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OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

[2024](#)

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2025

With IFEX:

- 2024 Annual Report –

2024

With the Canadian Urban Institute and Community Foundations of Canada, I co-lead Canada's Placemaking Community, a platform and a community of practice that emerged out of the Healthy Communities Initiative. XXX

- Canada's Placemaking Community (Canadian Urban Institute) #strategicdesign , #fieldbuilding , #convening, #connecting

With IFEX:

- Collaboration Principles –
- Collaboration tools: Check-lists –

2023

With the **Canadian Urban Institute** and **Community Foundations of Canada**:

I co-lead Canada's Placemaking Community, a platform and a community of practice that emerged out of the Healthy Communities Initiative.

- Mentorship Program – Between 2021 and 2023, a mentorship program was offered to recipients of the Healthy Communities Initiative in collaboration with our network of partners. This program provided an opportunity to interact with other place-based practitioners and explore new ideas, practices and approaches. The mentorship program was intentionally designed to nurture relationships that could evolve and grow over time. Over 90 organizations funded under the [Healthy Communities Initiative](#) participated in this mentorship program between 2021 and 2023.
- In-person convening opportunities
- Power of Placemaking (in partnership with Happy Cities) – Between June and September 2023, as part of Canada's Placemaking Community and in partnership with Happy Cities, we hosted eight online sessions that connected over 100 people to collectively explore the impacts of placemaking projects and initiatives. Participants included city staff, funders, businesses, community organizations, and people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. A diversity of projects were shared, from rural to urban settings, online and in person, and showcasing a range of creative place-based projects. As a result of this process, the Power of Placemaking was developed. This resource provides data on the impacts of placemaking in our individual and collective well being, as well as stories from community-led initiatives from across Canada.

With **IFEX**:

- Collaboration Code – Research piece that emerged from 39 interviews with diverse stakeholders from the Freedom of Expression and Information (FoE&I) ecosystem (IFEX members, allies and donors) who agreed to share their experiences and reflections regarding collaboration. As a result of this process, we mapped out barriers and enablers for collaboration among Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in the FoE&I space.

After codification of the interviews, four key learnings emerged from the thematic analysis. These learnings were translated into a set of recommendations and practical actions for IFEX to focus on over the next year, as well as to use in the preparation of its next strategic plan.

With the **Wolf Willow Institute** for Systems Learning:

- Spring Café at the Edge of the World – The Café at the Edge of the World is a one-week virtual learning space, crafted and curated by the Wolf Willow Faculty to nourish, challenge, provoke and support systems change practitioners. The Café is not about answers or solutions, instead, it is about cooking up capacity, courage and relationship.

I worked with the Wolf Willow Faculty as well as the Artists in Residence, providing production and tech support, before, during and after the Café. My responsibilities included: set-up of an online learning platform (Mighty Networks), technical set-up for the one week virtual learning program (Zoom) and ongoing live support to participants throughout the Café.

- Imaginarium – One day virtual inquiry hosted by the Wolf Willow Faculty Vanessa Reid and Laura Blakeman. It combines complexity thinking and leadership with creative practice by working with artists such as Asma Khan and Dainty Smith. It is a space that combines provocation, art practice, contemplation, synchronicity and sense-making. I worked with the Wolf Willow Faculty as well as the Artists in Residence, providing production and tech support, before, during and after the Imaginarium.
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2022

With the Canadian Urban Institute and Community Foundations of Canada, as part of the Healthy Communities Initiative funding program:

- Mentorship program
- Placemaking peer-learning conversations
- Mobilizer Sessions

With the **Canadian Urban Institute**:

- [Expanding Housing Options in Neighborhoods](#) (Canadian Urban Institute) – Expanding Housing Options in Neighborhoods is a City of Toronto initiative to facilitate housing diversity in residential neighborhoods. The initiative aims to advance policy to expand opportunities for these so-called “missing middle” to meet the needs of a growing city. I worked with the Applied Solutions Lab at the Canadian Urban Institute to design and facilitate an engagement process that would ensure that diverse voices and experiences inform their future policies. We formed a roundtable of experts with backgrounds in planning, design, affordable housing, and the specific needs of equity-deserving groups. We convened six group sessions and held one-on-one conversations to better address intersectional specificities.

With **IFEX**:

- **Innovating Change Convening (IFEX)** – Planned and executed a virtual and cross-regional convening with +100 people (IFEX members).

With **Wolf Willow Institute** for Systems Learning:

- **Winter Café at the Edge of the World** – The Café at the Edge of the World is a virtual learning space, crafted and curated by the Wolf Willow Faculty to nourish, challenge, provoke and support systems change practitioners. The Café is not about answers or solutions, instead, it is about cooking up capacity, courage and relationship. I worked with the Wolf Willow Faculty as well as the Artists in Residence, providing production and tech support, before, during and after the Café. Among other activities the responsibilities included: set-up of an online learning

platform (Mighty Networks), technical set-up for the one week virtual learning program (Zoom) and ongoing live support to participants throughout the Café.

2021

With the Canadian Urban Institute and Community Foundations of Canada, as part of the Healthy Communities Initiative funding program:

- HCI Mentorship Program – Between 2021 and 2023, a mentorship program was offered to recipients of the Healthy Communities Initiative in collaboration with our network of partners. This program provided an opportunity to interact with other place-based practitioners and explore new ideas, practices and approaches. The mentorship program was intentionally designed to nurture relationships that could evolve and grow over time. Over 90 organizations funded under the [Healthy Communities Initiative](#) participated in this mentorship program between 2021 and 2023.

With IFEX:

- Innovating Change Framework – Conceptual framework that reflects the contributions of 27 activists from diverse fields, who shared their experiences, analysis and tactics on achieving change in their work.
The framework presents a process to inspire conversations that can help Human Rights organizations and other civil society groups to navigate the current context together and to use it as a springboard for their conversations.
 - Innovating Change Approach, available in English, Spanish, Russian and Arabic.
- Meaningful Virtual Exchanges Approach – Development of an approach that provides simple and intuitive practices to enable meaningful virtual interactions based on IFEX experiences in network engagement and relationship building. The guiding principle of this approach is the notion of meaningful connections, which refers to interactions that go beyond “working relationships” and foster personal exchange, trust and a common culture.

2020

- Kajungiqsainiq pilot program (Small Economy Works) – Fully online program aimed at youth in Nunavut interested in developing their professional and entrepreneurial skills while reconnecting with Inuit culture and their local communities. The curriculum of the program contained local examples and region-specific knowledge, and was structured to guide participants in the discovery of the relationships between

entrepreneurial concepts and Inuit traditions. The program was designed to combine peer-to-peer learning experiences with a personal learning pathway.

- Evolution Project (Inspire Nunavut) – Inspire Nunavut was funded in 2016 to deploy entrepreneurial training programs in Nunavut. In the fall of 2018, the founding team took a step back and transferred the management of the organization to an Inuit-led team. One and a half years after the management of the program had been transferred, the team wanted to make an evaluation of the activities done and work in the development of a strategic plan to fulfill the commitments between 2020-2022.

The Evolution Project kicked-off as a consulting contract aimed at guiding the team in the analysis of their activities and in the definition of a scalability and growth plan. Following the consulting engagement I worked with the team for 6 months and led the development and adoption of new processes, practices and tools required to increase productivity, transparency and accountability within the organization.

2019

- 15000km.org – Self-funded initiative where we looked at water and sanitation technologies from a socio-cultural lens while traveling through Southern Africa.

Through this project we sought to understand how different social structures and institutions have influenced the adoption of innovative technical and human solutions in the development and use of water and energy infrastructures.

Using open source software provided by [Ushahidi](https://www.ushahidi.org/), a Kenyan based organization that emerged in 2008 with the aim to report the post-election violence, we created a [deployment](#) that we used for collecting data. The platform enabled us to compile a structured dataset from our mobile devices, updating our experiences with basic infrastructure in near real-time onto a mapping platform as we traveled along our route. Data is not sufficient to understand the reality and breadth of complex social context. Therefore, we also undertook interviews with different people and stakeholders engaged in the various thematic fields of research. Through interviews we aimed to develop a better understanding of the social, economic, and cultural context behind the data points. In talking to people, we hoped to uncover personal stories, individual thoughts and learnings.

As part of the Ideas for Change team:

- Pentagrowth Online Course – Online course aimed at supporting teams design, test and validate new business opportunities using the Pentagrowth methodology. I was responsible for the design of the initial structure of the online course, syllabus and modules; as well as the content creation and documentation of case studies.
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2018

As part of the [Ideas for Change](#) team:

- Consulting – Coordinated over 15 consulting projects at a local and international level, across a broad range of industries – from mobility to energy, consumer goods to entertainment – including 3 publicly listed companies. Some of the clients we worked with in 2018 included: BAXI, DOMMO, SEAT, Mondragón Cooperative Group.
- Pentagrowth Toolkit – Co-author of The Pentagrowth Toolkit, a guide that provided all the required resources for people working in the innovation space to apply the Pentagrowth methodology to any project or initiative.
- Pentagrowth Certification Program – Design of a training program that enables individuals to master all aspects of the Pentagrowth methodology and successfully apply it to internal projects or on clients engagements. Upon completion of the Certification Program, facilitators can design workshops and join a community of practitioners. [Short video presenting the Certification Program](#).
- Talent Booster with ADEO – Talent Booster was a program run every two years by the ADEO HR team to support intrapreneurship within the organization. 25 employees were selected and offered the opportunity to engage with learning experiences all over the world; furthermore, they were provided with funding to execute entrepreneurial initiatives within the group. Ideas for Change was responsible for curating and executing the business design module of the program in London, connecting the group to local entrepreneurs working in the intersection between housing, community-building and energy. Some of the organization we worked with were:
 - [Fabriq](#)
 - [Wikihouse](#)
 - [The Library of Things](#)
 - [Provenance](#)
- TRIEM – TRIEM was an initiative aimed at giving citizens a more active role in the decisions concerning the use of their health data for research by using collective intelligence mechanisms. [Salus Coop](#) and [Ideas for Change](#) run a set of workshops to explore what are the critical fears and risks citizens are willing to take to contribute to medical research projects. The identification and characterization of these critical variables allowed us to inform the development of an online tool that was released at the end of 2018. The online tool gathered more than 1,000 responses in two weeks and the results are being used to co-design the data sharing licenses.

Earlier experiences

- [Ouishare Fest Barcelona](#) (2017) – Design and execution of one of the program tracks of the Ouishare Fest Barcelona program. The aim of the track was to explore new questions and concerns related to emerging technologies from a socio-cultural

perspective. [Short article reflecting on the learnings of the experience.](#)

- DocField Pro : El viaje (2017) – DOCfield is a gathering organized by Photographic Social Vision Foundation to provide content related to documentary photography and photojournalism to the city of Barcelona, with the purpose of showing social realities and themes insufficiently addressed in the media. In 2017, alongside the photography festival, they launched DocField PRO, a day for professionals in journalism, communication, culture and the non-profit sector, to motivate reflections and analysis. I participated in the gathering in 2017 presenting the Pentagrowth framework applied to the media and cultural ecosystems.
- [The Bristol Approach](#) (2016) – The Bristol Approach is a framework aimed at enabling technologists, businesses, artists and local people to work together to address relevant community issues using digital tools. People will also develop new skills and shape their neighborhoods in the process.
Ideas for Change led the research and framework design processes and was actively involved in the first deployment of the project, the Dump Busters. The Dump Busters pilot developed new ways of measuring the problem of damp in homes, including designing a frog-shaped temperature and humidity sensor.
- [Pentagrowth for Social Impact with Babele](#) (2015) – Online program to support social entrepreneurs design a scalability strategy for their social business. Five digitally-based social businesses registered in the Babele platform had the opportunity to re-frame their growth strategy using the Pentagrowth methodology and accelerate the social impact of their businesses and projects.
- [2KnowBarcelona](#) (2015) – Community of students that shared a passion for social innovation. We facilitated opportunities to improve connection and dissemination of knowledge and experiences. It was a self-funded and self-organized initiative that counted with the support of [Universitat Pompeu Fabra](#) and [Universitat de Barcelona](#). I acted as one of the founders of the collective and main orchestrator during the first two years of activity.