

CIC

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DU CANADA

Victoria Branch | Section Victoria

2023 Annual Report



General Wayne Eyre, Canada's Chief of the Defence Staff, discussed the many defence challenges facing Canada and the Canadian Armed Forces with CIC Victoria members in March 2023. Photo: CIC Victoria.

CIC Victoria 2023 Annual Report for the period 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

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Message from the President

Dear CIC Victoria Branch members,

21 August 2023


With our Annual Branch Meeting (ABM) set for Tuesday, 5 September (by Zoom), I am honoured to provide you with our Annual Report covering the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

I'm also proud to say that during this period, your branch conducted or co-hosted 29 in-person and 6 virtual events, attended by over 2,500 participants. An additional 700 people also watched recordings of our virtual events, which are available on the [CIC National YouTube channel](#). Our events featured terrific speakers from around the world and closer to home and none of this would have been possible without the efforts of your Executive Committee, and the support of folks at each venue who have become an extended CIC family in many respects.

Our in-person events also helped immensely in keeping-up our membership numbers. This is very important as the more members we have, the more money there is to support our many activities. For example, with every new member that joins CIC Victoria, or renews their membership, we receive 50% of the membership fee, with the other 50% supporting CIC National activities such as the online magazine [Open Canada](#), social media platforms and membership management. I would also like to offer my heartfelt thanks to all our members who donated to the CIC last year, and to the 12 CIC Victoria members who donated \$500 or more by joining the CIC's [Century Circle](#). The names of all our donors are listed later in the Annual Report.

In closing, your Executive Committee is committed to bringing to you the best possible speakers on a wide range of important international and domestic issues. We will also continue our efforts to build a more diverse and inclusive branch, and work hard to support young Canadians, especially students to ready them for the future. Indeed, we are looking forward to supporting student-run Model United Nations conferences this fall and winter and our new student scholarship with the University of Victoria will be awarded, for the first time, later this year as well.

Thank you for being a part of the CIC and CIC Victoria journey.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Kilford', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right and a vertical stroke extending downwards from the end of the horizontal stroke.

Chris Kilford, CD, PhD
President
Victoria Branch
Canadian International Council

CIC National News



Photo: Professor Margaret MacMillan and the Honourable Bob Rae discuss current events and the war in Ukraine at CIC's inaugural Bill Graham Lecture Series dinner held in Toronto in March 2023.

Our National President, Ben Rowswell, departed his position in October last year, and since then CIC has been under the excellent leadership and guidance of CIC National co-chairs, John English & Nicolas Rouleau. John and Nicolas have focused on fundraising to support national activities.

CIC's former Chair, the Honourable Bill Graham, passed away in August last year and to honour his legacy, a CIC fundraising dinner was held in Toronto on 27 March 2023. Indeed, 270 people attended and the dinner was the first in what will now be called the Bill Graham Lecture Series. The dinner also featured Professor Margaret MacMillan and the Honourable Bob Rae discussing current events and the war in Ukraine. Approximately \$70K was raised and the 2024 dinner will also be held in Toronto.

Across the country there are 17 CIC branches and a national office branch for members overseas or far away from a branch. CIC also has a small virtual national office with one full-time person and modest

contracted support. Everyone else who belongs to CIC are volunteers and in total, CIC branches held 140 in-person and virtual events across the country between June 2022 and June 2023!

As far as our national membership numbers, there are just over 1200 CIC members across the country. Earlier this year, a new national membership program (Member365) was also introduced. It has numerous features that were not available before such as automatic credit card membership fee withdrawal should one choose, much better tax receipting for donations and an opportunity to choose automatic communications in English or French.

Looking to the future, there are plans to establish at least one more CIC branch this year and increase the national membership base to 1400 members. On the other hand, CIC Regina closed this year. Its membership had been declining for several years and efforts to revive the branch proved unsuccessful. CIC Simcoe County also closed with the departure of key leaders. Over the 95-year history of the CIC, we have had many branches come and go but of course no one likes to see a branch close.

As for CIC's online foreign affairs magazine [Open Canada](#) the new volunteer co-editors are Chris Kilford and Ruth Mojeed (formerly CIC Victoria and now CIC Ottawa). *Open Canada* is supported by private donations (small & large) and the Federal Department of Canadian Heritage.

CIC Victoria – Looking Back

Locally, and as mentioned, we were very busy in 2022-2023, holding or co-hosting 29 in-person and 6 virtual events. An overview of all our events, with speakers and topics, is captured in Annex A. Certainly, hosting Canada's Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS) in March was a 'feather-in-our-cap' and we also welcomed Max Cameron, from the University of British Columbia at another event on the very same day! Michael Lo, one of our student members, wrote an excellent article about the CDS's visit for *Capital Daily*, which can be seen here: [Canada's top general visits Esquimalt](#).

Our branch membership also grew from 479 members this time last year to 520 members today, including 86 student and 14 young professional members. Our branch is the largest in Canada and having so many members created an incredible amount of energy and momentum.

For our in-person and virtual events, speakers received modest honourariums in recognition of their time and effort. In general, honourariums were mostly in the \$100 range. Indeed, most receive \$100 gift cards from Munro's books that actually cost the branch \$80 as we have a very nice discount. We also paid for some of our speakers to travel to CIC Victoria from the University of Washington (twice), Toronto and Vancouver. When we host speakers from further afield it can often cost the branch between \$750-\$1,500, and we could not do this without your branch memberships and donations.

Last fall, the winner of our \$2,000 Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria (ICA) diversity scholarship was Ava Almonde. Ava is studying international business at Camosun College and she also became a new CIC Victoria student member. This year, the winner of our ICA diversity scholarship was Steven Peng, a recent graduate of Mount Douglas High School. Steven is originally from China and while in high school was involved with the Model United Nations Club. He will be attending the University of

Victoria School of Business. Also, this fall, and for the very first time, an academically outstanding undergraduate student entering third or fourth year in the University of Victoria, Department of Political Science will be awarded our new \$1,500 CIC Victoria scholarship.



As mentioned, memberships, general donations, and donations to the Century Circle, allowed CIC Victoria to support many local and national level activities and programs. The Century Circle, an initiative at the national level, was instituted in 2020 to recognize those donating \$500 or more to the CIC. More information about the Century Circle can be found by clicking [here](#) and the 2023-2024 Century Circle campaign will launch later this year.

Our 2022-2023 Century Circle members were...

Anna Biolik	Ian Clark	Marjorie Clark	Margaret Cornish
Brian Keir	Alison Kilford	Chris Kilford	Jeremy Kinsman
Marc Lortie	Patricia Lortie	Don Macnamara	Margot Moore

And thank you to our many other donors in 2022-2023

John Anderson	Joan Davidson	Diana Dewar	Jan Drent
Carol Huddart	Barry Kelsey	Tyler Russell	Don Scott
Paula Skippon	Jenny Spier	David Stinson	Diane Teeple
Valerie York			

Student Engagement

Supporting our CIC student members, and the wider student community on Vancouver Island, is one of the most rewarding activities we do as a branch. Indeed, in 2022-2023 we co-hosted two student-focused events at Royal Roads University (RRU). The first was titled *Reflections on Canada...Past, Present and Future* and the second, *Geopolitical perceptions of Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine*. Both events were full of students, complemented by a small number of CIC members who helped lead roundtable discussions on the subjects at hand. Many of the students had either recently arrived in Canada or were visiting so it made for some great interactions and learning all-round.

We also supported Vancouver Island University's (VIU) in-person Model United Nations (UN) conference last November. However, the University of Victoria (UVic) Model United Nations conference did not take place but we are expecting one to be held this fall. Member-at-Large Paul Seguna also worked closely with the student editors of the UVic student-run political affairs magazine *On Politics* offering advice and sourcing expert second readers from our membership to help ready select student

papers for publication. As previously mentioned, our \$2,000 student scholarship with the ICA was awarded to Ava Almonde last year and Steven Peng this year.

CIC Victoria also continued to work closely with the UVic Centre for Global Studies (CFGS) and the UVic Centre for Asia Pacific Initiatives (CAPI). Both hold a wide range of events each year and many in conjunction with CIC. For more information please visit their websites here: [CFGS](#) and here [CAPI](#).

Table 1 below outlines our planned expenditures in support of student focused activities in 2023-2024.

Table 1 – Planned CIC Victoria Student Focused Expenditures 2023-2024

Activity	Amount	Remarks
UVic Model UN Club Annual Conference	\$1,500	A two or three-day conference attracting well over 100 students who represent various UN member countries while debating key international security subjects. Our donation goes to the general conference operating fund to pay for lunches, conference supplies, best delegate recognition and the conference website
VIU Model UN Club Annual Conference	\$750	A one or two-day conference attracting, on average, 50-75 students. Our donation goes to the general conference operating fund to pay for lunches, conference supplies, best delegate recognition and the conference website
UVic Canadians Going Global	\$750	An evening event bringing CIC members and UVic students together at UVic. During the evening, a panel of CIC experts discuss their career experiences and take questions followed by a networking opportunity with light refreshments and finger foods funded by CIC Victoria
100 Complimentary Student Memberships at \$20 each	\$2,000	To encourage students to join CIC Victoria, we offer one-year complimentary memberships. Our aim is to introduce students to CIC and CIC Victoria, with a view that they will continue as un-sponsored members afterwards. In certain cases, such as the executive members of the UVic Model UN Club, and UVic Undergraduates of Political Science Club, their memberships are sponsored by CIC Victoria for the duration of their time on the two executives, which may be more than one year
10 Complimentary Young Professional Memberships at \$45 each	\$450	To encourage young professionals (YP), especially from the Indigenous, Black and People of Colour community (IBPOC), to join CIC Victoria, we offer 10 one-year complimentary memberships. Our aim is to introduce YP to CIC and CIC Victoria, especially from the IBPOC community, with a view that they will continue as un-sponsored members afterwards
Student conference attendance (conference fees and other support)	\$1000	This amount allows us to sponsor student attendance at local conferences (in-person) or national conferences via Zoom. Another good example of student in-person events is our RRU student roundtables normally held twice a year where we contribute towards refreshments and finger foods
Diversity Scholarship Fund	\$2,300	In partnership with the ICA, we support a newcomer student to Canada who is leaving a local high school to attend either Camosun College or UVic. \$300 of the amount allocated is for ICA's administration of the scholarship
UVic Scholarship Fund	\$1,500	In partnership with the Political Science Department, we support an academically outstanding undergraduate student entering third or fourth year in the Department of Political Science, taking courses in Canadian foreign policy, international relations, and/or global affairs at UVic
Total	\$10,250	

Social media

When it comes to social media, we rely on [Facebook](#) to promote and report on our events, and the event announcement on the right is typical of what you'll see.

Currently, we have 613 Facebook followers, up from 459 followers last year. However, because many of our members do not have Facebook accounts, we use e-mail announcements as our primary means of contacting members about our events.

If you are a Facebook user, please consider following us as we often post advance notifications about our events, plus add post-event photos and links to articles we think will be of interest.

We also have a CIC Victoria branch information page on the [CIC National website](#) with general information about us, including annual reports going back to 2017.

Finances

Our branch financial situation remains very good, giving us much greater flexibility, not only to support the many student focused activities listed in Table 1, but also continuing to engage the best speakers we can find on the international issues of the day.

For example, when we invite speakers living in Vancouver, to Victoria, we often use Harbour Air. If a speaker is coming from Toronto or Seattle we also pay for their accommodation and transport costs, which includes an economy airline seat. As mentioned earlier, bringing speakers to Victoria from afar can cost up to \$1500 for flights and accommodation, but it is well worth doing so for us to hear from a variety of different voices.

One issue we are facing, which will come as no surprise, is the rising cost of food for events we hold at the Union Club and Sticky Wicket Pub. Staff wages at our venues are also increasing – and we have looked at other venues but could not come up with anything better than we now have in terms of quality and ambiance. So, we are constantly evaluating if we need to increase event ticket prices and please do not be too surprised if we raise prices. It is worth noting here that national CIC membership dues have not increased since 2010.



CIC Victoria presents...

LOTFULLAH NAJAFIZADA

Former Director of TOLO news TV,
Afghanistan's top news channel

Wednesday

21 | September | 2022
11:30-1:30 pm

@the Union Club - lunch event
Registration details forthcoming



On the financial front, Roger Love is our treasurer and Table 2 provides an overview of the last fiscal year budget and our planned budget for 2023-2024. Everything we do financially is overseen by the national office and NVSconnect accounting. The latter is a new development and has negated the need for our own honorary reviewer. Indeed, we have been fortunate to have Behram Dadachanji fulfill this role in the past.

Table 2 – CIC Victoria Final Accounts for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and Planned Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

CIC Victoria	2022-2023 Planned	2022-2023 Final	2023-2024 Planned
INCOME			
Membership Fees	\$15,000	\$15,055	\$15,000
Donations by Members	\$4,500	\$2,828*	\$4,000
Luncheon Meeting Revenue	\$28,000	\$32,065	\$33,600
Politics in the Pub Revenue	\$9,100	\$14,500.00**	\$11,340
GIC Investment Income***	\$60	\$111	\$400
Total Income	\$56,660	\$64,559	\$64,340
EXPENSES			
Luncheon meetings operating costs****	\$28,000	\$34,125	\$34,328
Politics in the Pub Operating Costs****	\$9,100	\$16,438	\$13,320
Student & YP Expenses (see Table 1)	\$9,950	\$6,520	\$10,250
Speakers Travel/Lodging Expenses	\$5,000	\$5,321	\$6,000
Speaker honourariums / appreciation	\$2,000	\$1,741	\$1,750
Administrative Expenses	\$500	\$108	\$150
Bank Charges	\$100	\$77	\$80
Members Name Badges	\$250	\$1,166	\$500
Miscellaneous Event Expenses	\$1,460	\$313	---
Total Expenses	\$56,360	\$65,809	\$66,378
Net Surplus or Deficit (-)	300	-\$1,250	-\$2,038
Bank balance: end Fiscal Year (FY)	\$45,925	\$43,983	\$41,495
Notes:			
*Century Circle donations less than expected			
**We ran more PiPs than expected			
***We have 3 x \$10,000 GIC's with RBC			
****Expenses were higher due to rising food prices and wages. Event volunteers do not pay for meals			

Our Upcoming Program Preview

Below are just a few of the activities we currently have planned for the fall period. Registration details will be sent out via an email to members at least two weeks ahead of each event.

Date	Time	Location	Speaker	Topic
Tuesday, 5 September	5-7 pm	Politics in the Pub at the Sticky Wicket	Jeff Kucharski, Royal Roads University	European energy security amid a world in crisis
Wednesday, 20 September	11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Union Club lunch	Jeremy Kinsman, CIC Distinguished Fellow and former Ambassador to Russia (1992-1996)	When Will Putin Finally Grasp That Russia Has Lost?
Thursday, 28 September	3-5 pm	UVic (co-hosted) Harry Hickman Lecture Theater	Filmmaker Judy Jackson	Documentary: Central America and the Migrant Crisis – Where can we live in peace?
Tuesday, 3 October	5-7 pm	Politics in the Pub at the Sticky Wicket	Adebisi Alade, University of Victoria	Growing Democracy in Africa: Cash Politics and the 2023 Cashless Elections in Nigeria
Thursday, 12 October	11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Union Club lunch	Paul Meyer, former Ambassador to the United Nations (2003-2007)	The Future of Diplomacy – Can Global Affairs Canada Transform Itself?
Tuesday, 28 November	11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Union Club lunch	Kim Nossal, Queen’s University	Canada Alone: Navigating the Post-American World



Judy Jackson

Some of our upcoming speakers...



Kim Nossal



Adebisi Alade

Final Words...

As your branch president, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Executive Committee and all our volunteers for their work over the past year. Biographies of the current and new members standing for the Executive Committee can be found at the end of this report.

I would also like to thank everyone for being a part of CIC and CIC Victoria. We are looking forward to another exciting year of events, meeting and working with students and interacting with new Canadians. I also encourage everyone to bring a guest (or two) to our events when space permits and get them involved with CIC Victoria as well. The more the merrier as the saying goes. Indeed, there's nothing better than sitting down to hear from speakers first-hand, and then having the chance to discuss the issues of the day with your table mates.

In addition, if you are interested in joining the Executive Committee in the future or would like to get involved in other ways, please let us know. We are always interested in hearing from members with expertise in international affairs who are willing to speak at our events, participate in panel events, or work individually with our student members.

We also value your feedback and questions about our activities and upcoming events can be sent to our branch secretary at this address: cic.victoria.sec@gmail.com



Photo: Last November, CIC Victoria members gathered at the Union Club to hear from Dr. Rebecca Thorpe (University of Washington) on *Who Won, Who Lost and what now for the future of American politics?* A recording of the event can be seen here: [Dr. Thorpe at the Union Club](#).

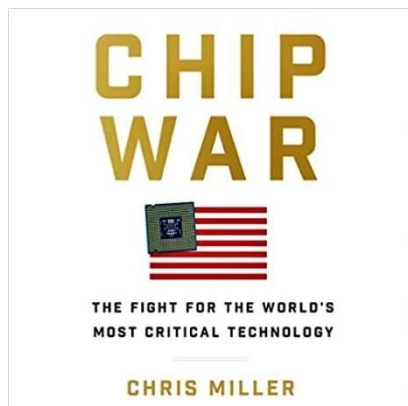
Annex A – CIC Victoria Events Overview 2022-2023

Notes:

In-person venues: SW PiP – Sticky Wicket Politics-in-the-Pub; UC – Union Club; Tapestry – Tapestry at Victoria Harbour; UVic – University of Victoria; RRU – Royal Roads University; VIU – Vancouver Island University.

Date	Location & Speaker	Topic	Attendance
6 Sep	SW PiP: Oliver Schmidtke – UVic CFGS	Russia's Invasion of Ukraine: The Perspective from Europe	55
13 Sep	Zoom: Corey Levine – CIC Victoria View recording	Hope for the Future? Afghanistan Under the Taliban	40
21 Sep	UVic: Lotfullah Najafizada – former Director of TOLO news TV Afghanistan	The End of the Republic and the Future of Afghanistan Under the Taliban	30
21 Sep	UC Lunch: Lotfullah Najafizada	The End of the Republic and the Future of Afghanistan Under the Taliban	91
27 Sep	Zoom: Chris Kilford – CIC Victoria View recording	Russia's Invasion of Ukraine: A Perspective from Turkiye	48
4 Oct	SW PiP: Nick Seiersen – CIC Victoria	Adventures in Setting up Supply Chains for Canada's Foreign Trade	50
13 Oct	Zoom: Chris Miller – author View recording	Chip War – The Fight for the World's Most Critical Technology	52
26 Oct	SW PiP: David Shribman – Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	The Future of American Politics	60
8 Nov	Zoom: Ulric Shannon – Global Affairs Canada. Not recorded	The Future of the Canadian Foreign Service	68
10 Nov	RRU: Chris Kilford – CIC Victoria	Reflections on Canada...Past, Present and Future	75
16 Nov	SW PiP: Phil Calvert – CIC Victoria	Xi Jinping's Third Term and What it Means for Canada?	60
22 Nov	UC Lunch: Rebecca U. Thorpe – UofW View recording	Who Won, Who Lost and What Now for the Future of American Politics?	145
8 Dec	UC Lunch: Gary Smith – author	Ice War Diplomat – Hockey Meets Cold War Politics at the 1972 Summit Series	103
10 Jan	SW PiP: Victor Ramraj – UVic CAPI	Unpacking Canada's new Indo-Pacific Strategy	60
18 Jan	UC Lunch: Jeremy Kinsman – CIC Victoria and Distinguished Fellow	2022 – The Year in Review	112
25 Jan	Zoom: Yulia Kovaliv, Ukrainian Ambassador to Canada. Not recorded	The War in Ukraine	100
7 Feb	SW PiP: Martin Bunton – UVic and Chris Kilford – CIC Victoria	The War in Ukraine...Middle East spillover?	60
15 Feb	UC Lunch: Li-hsin (Angel) Liu, Taiwan Economic & Cultural Office Vancouver	Strengthening Engagement: Taiwan-Canada relations	96

24 Feb	Tapestry: Chris Kilford – CIC Victoria	The War in Ukraine	70
3 Mar	UVic: CAPI day-long panel event (co-sponsored)	CAPI Conference on Indo-Pacific Strategy	70
7 Mar	SW PiP: Will Greaves (UVic)	House of Cards? Russia’s Arctic Strategy	60
15 Mar	UC Lunch: Max Cameron – University of British Columbia	Latin America and Electoral Denialism: A New Challenge to Democracy	103
15 Mar	Base Theatre: General Wayne Eyre, Chief of the Defence Staff	Geopolitical Shifts: Preparing the CAF for the Challenges of Tomorrow	110
4 Apr	SW PiP: Reeta Tremblay – CIC Victoria	India – A Rising Power	60
11 Apr	SW PiP: Reeta Tremblay – CIC Victoria	India – A Rising Power	60
19 Apr	UC Lunch: Resat Kasaba – University of Washington	Economics, Earthquakes, Elections: The Challenges Ahead for Turkiye	130
4 May	UVic CFGS: Chair – Oliver Schmidtke (co-hosted)	Immoral Code: Data Collection and Dehumanization in Modern Warfare	22
9 May	SW PiP: Anna Tsurkan – Canada Russia Research Initiative	Personal reflections – The War in Ukraine	60
15 May	RRU: Joint event with the Masters of Global Management program	Geopolitical Perceptions of Russia’s 2022 Invasion of Ukraine	80
18 May	SW PiP: Anna Tsurkan – Canada Russia Research Initiative	Personal Reflections – The War in Ukraine	60
25 May	UC Lunch: Andrew Wender (UVic)	Great Power Competition in the Middle East	108
31 May	Zoom: Jamie Bowman – author <i>Bike Riding in Kabul</i> . View recording	The Global Adventures of a Foreign Aid Policy Practitioner	30
6 Jun	SW PiP: Phil Calvert – CIC Victoria	Canada’s Indo-Pacific Strategy	60
14 Jun	Tapestry: Chris Kilford – CIC Victoria	The Challenges ahead for post-election Turkiye	75
15 Jun	SW PiP: Jim Nickel, Director of the Canadian Trade office in Taipei	Strengthening Engagement: Canada-Taiwan relations	60



Our Zoom discussion with Chris Miller, author of *Chip War*, was the most popular Zoom event in terms of members and non-members who watched the recording afterwards – over 450 and rising. *Chip War* is an epic account of the decades-long battle to control what has emerged as the world’s most critical resource – microchip technology – with the United States and China increasingly in conflict. To watch the event, just click here: [Chip War](#).

Annex B – CIC Victoria Proposed Executive Committee 2023-2024

President: Chris Kilford

Chris served in the Canadian Armed Forces for 36 years. In the latter part of his career, he was the Acting Director Future Security Analysis in the Department of National Defence, Deputy Director of the team writing the Canada First Defence Strategy and the Military Liaison Officer between the Canadian Armed Forces and the Standing Senate Committee on National Security and Defence. Later, he deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan as the Deputy Military Attaché in the Canadian Embassy from July 2009 until July 2010, followed by Turkish language training and a posting to Ankara, Turkey as the Canadian Defence Attaché with cross accreditation to Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Turkmenistan from July 2011 until July 2014.

Chris retired from the military in September 2014. He holds a PhD in history from Queen's University and today is a member of the CIC National Board, a Fellow at the Queen's Centre for International and Defence Policy, an Associate Faculty member at Royal Roads University, a Sessional Professor at the Royal Military College of Canada & the Canadian Forces College and co-editor of CIC's online foreign affairs magazine *Open Canada*.

Vice President: Marilyn MacLean Denton

Marilyn MacLean Denton retired in Victoria after 27 years working for the federal government. Among her assignments with Global Affairs Canada were five years as Trade Commissioner for Vancouver Island, Senior Trade Commissioner for Pakistan and Afghanistan, and International Education Marketing officer Asia Pacific branch. She also worked in the private sector on various contracts and was one of two founding staff for the Foundation for Educational Exchange between Canada and the United States of America, the Fulbright Scholarship Program. In retirement, she is active with St. Matthias Anglican Church, the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria Associates Wholesale Book Initiative, on the Board of Directors for Rogers Court (a 24-unit low-income seniors' housing), gardening and music.

Branch Secretary: Patricia Crossley

Patricia is an educator who holds an MA in French Language and Literature and worked mostly in French during her career. She has lived, worked, or studied in six different countries and has been a resident of Victoria for just over twenty years. During that time, however, she and her husband, Rod, spent 6 months of every year for 16 years in rural Kenya, where they did volunteer work in education and community development. As a result of the volunteer work in Africa, she and Rod were awarded the Meritorious Service Medal in 2016 by the Government of Canada. After the charitable organisation in Kenya closed, Patricia served as President of the Rotary Club of Victoria and as President of Christ Church Cathedral Education Society, and chair of the school board.

Treasurer: Roger Love

Roger was a career banker, most recently in Asian risk management; following retirement he worked for the financial institutions' regulator, OSFI, and – in Victoria – for the Provincial Ministry of Finance. Roger is now definitely retired, but active with the outdoor hobbies for which he now has time.

Member at Large: Jim Boutilier

Dr. James Boutilier was the former Special Advisor (Policy) at Canada's Maritime Forces Pacific Headquarters in Esquimalt, British Columbia and retired in 2020. He was responsible for advising the Commander of Maritime Forces Pacific on matters of defence and foreign policy and maritime security in the Asia Pacific region. Prior to his appointment at MARPAC, Dr. Boutilier spent twenty-four years on staff at the Royal Roads Military College in Victoria as Head of the History Department and then as Dean of Arts. Dr. Boutilier's field of expertise is Asia-Pacific defence and security. Some of his recent lectures have focused on the Canadian Navy's role in the Asia-Pacific, the new Asian security architecture, Northeast Asian security issues, and the new naval order in Asia. Dr. Boutilier lectures frequently at the NATO Defense College, the Canadian Forces College, the Australian Defence College, and the National Defense University of the Philippines.

Member at Large: Alan Breakspear

Alan was a federal public servant for 30 years, working in various departments and agencies, mainly in intelligence, and provided consulting services for several years thereafter. He moved to Victoria in 2007, where he maintains an interest in intelligence studies and is active in several professional associations.

Member at Large: Jennifer Button

Jennifer is an independent justice and governance consultant, following a 28-year career as legal counsel with the British Columbia Ministry of Justice. During her tenure at the Ministry of Justice, Jennifer provided legal and policy advice particularly on constitutional law, but also environmental law, gender issues, human rights law, judicial independence, rule of law, and intellectual property. She has also volunteered with the Canadian Bar Association (chiefly, the International Law section), the American Bar Association-UNDP International Legal Resource Center (ILRC) in Washington, and Lawyers Rights Watch Canada, among other organizations. Her international work includes working as a Visiting Professional with the International Criminal Court in The Hague, providing advice as a gender expert to UNDP Belarus, conducting training on principles of constitutional law for the judges and senior staff of the Supreme Court of Somaliland, and writing reports for the Commonwealth Secretariat and Canada's Department of National Defence.

Member at Large: Phil Calvert

Philip is a Senior Fellow with the China Institute of the University of Alberta, a Senior Research Associate with the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives at the University of Victoria, and an Honorary Research Associate at Vancouver Island University. He served in Beijing as a Trade Commissioner (1984-87), Economic Counsellor (1994-1997) and Minister & Deputy Head of Mission (2004-2008). In Global Affairs Canada he served as Director General for North Asia, Deputy Chief Negotiator for Canada during China's accession to the WTO and as Director of the Technical Barriers to Trade Division. Most recently he spent 2012-2016 as Canada's ambassador to Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos.

Member at Large: Hon. Mary Collins, PC

Mary has worked in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. She was the Member of Parliament for Capilano-Howe Sound from 1984-93 and served as Associate Minister of National Defence, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women and Minister of Health. She has been involved in projects to support women in political life in Vietnam, Ukraine and Mongolia and spent five years living in Russia working on health policy.

Member at Large: Heather Currie

Heather has been a member of the Canadian International Council (CIC) since 2018 and has volunteered for several CIC projects, the most recent supporting the Foreign Policy By Canadians effort. She has twenty-four years of experience in the non-profit, public, and private sectors and in 2019, earned a BA (history) with Distinction from the University of Victoria with a focus on the Middle East. Her most recent publication appeared in *Afkar: The Undergraduate Journal of Middle East Studies* (2020) which focused on the Partition of Palestine in 1947-1948. While completing her BA, and with the support of the Royal United Services Institute – Vancouver Island, Heather also conducted an oral history project, which involved interviewing former members of the Canadian Armed Forces about their roles as former military attachés in various countries. Heather is also enrolled in the MA War Studies program at the Royal Military College and is the Research Program Manager for *Borders in Globalization* at the Centre for Global Studies at the University of Victoria.

Member at Large: Behram Dadachanji

Behram was born and spent his formative years in India. He is a Chartered Accountant and a Certified Internal Auditor, with additional certifications in risk management and related assurance activities. He has extensive financial, audit and operational management experience gained across five continents. He has held senior positions in both the private and public sectors in Canada & internationally. Immediately prior to retiring in 2016, Behram headed the Internal Audit function at the University of Victoria.

Over the years, Behram has served on several not-for-profit Boards (including a 3-year term as Treasurer for the United Way of Greater Victoria). He has also been a member of various Finance & Audit Committees and continues to serve Boards in an advisory capacity.

Behram and his family immigrated to Canada in 1989 and have since called Victoria their home. He enjoys travelling and loves spending quality time with his family, especially with his 4-year-old grandson.

Member at Large: Francesca Guetchev

Francesca Guetchev is a dedicated Analyst and Special Projects security professional at MOSAIC, a leading firm in the private security, intelligence, and investigative risk and crisis management industry. With a keen interest in international security and geopolitics, Francesca is passionate and deeply committed to fostering meaningful dialogue to advance both Canadian foreign policy and international affairs. Holding a Master's degree in Conflict Studies from the London School of Economics and Political Science, Francesca specialized in the privatization of security and international law, with an emphasis on physical and cyber battle spaces, as well as the evolving nature of conflict. Prior to this, she completed her Bachelor's degree in Political Science at the University of Victoria. Before transitioning into the private sector, Francesca cultivated valuable experience in the public sector while working for National Defence Canada, Executive Operations for various Deputy Ministers, and a Cabinet Minister. Her diverse career also includes positions in oil and gas and aviation. In addition to her professional endeavors, Francesca devotes her time to a non-profit organization focused on combating human trafficking and modern-day slavery, demonstrating her commitment to making a positive impact in the world.

Member at Large: Mallin Jiang

As an individual who cherishes education and international experience, Mallin grew up in-Shanghai before first moving to the Cayman Islands, after which she moved to Canada and became a Canadian citizen. Mallin's time in Shanghai, an international trade and financial center, where she witnessed the ascension of modern China and its economic miracle taught her the value of free-market principles and global trade. While in the Cayman Islands, a British Commonwealth country, she was exposed to the value of a strong legal and judicial system, as evidenced by the world's confidence in its banking system. Canada gave Mallin citizenship as a refugee fleeing hurricane Ivan, but more importantly, it continues to demonstrate the value of a strong democracy which has provided the freedom and stability to establish her career, advance her education with a Master's degree in international business, and assists her in launching her future endeavours.

Mallin is currently managing the International Contract Training unit at Royal Roads University (RRU) and is responsible for developing and implementing international customized training programs for a diverse range of international students and professionals from Asia, Latin America, Europe, and the Middle East. Prior to joining the Professional and Continuing Studies team in February 2019, Mallin managed onshore international recruitment partners across multiple markets, both domestic and international, hosted delegations and visiting scholars, and liaised academic collaboration projects for the University. During her 14-year career at RRU, Mallin has been instrumental in developing and cultivating strategic relationships with key international partners, such as acting as the key liaison for China-Canada relations and supporting trade missions. Above and beyond her career at RRU, Mallin is engaged in facilitating international trade and investment opportunities, and community service such

as fundraising events with the potential to bring diverse and vibrant culture to local communities. She strives to influence real change in the world through her advocacy in education, entrepreneurship, and cross-culture exchange while continuing to advance her professional career, expanding her leadership capacity, and developing more opportunities for the global community.

Mallin's near-term goals include further expanding her knowledge in the digital industry by acquiring new computer coding skills, supporting the development and launch of a new tech company, and becoming more involved in international trade in regions beyond Asia. Mallin earned a Master of Global Management Degree and a Graduate Certificate in Asia Pacific Trade and Investment from Royal Roads University. She was a successful recipient of the Irving K Barber One World Scholarship in 2019.

Member at Large: Jonathan Manthorpe

Jonathan Manthorpe has worked for 40 years as a foreign correspondent and international affairs commentator for Canadian newspapers. He has been based in Europe, Africa and Asia and is the author of *Forbidden Nation: A History of Taiwan* (2008), *Claws of the Panda* (2018) and *Restoring Democracy in an Age of Populists and Pestilence* (2020). Jonathan has also been involved in special projects for governments and international organizations, including work for the United Nations, the World Bank, the Asia Development Bank, the Canadian International Development Agency, and various NGOs. He is currently working on his memoirs and a fourth book.

Member at Large: Adrian Norfolk

Adrian Norfolk holds a BA in geography from the University of Victoria, and a BEd in geography and economics from the University of London, UK. He joined External Affairs and International Trade Canada as a Foreign Service officer in 1994 after a 14-year career with the World University Service of Canada (including postings in Nigeria, Malawi, and Sri Lanka). In Ottawa, Adrian served as the deputy director with the Human Rights Division, director of the Policy and Advocacy Division of the Afghanistan Task Force, special adviser with the Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force, and coordinator of the Interdepartmental Task Force on International Critical Incidents. Abroad, he served as third, then second secretary at the Canadian mission in Malaysia (1995-98) and as counsellor (political) in both India (2004-08) and Afghanistan (2008-09). In 2011-12, Adrian established and headed the Office of the Embassy of Canada in South Sudan, and in 2015-18 he was Ambassador of Canada to Qatar. In 2018, he became Chargé d'Affaires in Sudan, and in 2020 Canada's first resident ambassador to Sudan. Adrian retired in January 2022. He is married to Ruth Norfolk and they have three grown-up sons.

Member at Large: Lieutenant Commander (Retired) Paul Seguna

Paul served in the Canadian Armed Forces, in both the Regular and Reserve components, for over 42 years and retired in 2017. During his career, he served at sea with the Atlantic and Pacific fleets, as the Flag Lieutenant (Aide de Camp) to the Commander Maritime Forces Pacific and later as the Public Affairs Officer for Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt. Paul transferred to the Public Affairs Branch in 1992, serving in a variety of positions, including overseas with UN and NATO missions in Rwanda, Kosovo and Bosnia and in his last four years of service he was posted to NATO's Allied Maritime Command Headquarters

in London, UK. Paul also holds a BA in history from Dalhousie University and he has had a lifelong interest in art, especially aviation and marine themes. He is a founding member of the Canadian Aerospace Artists Association with his artwork having been on exhibit in aviation and military museums and used in aviation history books.

Member at Large: Brenda Schoepp

Brenda brings a global perspective on food system leadership and in her decades of independent farming has developed regenerative practices and served in leadership roles provincially, nationally and internationally in agriculture and agri-food, finance, policy, research and animal health. She was awarded the Lord Nuffield Scholarship in 2012, which allowed her to investigate and develop mentorship programs for women and girls in global agriculture. In 2019, she earned her Master of Arts in Global Leadership from Royal Roads University (RRU), researching Global Food Systems Leadership and completed her United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) courses on Food Security and Rural Community Development.

Brenda is also the recipient of awards in leadership, diversity, communication and as an author. An active advocate for equality and acceptance and an inspiring speaker, she fosters her global reach by focusing on youth, mentoring young entrepreneurs, and providing leadership training through Global Food Lead. Brenda is also appointed to the Canadian Food Policy Advisory Council, which is tasked with co-creating the nation's first food policy.

Member at Large: Reeta Tremblay

Reeta Tremblay is Professor Emerita of Comparative Politics and Global South at the University of Victoria. During her career, she has held several administrative positions including Vice President Academic and Provost at the University of Victoria; Vice President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Pro Tem) at Memorial University in Newfoundland; Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Memorial; and, Chair, department of Political Science at Concordia University, Montreal. She is Past President of the Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA), Canadian Asian Studies (CASA), and the Canadian Council of Area Studies of Learned Societies. Reeta also holds an MA and PhD. in Political Science from the University of Chicago and an MPhil degree from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, India. She has authored or co-authored several books, articles, and reviews. Her work is widely reviewed and cited – in particular, her writings on Kashmir and India-Pakistan relations, a subject on which she is widely considered the leading North American expert.

Reeta's selected recent publications include: "Unpacking the Equity Myth: Diversity and Leadership Deficit" (2023); "The Political Economy of Natural Resource Funds" (2021 with Eyene Okpanachi); "Religion and Politics in Jammu and Kashmir" (2020) "India: Federalism, Nationalism, and the Marginalized – Covid India" (2020); "Kashmir Elections: A Precursor to 'No More Two Flags, Two Constitutions'" (2019); "Modi's Foreign Policy"; "Contested Governance, Competing Nationalisms, and Disenchanted Publics: Kashmir beyond Intractability?" (2017); "Kashmir's Contentious Politics: The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same" (2015). She also has contributed policy commentaries on Kashmir and South Asian regional politics to South Asia Monitor (New Delhi-based

think tank, Society for Policy Studies) and to Kashmir Connected (UK). In 2015, she was recognized as one of the top 40 prominent Indo-Canadians and was profiled in The Indian Diaspora' A-List.

Member at Large: Chris Weicker

Colonel (retired) Chris Weicker is a native of Victoria, British Columbia. He attended the University of Victoria where he completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science in 1982. At the same time, he was an officer in the local Communication Reserve unit and a father of two children. In 1983, he transferred to the Regular Force, serving in Army and communication units in Canada and Germany. His last posting was as Canada's Defence Attaché in Beijing, China, He has a combined military service of more than 36 years.

On retirement in 2013, he and his wife, Major (retired) Evamarie Weicker, completed a Bachelor of Arts in Pacific and Asian Studies with a focus on Chinese language, history, geography and culture at the University of Victoria. He continued to study Chinese history by completing a Master of History at University of Victoria. His thesis was on the secret history of young Chinese Canadians who volunteered for very dangerous duties behind enemy lines during the last few years of the Second World War. Finally, he completed in April 2023 a two-year German language and culture proficiency certificate. He joined CIC in May 2023.



Photo: Last November, RRU students and CIC Victoria members came together for pizza, refreshments and to listen to and reflect on the presentation *Reflections on Canada...Past, Present and Future*.