



Curtner

 Urban Leadership Program 

Curtner Urban Leadership Program



Class of 2021



Toronto



In Memory of Brian L. Curtner
Founding Partner, Quadrangle

ULI Toronto's Curtner Urban Leadership Program is an annual curriculum-based program designed to immerse mid-career professionals from different disciplines in Toronto city building to create positive change in our city. The program is sponsored by Quadrangle in memory of one of its founding partners, Brian L. Curtner. The program reflects many of Brian's passions, including city building, mentorship and collaboration.

BDP.
Quadrangle

2021 Curtner Urban Leadership Program

Mission

Our mission is to cultivate thought and industry leadership by immersing emerging leaders in the real estate and land use industry in the challenges and opportunities of developing the Greater Toronto Area.

Program Overview

Participants will have an opportunity to provide leadership on a critical Toronto issue over the course of the eight-month program. Working in teams, participants will be responsible for sharing their expertise and advice to develop recommendations. Participants will be exposed to thought leaders across the key disciplines of land development. Leaders will have the opportunity to collaborate with top industry peers from various real estate disciplines, to engage in solving real land use challenges within a defined region of Toronto involving key stakeholders from the private, public, and non-profit community sectors.

Focus for 2020-21

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) is now a forefront consideration of city building internationally. In a recent letter to Toronto Mayor John Tory, Gladki Planning Associates noted “[recent] reflection has allowed us to see the role of our industry in an uncomfortable history of supporting structures of systemic racism in Canada.” And “Current engagement practices can burden or marginalize the voices of racialized communities.” While appropriate in a Planning context, these issues are important to the entire Real Estate industry.

This year’s Curtner Urban Leadership Program will focus on EDI in a planning, land use and development context. Working in teams, participants will lead monthly public sessions focused on identifying challenges and examining solutions. Using input from these sessions as well as their own experiences and research, they will then identify and develop those inclusive actions that can leverage diversity to achieve equity.



Program Dean

Kevin Stolarick

Provocateur, Research and Innovation
OCAD University

Dubbed the “Official Statistician of the Creative Class”, Kevin combines expertise on cities, inclusion, urbanization, statistics, design, and economic development with an appreciation of the importance of finding and sharing the knowledge or “pearls of wisdom” gained from leveraging his research, writing, management and organizational skills. The author of over 100 peer-reviewed articles and commissioned reports, he has presented over 75 invited key-note speeches and presentations and over 100 print, radio, television, and on-line media interviews and appearances. He holds a PhD in Business Administration (Information Systems) and an MBA from Carnegie Mellon, a Masters in Higher Education Leadership, and a BS in Honors in Applied Computer Science. Kevin provided quantitative research and analytical support for Richard Florida’s books including *The Rise of the Creative Class* and *Rise Revisited*. He continues in collaboration with other researchers in the development of measures, indicators, and approaches for Creative Economy theory with a focus on the economic and social value of inclusion.

PROGRAM DIRECTORY



Abdullah Diab

Design Technologist (Urban Design)
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Currently part of the Urban Design Team with the City of Toronto - City Planning Department. Graduated with Bachelors in Architectural Engineering from Beirut Arab University and worked as an Architect for multiple offices in Beirut before moving to Belgium for Erasmus Studies and Later to the United States for MSc. In Urban Studies. Worked in different disciplines related to Construction, Architecture and Planning throughout my career.

**Ahmed Ahmed**

Rexdale Community Health Centre
Youth Development Coordinator
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I am an urban planner and community developer who thrives in challenging, engaging and rewarding work environments. I spent the last five years working in several of Toronto's historically underserved communities. In these roles, I collaborated with residents to implement local strategies focused on improving community members' socio-economic outlook. I interned at Toronto Community Housing (TCH) as a Community Revitalization Assistant and at the City of Toronto as an Assistant Planner with Tower Renewal. During my time at TCH, I prepared case studies and actively participated in community engagement strategies for the Alexandra Park revitalization project. At the City of Toronto's Tower Renewal unit, I worked closely with Planners to conduct environmental assessments and prepare due diligence reports for storefront apartment tower conversions. Academically, I collaborated with both planners and urban scholars to gain a thorough understanding of today's urban development processes. I completed my Masters in Environmental Studies (Urban and Regional Planning) at York University in 2020. My major paper explored the history of suburbanization in the Greater Toronto Area, current issues in Toronto's inner suburbs and the new residential apartment commercial zone (RAC).

**Ahmed Alhaddad**

Electrical Engineer
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I have been fascinated by Electrical and Electronics since I was a child. I was curious to understand how these products work, opening the devices, looking into the PCB board and asking questions about it. When I was studying for my undergraduate degree, I discovered how passionate I am about Automation and Control field. I used that to create The Best Final Year Project that year in the university using PLC and HMI. And after that, my professional career has started as an Electrical Design Engineer (Control) at one of the largest Electrical panels manufacturer in the city. I like to improve my skills and qualifications. I am a lifelong learner and happy to accept new challenges. To accomplish my goal, I have participated in the competition and been awarded a full scholarship.



Anna Kathrina Cipriano

Customer Care Site Administrator
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I am a lifelong learner, and every new experience is a chance to learn. I have chosen career opportunities based on how much I could learn and expand my horizons. Early in my career I worked for one of the largest conglomerates in the Philippines, as the assistant to its Chairman and CEO. It opened the business world to me as the company had interests in real estate, airlines, manufacturing, banking, telecommunications, even media publications. It was a chance to explore what made these industries tick. Eventually, I was transferred to the conglomerate's Real Estate subsidiary. I became a seasoned real estate project development manager with extensive multi-function experience. I had the chance to work on residential mid-market and upmarket developments, in various selling and construction stages. I experienced commercial malls, hotels and office development as well, and my last role with the company enabled me to put all these experiences together as I led the development of the company's mixed-use developments. I recently left all these behind to come to Canada, a difficult but exciting chance to experience a new country. In joining Great Gulf Homes last year, I found myself in a new company and a new field as well – customer care. From an essentially behind-the-scenes role in development, I am now front and center facing the end user. With the strong mentorship of my supervisor, I continue to learn new technical skills and learn about Canadian real estate from a grass roots perspective.



Cate Flanagan

Associate Consultant
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Cate Flanagan is an Associate Consultant with urbanMetrics, a real estate consulting practice in Toronto. She provides custom market analytics and municipal strategies for the firm's real estate advisory projects, from large-scale master planning processes to single-site feasibility studies. Her work to date includes growth management studies, highest and best use analyses, municipal finance impact studies, and economic impact studies for both private and public clients. Prior to joining urbanMetrics, Cate worked at a boutique real estate consultancy in Vancouver. While there, she provided analytical and project management support for a number of strategic airport development plans and economic positioning strategies across North America. In 2018, her economic development work in North Carolina was recognized with a Region of Excellence Award for "Growing the Economy". Cate holds a BA in Recreation and Business Administration from the University of Waterloo and a Master of Planning in Urban Development from Ryerson University, where she was awarded a Mitacs Accelerate Grant for her research in school travel planning.

**Christian Jattan**

Planner
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Christian is a Registered Professional Planner with a background in land development, policy planning, urban design and public engagement. He holds a Master of Urban Design from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor of Urban Planning from Ryerson University. Since 2012, Christian has been working in the land use field and is a mid-career planner that currently manages projects and mentors, junior planners, at Dillon Consulting. Christian coordinates a variety of land development projects across Toronto and the GTA, helping clients navigate various regulatory approvals processes (e.g., Site Plan Control; Minor Variance; and applications for Consent). His experience across the GTHA is rooted in residential infill development and he has an appreciation for the local needs in terms of forestry, heritage and natural feature conservation working with multi-disciplinary teams. Christian has worked on a number of public consultation and engagement projects related to transportation and community assets. . He is actively engaged in a diverse range of planning focuses both within and outside of Canadian borders, and worked in Trinidad & Tobago through the Canadian Institute of Planners. Most recently, Christian has been involved in the preparation of a national coastal master plan for St. Kitts and Nevis, working closely with local stakeholders to ensure their inclusion in the planning process. Christian encourages his colleges to attend planning events as a member of ULI Toronto and is often one of the first planners to rally a group together.

**Daniel Tse**

Graduate Student
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Daniel Tse is a civil engineer and a graduate student in Cities Engineering and Management at the University of Toronto. With five years of land development experience, he is interested in cities and infrastructure as they relate to the social imagination and society building. He brings critical thought on the intersection of EDI, sustainability and resilience, and urban affairs. Outside of work and school, he enjoys contemporary art and solo travel.

**Dapo Olajide**

Associate, Development Analytics
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Dapo is an experienced real estate and infrastructure advisor supporting stakeholders with commercial and financial solutions for large-scale projects across multiple sectors including commercial real estate, mixed-use redevelopments, and TODs. He is currently an Associate (Development Analytics) with Northcrest Developments, a subsidiary of PSP Investments (one of Canada's largest pension investment managers), responsible for the redevelopment of the 370-acre Downsview Airport lands located in North Toronto. In this role, he supports financial modeling and strategy formation for development and infrastructure. Prior to this, he was a Senior Consultant at Steer and previously worked as a Global Infrastructure Advisory Consultant at KPMG. In both capacities, Dapo provided wide-ranging financial and market analyses for high profile redevelopment transactions including Waterfront Toronto's Quayside and East Waterfront Redevelopment, amongst others, which formed the basis for land/deal valuation, deal structuring, negotiations, and investment decisions.

**Darrin Rankine**

Development Associate
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I'm a real estate professional educated in the field of urban planning with a specific interest in Real Estate Development. My specialties include the development of opportunistic assets, market research across asset classes, and policy analysis. I have a track record that illustrates my ability to conduct meaningful, actionable research in the commercial real estate & planning industry from an academic standpoint, and in the workforce. I'm often curious about the growing pains of large urban areas & how they manage their respective issues.

**Elaha Safi**

Policy Planning Intern
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Elaha Safi graduated from Ryerson's Master of Planning program in 2020 and currently works as a Policy Planning Intern for Halton Region. She also holds a BA degree from UofT and a Sustainable Planning and Development Certificate from Seneca College. Her academic and professional career have provided her with a comprehensive understanding of planning, and a solid foundation for practicing as a professional. She has a strong passion for inclusive city building and rich understanding of applicable municipal planning policies in the Ontario context. She has demonstrated strong leadership, research and organizational skills and is proficient in Microsoft and Adobe. Elaha worked on countless individual and team-oriented projects. She has gained a deep understanding of the real estate world through completing courses like, Housing and Redevelopment, Urban Investments and Finance and Local Governance. Elaha received a prestigious scholarship from the Canadian Excellence in Research Chair to support her Major Research Paper, which focused on housing in the City of Toronto and challenges that under-represented groups face. She conducted extensive research and completed a 10-year analysis of Toronto's housing market. Elaha also received the Downtown Yonge Award of Excellence in Place-Making from Ryerson, in recognition of the work completed for the studio project: Re-Activating Downtown Brampton. This project involved high levels of communication, collaboration, teamwork and research to deliver comprehensive reports and presentations to the City of Brampton. Elaha welcomes any opportunities that allow for greater professional development as she is motivated to make our cities a more equitable place through leveraging diversity.

**Ernestine Aying**

Community Design Coordinator
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Ernestine Aying is a designer from the Greater Toronto Area. She has a background and experience in environmental design and community planning, and holds a Bachelor of Design from OCAD University and a Certificate of Cultural Planning from the University of British Columbia. Currently, she is the Community Design Coordinator at the Jane-Finch Centre where she has worked on a number of exciting community-based projects, including the Jane-Finch Community Hub and Centre for the Arts, Project BYLD and Corner Commons. Through these projects, Ernestine has been able to work with residents and community groups to create spaces and programs that positively impact the community. She actively works to ensure that community input and feedback is reflected and embraced throughout all projects.



Hailey Quiquero
Structural Designer
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Hailey is a Structural Designer at Entuitive, having come to the company with two specialized engineering degrees. Her experience in an Architectural Conservation and Sustainability Engineering program provided her with a strong background on structural design, along with insights into architectural technology, green building design and heritage restoration. Hailey's background in sustainability has led her to develop an interest in sustainable construction through passive design or renewable materials such as timber. During her Master's research Hailey focused on a novel wood structural system and evaluating the performance of engineered timber products under fire exposure. Outside of work, Hailey's interests include exploring new cities, hiking, and performing arts.



Harrison Thomas
Senior Design Technologist
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Harrison Thomas is a Senior Design Technologist with the City of Toronto. He graduated from the University of Waterloo in the Geography and Environment Management program and holds an Ontario College Graduate Certificate as a GIS Application Specialist from Sir Sandford Fleming College. Harrison brings an analytical and creative approach to his team, always looking to enhance workflows and create compelling graphics.

**Hilary Black**

Planner
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and
Housing

Hilary Black is a Registered Provincial Planner working in Planning Policy at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Her interests in the land use planning space relate to land-based justice for Indigenous peoples, natural heritage protection, and equitable access to the outdoors. Hilary spends as much time as possible camping, hiking, or cooking.

**Howard Tam**

Founder
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Eat More Scarborough Food Tours
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Howard Tam, MSc., BAsC. is a Strategic Designer and Urban Planner. He is the founder of ThinkFresh Group, a City Building and Strategic Design consultancy based in Toronto responsible for such projects as the Dragon Centre Stories Commemoration Project and the upcoming Honest Ed's Alley Micro-Retail Market. Howard has worked with government and private sector clients in Canada to facilitate and design strategies with amazing human experiences and holistic impact. He has lectured about city building and design at University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Howard is also the founder of EatMoreScarborough.com tours that offers food tours in and around Scarborough's amazingly diverse food scene – described by some as the “best ethnic food suburb” in the world. Howard has led tours featuring stories of food entrepreneurs, discussion of food sector issues, the origins of dishes and lots of tasty samples. Prior to founding the ThinkFresh Group, Howard worked as a Policy Advisor and Business Analyst with the Government of Ontario, Canada. He holds a Master's degree in urban planning from the University of Hong Kong and a Bachelor's degree in computer engineering from the University of Toronto.



Jannat Nain
Urban Planner
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Jannat is an urban planner with a multidisciplinary background in planning, economics, and international development. Her professional practice has focused on the development and delivery of projects that utilize design thinking, people-centered design, and reflective practice in urban environments. Jannat is a seasoned listener and facilitator and has worked with the private sector, governments, non-profits, and under-resourced communities; facilitating actionable steps to make strategic shifts and institutionalize equitable policies. Prior to working at Urban Strategies, she has worked for the World Bank Group, 80 Cities, and Global Affairs Canada, gaining experience in stakeholder engagement, public policy, transportation planning, and community development. Jannat has a strong appetite for emerging platforms and new technology that strengthen the quality of urban life.



Jennifer Johnson
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Jennifer Johnson is an experienced researcher, urban planner and project manager with global experience in the built environment sector. She has worked with public, private and community organizations to build consensus, create place visions and strategies, and collaboratively plan for major urban mixed-use redevelopment projects, masterplanned new communities, repositioned real estate assets, and transit infrastructure. Prior to her roles in the urban planning and real estate industries, Jennifer's previous work including human rights advocacy and environmental sustainability campaigning. Jennifer works as a Senior Associate at Wordsearch Place, a consultancy which provides place visioning, placemaking and strategy services to industry-leading real estate projects around the world. In her current role, she manages many aspects of project delivery and strategy development across the practice's international portfolio of projects. She also provides research insights, tracking industry trends and translating thought leadership into practice to help teams understand and embrace concepts as far ranging as millennial customers, healthy cities, and transit-oriented development. Jennifer makes connections with local research on place history, culture and experience, to deepen understanding of a project's context and build connections to vision and narrative. Jennifer has lived in Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa, as well as the United Kingdom. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from McGill University in International Development and Geography (Urban Systems), and a Masters of Science from University College London in International Planning. She is a Licentiate of the Royal Town Planning Institute.

**Kaari Kitawi**

Assistant Planner, Urban Design
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Kaari is a landscape architect and urban designer. She has a Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the University Of Eastern Africa, Baraton in Kenya. Currently, she works in City Planning at the City of Toronto as an urban designer. She is involved in reviewing development application and studies in North York. Previously, she worked at WSP/ MMM Group as a Landscape Designer and was involved in the design and contract administration of parks in Mississauga and several streetscape projects in Halton Region, Niagara and Toronto. Prior to moving to Canada, Kaari worked as a landscape designer and project manager for a successful landscape design and build firm in Nairobi that she co-founded. She was responsible for a diverse portfolio that included university, corporate offices, streetscape, resorts, residential developments and private residences in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Djibouti. Kaari is a full member of the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects and member of the OALA Ground Magazine Editorial Board.

**Kevin Somra**

Development Coordinator
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Kevin Somra is a Development Coordinator at First Gulf Corporation, a fully-integrated commercial real estate development company that specializes in the development of office, mixed-use, retail, and industrial properties in Canada and the United States. He holds a Bachelors in Urban and Regional Planning from Ryerson University, specializing in urban growth planning and land development. In his downtime, he is heavily involved with organizing basketball events in his local community. Just like his love for sports, he believes good city building initiatives are those that bring people from all walks of life together. As an early career professional, he is excited to share his passion for city building and learn from other seasoned professionals.

**Kumsa Baker**

Campaigns Manager

Toronto Community Benefits Network

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Kumsa Baker is a community leader and advocate for decent work and fair employment protections for all. He shares a passion for youth leadership and actively supports various youth-led initiatives in Toronto. His previous roles include working as a food service worker, small business owner (painting company), youth leadership coach and research analyst. Kumsa currently works as Campaigns Manager with the Toronto Community Benefits Network (TCBN), supporting Toronto neighbourhoods in organizing for fair economies and equitable, local economic development through Community Benefits Agreements on large scale urban infrastructure projects.

**Lillian D'Souza**

Planner, Strategic Initiatives

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Lillian D'Souza is a Planner within the Strategic Initiatives unit of Toronto City Planning. Since joining the City Planning division in 2016, she has worked on a number of transit-oriented area studies and initiatives such as Don Mills Crossing, the King-Parliament Secondary Plan Review, and Housing Now. She is currently leading the inter-Divisional engagement strategy for the Jane-Finch Initiative, which will result in a new Community Development Plan and updated Land Use Planning Framework for the Jane-Finch area. Lillian's experience of immigrating to Canada helped shape her approach to urban planning and inclusive community engagement. Lillian holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from Simon Fraser University and Master of Science in Planning from the University of Toronto.

**Marem Kushtova**

Intermediate Architecture Graduate /
Design Lead
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Marem is an intermediate architecture intern and design lead who graduated from the University of Toronto (John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture) and has been a part of the Quadrangle studio team since 2016. Her political science background has influenced her interest in architecture and urban planning by envisioning the built environment beyond neutral, aesthetic forms, and seeing it as an active force that must be examined through the social, economic and political lens. Marem has worked on a variety of projects, from large-scale master plan schemes, local and global competitions, high-rises, and commercial hubs, to smaller scale residential and public buildings. Her portfolio of project work includes mixed-use, high density developments such as the 60-storey CG Tower and triple-tower Abeja District developments at the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre, as well as master planning projects in Whitby, Innisfil and Liberty Village. She supplements her daily work and feeds her passion for design by entering global and local design competitions. Her competition work includes: a finalist submission for Kehilla's Modular Affordable Portable Housing competition that sought a response to Toronto's housing crisis; a proposal for an innovative medical research centre in Wuxi, China; a Mixed Housing competition based in Mumbai; as well as the recently longlisted "Isolation Transformed", which was submitted to a World Architecture Festival global competition and proposes a new multi-unit residential typology in the context of a pandemic or post-pandemic world.

**Mutiat Bello**

Manager, Land Development (Transit
Oriented Communities - LRT)
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Mutiat Bello is currently a Manager of Land Development, working in an integrated team between two organizations - Infrastructure Ontario and Metrolinx. In this role, she enables collaborations between the Public Sector and various Private Entities seeking to integrate their development projects with public transit infrastructure. She was eager to join this team for the opportunity to work on the "15-minute City" principles of urban living that other well-renowned cities around the world are actively pursuing. Mutiat also brings a wealth of international experience in her past roles in economic policy and supportive infrastructure financing, where she worked to help solve some of the lingering development issues that negatively impact quality of life in the respective communities. When asked what success looks like, she responds "a life well-lived, in which I have contributed, to my fullest capacity, to the realization of equity in all its forms."



Ori Abara
Project Manager
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Ori is a project manager with ERA who holds a Bachelor of Environmental Studies, Honours Planning from the University of Waterloo. Her interest in cultural heritage is linked to its ability to bring communities together through storytelling of the past and as part of the building blocks of the future. Prior to joining ERA, she started her career working across Western Canada as a land use planning consultant. She brings previous experience in land development, community design, municipal planning, and public engagement to her practice at ERA. Ori is a member of the Canadian Institute of Planners and a Registered Professional Planner in Ontario.



Paul Nichols
Intermediate Planner
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A father, urban planner, and all-around problem solver, Paul is dedicated to building inclusive & inspiring communities for everyone, but especially youth. Paul currently serves as an Intermediate Planner with the Toronto Lands Corporation - a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Toronto District School Board and exclusive land use and real estate service provider to the TDSB. Prior to his current role, he served as an Educational Planning Officer for the TDSB. Paul is a firm believer that urban planning should not only undertake place-making that creates equitable access to spaces and services for all residents, but that the process itself must be inclusive and engage all residents – especially those from underserved communities and groups whose voices have not traditionally been heard.



Rui Zhou
Designer
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As a Designer, Rui Zhou is currently a key member of MTE Consultants' Burlington Civil Engineering team. Rui was born in China and immigrated to Canada at the age of four and has lived within the GTA from then on. Heavily influenced by having two parents who are also civil engineers, Rui's has had a strong interest in sciences, math and problem solving from a young age. He decided to pursue a Bachelor of Engineering, specializing in Water Resources, at the University of Guelph. It was here that Rui developed his strong technical skills and was able to begin applying what he studied to realworld, hands-on projects. His time at the University of Guelph heavily focused on collaboration between peers and the co-op program allowed him to fast track his learning by working alongside industry professionals. After graduating, Rui secured his position at MTE Consultants where he performs engineering design and analysis, assist in contract administration and shop drawing review, coordinates project teams, and prepares reports for municipal, regional, and federal approval. Rui is motivated by his peers and enjoys collaborating on projects. He finds the most rewarding part of his job to be the moment he sees the hard work of a design come to fruition during construction.



Shakaka Jadhav
Design & Community Manager
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As Youth Climate Lab's (YCL) Design & Community Manager, Shalaka Jadhav is at the intersection of research and analysis, and employs equitycentered community design to communicate data clearly, empathetically, and with an emphasis on accessibility. In their role at YCL, they have designed workshops and training tools for the Climate Caucus, Canadian Institute for Climate Choices, Assembly of First Nations Yukon, Council of Yukon First Nations, Embassy of Denmark in Canada, OceanBridge, and the International Center for Climate Change and Development (Bangladesh). They also manage YCL's social media accounts, which have reached over 1.8 million people since 2017. Disciplined as an urban planner, Shalaka pursues questions around value relating to power and authority, and works towards reconciliation through climate justice. Keen on art-based methodologies, Shalaka has worked with elders from Saddle Lake Cree Nation and students at the University of Alberta to produce an AR installation that prioritized Indigenous approaches to knowledge and storytelling, and has produced a museum exhibit evaluating decent work and migrant worker justice. Shalaka works in an editorial role for Textile, a magazine focused on uplifting and prioritizing underrepresented voices in the Region of Waterloo. They have performed work at the 2019 Common Waters festival and published work with the Indigenous Curatorial Collective. In 2021, Shalaka will continue in their role as an audio journalist for the CKMS newsroom as part of the Local Journalism Initiative, sit on the Plan Canada editorial board, and be a member of the Energy Futures Lab steering committee.



Simone Hodgson

Project Manager - Community
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Simone joined Bousfields as a Project Manager - Community Engagement after completing her Masters in Urban Planning at Harvard Graduate School of Design. As a key member of Bousfields' Community Engagement Practice, Simone develops, manages and implements a number of stakeholder engagement plan for projects across the GTA, many of which are located in downtown Toronto and Etobicoke. One of her focuses is digital engagement and, specifically, how to use project websites and creative visuals to reach broader and more diverse audiences. Simone also has experience developing effective tenant consultation and communications strategies. Drawing from the depth and breadth of her experience, she aims to generate dynamic approaches to engagement that spark meaningful and constructive dialogue, as well as inspire those who may not traditionally participate to do so.



Sivahami Vijenthira

Community Relations & Issues
Specialist
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Sivahami Vijenthira is a Community Relations & Issues Specialist at Metrolinx, helping to bring the public's voice to the Ontario Line subway project, one of the most transformational infrastructure initiatives in Toronto's recent history. Prior to this role, she promoted equitable civic engagement and inclusive city building at 8 80 Cities, the Institute for Canadian Citizenship, CivicAction, Cycle Toronto, and CultureLink, as well as in contract roles for the City of Toronto, creating opportunity for meaningful dialogue with residents, businesses, civic groups, and city leaders to inform policy recommendations that embedded principles of EDI. She helped develop the City of Toronto's Youth Engagement Strategy, with a focus on addressing systemic barriers to participation in public consultations, and wrote My City Too, a Trillium Foundation-funded report that advocated for centring children in planning and decision-making processes. Outside of work, Sivahami is a board member for the youth cycling charity Charlie's FreeWheels, an advisor and former steering committee member for The Centre for Active Transportation (TCAT), and a founding advisor of Progress Toronto.



Sonali Praharaj
Urban Designer
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Sonali Praharaj is an urban designer with city building experience in a range of planning, urban design, and architectural projects across North America and India. Her work has primarily focused on exploring sustainable and resilient growth models to promote just, equitable and inclusive environments. Sonali currently works with DTAH as an urban designer, where she has contributed to numerous built forms, master plans, mobility hubs, complete streets, public realm design, and planning. Sonali holds a Masters in Urban Design from University of California, Berkeley, and a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from Sir JJ College of Architecture, Mumbai. She is a recipient of the University of California Berkeley Graduate Fellowship, the Architect and Interiors India Outstanding Thesis Award, and the Bonjour India Embassy of France Travel Fellowship.



Surbhi Kamboj
Urban Designer
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Surbhi is an architect and urban designer with about 5 years' experience spanning Americas to Asia and the Middle East. Her knowledge spans multiple aspects of real estate development, urban planning, urban design and placemaking. She is a skilled design professional with strong expertise in large scale master planning and sustainable site optimization. Surbhi places emphasis on evaluating local natural ecology, environmental attributes and community infrastructure to formulate design guidelines focused on equitable and sustainable urban development. With the strong understanding of cultures, her work is focused on creating inclusive spaces for a livable future.

**Temo Cruz**

Prefabrication & Modular Coordinator
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Temo's AEC career for city-building integrates his passions for sustainable architecture, prefabricated & modular manufacturing, emerging technologies (such as blockchain IoT / PoE & renewables). With a mission to advance solutions that build equitable smart cities of the future. He has a laser focus to apply ideas & solutions to help solve the global problems of our generation: climate change, the 'missing middle' housing crisis & the COVID-19 pandemic. Within his 7 year industry experience, he has been privileged to have been mentored & work along-side architects, engineers, BIM technologists, superintendents, executives and project managers. His current role within the prefabrication & modular division at EllisDon (a world-leading 65 year old construction and building services company that completes in excess of \$4 billion worth of contracts annually, in every market sector and across the globe) allows him to advance his mission. Temo's environmental and modular passion originated when he founded LeafBox Concepts in 2017. This social venture up-cycles used cargo containers into customizable concepts which are 100% solar-powered, portable, and experiential. (Due to COVID-19 the showcase event season will be postponed until further notice). His drive is fueled by his Mexican heritage & immigration journey to Canada. With the purpose to apply creativity, hard work and knowledge of city-building to his new home.

**Trystan Anderson**

Business Development
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As a member of the Pathways to Inclusion program with ULI Toronto Chapter, in addition to being a new member of the real estate and land development sector, I have a passion for building community networks, showing representation of diversity and also have a passion for youth-led initiatives across regional communities. With a strong background in performance, I also feel compelled to share my stories with youth, in my meditation and yoga classes and also with those who support diversity & inclusion. This program would spark my fire, encourage more growth and overall be an added compliment to my experience with ULI Toronto.



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