securityreview@yorku.ca). Please include Dr. Azmi's name in the subject line of your email and your submission will be sent directly to him.

Submissions will be accepted up until 11.59 p.m., April 15, 2022.

**New College Financial Series Proudly Presents:  
“The Importance of Filing a Tax Return”**



There are a number of tax rules that can help offset the cost of university as well as a number of social benefit programs delivered through the tax system. But you can only access these funds if you file a tax return.

**Professor Joanne Magee will talk about the importance of filing a tax return every year even if you don't owe tax.**

Joanne Magee has been a York University faculty member since 1991 and is cross-appointed to the School of Public Policy and Administration and the School of Administrative Studies where she teaches Canadian tax law. She is a Fellow of CPA Ontario, a former member of CPA Canada's Income Tax Education Committee and a former Governor of the Canadian Tax Foundation. Her research interests are personal tax and tax for incorporated small businesses.

**Tuesday March 22, 2022  
2:45pm - 4:00pm**

**Everyone welcome**

Register at: <https://www.yorku.ca/newcol/forms/view.php?id=170>

**(You will receive the ZOOM link the day before the event)**

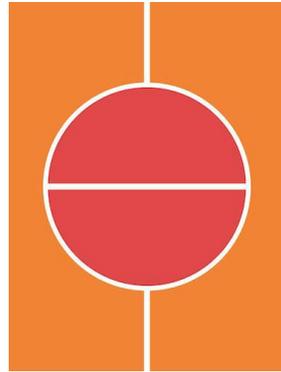
Should you have any questions, please email [lmyrie@yorku.ca](mailto:lmyrie@yorku.ca)

## McLaughlin College Lunch Time Talk

### Pandemic Policy-Making: Incomplete Science and Political Decision-Making?

Presented by  
Herschell Ezrin

Wednesday, March 16th, 2022 from 12:30pm to 1:30pm, via Zoom  
[Registration](#)



In responding to the current pandemic, Canadian politicians have been regularly counselled to ‘follow the science’, even when being asked to make numerous policy decisions based on incomplete or ever-changing information. This advice serves two different masters: the best possible public health outcomes as well as political cover for incumbent governments. But the changing course in mid-stream often undermines public trust, undercuts public willingness to follow rules, and may actually serve to harm desired health outcomes. This lecture will explore how the current pandemic has highlighted the challenges for political policymakers and discuss how their unique leadership role requires a delicate balance of expectations between science and politics.



Herschell Ezrin, OOnt is Senior Fellow of Advocacy, Public Affairs and Strategic Communications at Global Public Affairs. He is a former senior public servant in Ottawa, Canadian diplomat and senior political adviser for three levels of government. He is a former CEO of two multinational companies. Hershell is also a former corporate director in the energy, financial services and service sectors and a leader in health, arts and community affairs. He currently lectures in two post-graduate programs, is a Distinguished Fellow, Strategy at Ryerson's Ted Rogers School of Management; Senior Fellow, Ted Rogers Leadership Centre; Professor, Government Relations at Seneca@York and is an honorary lifetime governor of the Canadian Journalism Foundation. He was named to the Order of Ontario in 2021

## 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Osgoode Constitutional Cases Conference

Friday April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 | 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM EST via Zoom

[Register](#)



### Keynote

Dr. Linda Colley  
Shelby M.C Davis 1958  
Professor of History Princeton

Author of *The Gun, the Ship, and the Pen: Warfare, Constitutions, and the Making of the Modern World* (2021)

### About this event

Given that the pandemic has required us to move this year's conference online, we have, gain, eliminated registration fees for this year.

We are looking forward to reconvening in person next year, even as we recognize some of the virtues of virtual conferences.

A preliminary program is available on our [website](#).

## Consultation: Ontario's anti-racism strategic plan review

Submit your feedback to help eliminate systemic racism and ensure racism and hate never limit social and economic opportunities for people in Ontario.

The Government of Ontario has launched a review of [A Better Way Forward: Ontario's Anti-Racism Strategic Plan](#), that was released on March 7, 2017.

A fundamental part of this review will be consulting with the public on the progress of the strategy (please see annual [progress report](#) for details) and on policy priorities impacting Indigenous, Black, Jewish, Muslim and other racialized communities, including **inclusive economic empowerment, addressing racially motivated hate and supporting children & youth.**

Public input and feedback from community leaders and organizations will inform Ontario's future anti-racism initiatives and advance racial equity.

The Anti-Racism Directorate (ARD) will be working in partnership with community organizations and leaders to ensure that the review is inclusive and that populations most adversely impacted are meaningfully engaged. This is a critical time for the anti-racism community in Ontario and much work remains to be done. The review will ensure that the province continues to uphold its commitment to address the impacts of systemic racism, and that all children, youth and families in Ontario are able to achieve their aspirations.

More information can be found on [Ontario.ca](#). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the ARD team at [ARDReview@ontario.ca](mailto:ARDReview@ontario.ca).

## [Policy, Research and Communications Internship - Canadian Children's Literacy Foundation](#)

CCLF is seeking two interns to contribute to their growing and evolving literacy agenda. This role will provide an opportunity to work with their Communications Team and Programs Team on Early Words/Premier mots, a program which provides resources and training to healthcare providers so that they can, in turn, provide early literacy counselling and resources to families.

## [Economic Analyst \(2 positions\) - Ontario Ministry of Finance](#)

The Personal Tax Policy & Design Branch provides advice and assistance to the Minister of Finance and to the Government of Ontario in formulating tax and benefits policy. The branch undertakes robust quantitative analysis using advanced modelling tools. It also ensures that tax legislation and regulations effectively express the province's tax and benefit policies.

## [Policy Advisor - Technical Standards and Safety Authority](#)

Reporting to the Director, Regulatory Policy, the Policy Advisor supports our organization in its journey to becoming an outcome-based regulator. You will support the development and delivery of policy initiatives that require collaboration and partnership for multi-faceted initiatives. You will coordinate input from government, industry experts, engineers, inspectors, senior management, and other private and public sector stakeholders.

## [Intern Analyst, Social Policies - Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres](#)

This internship opportunity (May-August 2022) is focused on supporting and assisting with OFIFC's public policy position in advocating and building support for urban Indigenous issues.

## [Public Affairs Consultant - Hill + Knowlton Strategies](#)

As a key member of the team, the Consultant will ensure that client satisfaction is maintained at the highest level by providing day-to-day counsel and implementation of projects. They're looking for a passionate and detail-oriented team player with public affairs experience to assist clients with their government and stakeholder relations programs and to support their growing public affairs practice.

## [Government Relations Intern - McMillan Vantage](#)

The McMillan Vantage Government Relations Internship is a full-time contract role beginning May 2, 2022. The contract term is 16 weeks, but there is some flexibility. It is a paid full-time role (40 hours/week). Team Vantage operates in a hybrid environment. All applicants should have access to a quiet place at home where they can work remotely. The successful candidate is likely involved in campaigns at different levels of government, involved in student government, and/or actively involved in policy making on a grassroots level. Given this is an entry-level role, their ambition is for the candidate to seek new experiences, knowledge, and feedback with an openness to learning and change.

## [Senior Advocacy Manager - Cycle Toronto](#)

Working remotely and/or from the office during the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Senior Advocacy Manager will engage with elected officials, City staff, residents, volunteers, and community organizations to increase the effectiveness of Cycle Toronto's mission to build a safe, healthy, vibrant cycling city for all. You possess at least 3-4 years of relevant experience in advocacy and ideally have working knowledge in both city planning processes and public policy.



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**MPPAL LinkedIn Group:**  
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3908927>

<https://sppa.laps.yorku.ca/>

\*If you wish to unsubscribe from the SPPA Newsletter, please email us at: [lapssppa@yorku.ca](mailto:lapssppa@yorku.ca) asking to be removed from the mailing list.



## [Director of Government Relations - Canadian Lenders' Association](#)

The CLA are looking for a Director, Government Relations that will develop and implement government relation strategies and engage with governments to advance the interests of the broader Canadian lending sector. They are looking for a self-starter who can forging strong relationships with member companies and government officials.

## [Government Regulations and Affairs Lead – Kyndryl](#)

As a member of Kyndryl's Corporate Affairs team, you will build and drive a government affairs and regulatory strategy which will support Kyndryl's brand and reputation in Canada and create opportunities for Kyndryl business growth.

## [Policy Development Officer - City of Toronto](#)

Join an innovative, dedicated group of professionals focused on improving the way the City moves. Contribute your policy development and stakeholder engagement expertise towards implementing a telematics program that will drive positive driver behaviour, increased safety, enhanced contract management and data-driven planning processes.

## [Director, Government and Stakeholder Relations - Meridian Credit Union](#)

In accordance with Meridian's values, you will be a key figure in advancing and upholding Meridian's reputation with key decision-makers and policy influencers. You will be in the know for any new policy and legislative developments that could affect MCU's business objectives and will translate these developments for internal audiences, including Senior Executives and the Board of Directors.

## [Administrative Clerk- Secretary – York Region](#)

Reporting to the Manager, Healthy Living is responsible for providing administrative and clerical support to the assigned Branch program, including scheduling, prioritizing and coordinating day to day work performed by the management staff; preparing and processing correspondence, reports, minutes and presentations; tracking and monitoring project and program specific activities; maintaining the filing system; and distributing incoming and outgoing communications via mail and electronic media.

## [Quality Assurance Specialist, Contact Centre – York Region](#)

This position is responsible for actively monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on the quality of inbound and outbound service and contacts for Access York, across all communication channels. Monitors contact quality using established guidelines and methodologies to ensure customer satisfaction. Also responsible for designing, implementing, and maintaining a quality assurance program for Access York including the delivery of customer service and operational efficiency within the department.

## [Access and Privacy Officer – York Region](#)

Reporting to the Deputy Regional Clerk, is responsible for the preparation of responses to access requests made under access to information legislation and for advising and training staff on matters related to the access and privacy matters.