

CULTURAL COMMUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONSULTATION

Convened by the Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC) in collaboration with the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD)

April 20, 2015 - 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Hyatt Regency, King II Conference Room, 370 King Street West Toronto, ON M5V 1J9

Parliamentary Secretary Lois Brown

Member of Parliament for Newmarket-Aurora

Lois Brown is a second-term Member of Parliament for Newmarket-Aurora, having been first elected in October 2008, and then re-elected in May 2011.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper appointed Lois as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development in January 2011 and reappointed her following her re-election later that year.

Lois is a member of the House of Commons Standing Committees on Foreign Affairs and International Development as well as a member of several Parliamentary Associations, Bilateral Associations and Interparliamentary Groups. She was appointed to the Red Tape Reduction Commission by Prime Minister Stephen Harper in January 2011. She has also served on the Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities and as Vice Chair of the Conservative Auto Caucus.

She is recognized for her tireless efforts in representing her constituent's concerns in Ottawa. Within Newmarket-Aurora, Lois continues to contribute her time to many worthwhile community organizations. She is a member of the Royal Canadian Legion and North Newmarket Lions Club and Honourary Chair of the Newmarket-Aurora Operation Red Nose volunteer designated driver program. Speaking with students at the elementary and high school levels and encouraging their participation in the democratic process is a particular passion of hers.

Prior to her election Lois was the vice president of a successful disability management company she co-founded with her husband - working with large Canadian manufacturers including those in the automotive and forestry sectors.

Lois was a public appointee to a governing board of health care professionals from 2001 to 2003 during which time she was elected Vice-Chair.

An accomplished musician, Lois holds an ARCT degree from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. She is an accompanist with the York Regional Police Chorus, a volunteer initiative of the York Regional Police that raises money for local charities and performs throughout Canada and internationally.

Lois and her husband Kelvin reside in Newmarket and have two grown daughters.



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CONTRIBUTORS BIOGRAPHIES

Alpha Abebe PhD Candidate, Department of International Development, Oxford University, and Co-founder of Young Diplomats Ethiopian Youth Development Group

Alpha Abebe has spent several years as an international and community development practitioner, and her advocacy, research and professional efforts have largely focused on youth, diasporas, and East Africa. Alpha holds an MA from York University in Interdisciplinary Studies, a Graduate Diploma in Refugee and Migration Studies, and an Honours BA from the University of Toronto. She is currently completing a PhD at the Department of International Development at Oxford University, and is affiliated with both the International Migration Institute and Diasporas Programme at Oxford. Her dissertation explores how and why young Ethiopian diasporans in the North America engage with development practice and discourse in Ethiopia. Prior to starting her doctoral degree, Alpha worked with The MasterCard Foundation supporting initiatives focused on skills and workforce development for youth in Sub-Saharan Africa. Photography is another important element in her life, and her work has been exhibited at a number of festivals and events in Toronto, Ethiopia and England.

Sue Cass One World Inc.

Sue Cass has worked for more than three decades as a process facilitator, training specialist, educator, and mediator - mainly in the not-for-profit, NGO and government sectors in Canada and internationally. Her professional and personal life has been enriched by extensive work experiences in the areas of intercultural effectiveness, popular education, community development, and international cooperation and through working and living in a wide diversity of contexts. This rich experience base contributes to her ability to work in varying contexts from individual key informant interviews, to small group sessions, to large-scale national and international forums, on a wide variety of topics, and with diverse clientele. As Senior Associate of One World Inc. since 2006, her particular specialization and focus of professional activity is in the design, facilitation, and evaluation of high-quality dialogue and multi-stakeholder engagement and consultation processes. Sue is bilingual and holds a MA in Adult Education and a BSc in Anthropology and Comparative Development Studies. She also holds a number of specialized certifications including Alternative Dispute Resolution, Deliberative Dialogue, Stakeholder Engagement and Essential Skills in Evaluation.

Ariel Delouya Director General, Engaging Canadians Bureau, Partnership for Development Innovation Branch, DFATD.

Ariel Delouya joined the Department of External Affairs in 1986 following undergraduate and graduate studies at McGill and Carleton universities respectively. He served abroad in Ankara from 1987 to 1989 and in Washington, D.C., from 2002 to 2006, where he was minister-counsellor (Congressional Relations and Legal Affairs). In Ottawa, Mr. Delouya has held a number of positions, including departmental spokesperson with the Media Relations Office and deputy director of the International Economic Relations and Summits Division, where he was responsible for G8 summits. From 1998 to 2002, Mr. Delouya was on secondment to the Privy Council Office, first as foreign policy advisor in the Foreign and Defence Policy Secretariat from 1998 to 2000, and then as chief of staff to the Clerk of the Privy Council from 2000 to 2002. He served as Director of the Policy Research Division from 2006 to 2009, before being appointed Ambassador of Canada to Tunisia in 2009 where he served during the Tunisian revolution. Following his return to Ottawa in 2012, he was appointed Executive Director for Mission Inspections. He was named Director General of the Engaging Canadians Bureau in September 2014.

John Monahan Executive Director, Mosaic Institute

In 2008, John Monahan became the first Executive Director of the Mosaic Institute. A former lawyer, civil servant and diplomat, he has led the Mosaic Institute's growth into a nationally-recognized, award-winning "think and do" tank focused on diaspora engagement, inter-community dialogue and the development of young Canadians into peace-focused global citizens. He is currently a member of the Advisory Boards of the Canadian Arab Institute and the Institute for Diaspora Research and Engagement at Vancouver's Simon Fraser University. He is a graduate of the University of Toronto's Trinity College (BA), l'Université des Sciences Humaines de Strasbourg (DEF), Dalhousie University (MPA), and the University of Toronto Faculty of Law (JD)

Kimberly Gibbons

Executive Director, Ontario Council for International Cooperation

Kimberly Gibbons has been the Executive Director of the Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC) since 2005. During this time she has helped to lead OCIC through a period of expansion and growth in its sector-representation, networking, capacity building and public engagement roles in Ontario and Canada. As a Council, OCIC's priorities are to strengthen members' capacity in being leaders of good development and adapting to change; to increase multi-stakeholder dialogue to better understand and leverage perspectives, expertise and resources; and to influence by informing, amplifying the voice of Council members. Kimberly has worked in many formal and non-formal education settings with youth and adults of diverse backgrounds in Asia, Central America, Europe and Canada and cares deeply about increasing collaborative spaces and cooperation as a means to end global poverty and inequality. Kimberly holds a Masters of Education in Adult Education and Transformative Learning from OISE, University of Toronto, and studied human rights at the graduate level at the Commonwealth Institute, University of London, England. She also has a Bachelor of Arts in International Development and Rural Extension Studies from the University of Guelph and completed her final undergraduate year of study at SNTD Women's University, Mumbai, India.

Danny Pelletier

Director of Programs and Partnerships, Cuso International

Danny Pelletier is Director of Programs and Partnerships at Cuso International, a leading North American international development organization that works to reduce poverty and inequality through the efforts of skilled volunteers. Mr. Pelletier leads the program development and management of overseas operations in 22 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. He has an extensive background in senior management in the NGO sector nationally and internationally with more than 25 years of experience leading initiatives in health, HIV and AIDS, Education, Natural Resource Management and Local Economic Development. In addition, Mr. Pelletier has extensive experience managing development projects overseas mostly in Western and Central Africa and has been recognized over his career for contributions and achievements in the voluntary sector.

Dr. Margaret Walton-Roberts

Associate Professor, Geography and Environmental Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University and Associate Dean, School of Policy and Governance, Balsillie School of International Affairs

Dr. Margaret Walton-Roberts is an associate professor in the Geography and Environmental studies department at Wilfrid Laurier University Ontario, and associate Dean of the School of Policy and Governance at the Balsillie School of International Affairs. Her research addresses Indian immigrant networks and settlement in Canada, and the impact of transnational networks in both source and destination locales. She has published a number of articles and book chapters highlighting the role of immigration and remittances in transnational community formation and maintenance including work on health philanthropy, remittance-led village projects in Punjab, explorations of the role of the state and community in the nature of transnational relations between Non Resident Indians and sending communities. Together with an international partnership of NGOs, academics and independent research institutes she is working on a project looking at Diasporas, Development and Governance, some of which is profiled in a forthcoming co-edited collection to be published in Springer's Global Migration series.

Joseph Wuol

Chairperson, South Sudanese Peacebuilding Organization

Joseph Wuol is the Chair and CEO of the Kitchener-Waterloo-based South Sudanese Community Peace Building Taskforce. His organization mobilizes members of the South Sudanese community in Canada to engage with other community groups, churches, government officials and NGOs in efforts to advocate for peace and development in South Sudan. Mr. Wuol has worked in various senior capacities with the governments of Sudan and South Sudan, UN agencies in Kenya and Egypt, and with government and community agencies in Canada. Until recently, he was the Secretary of the Government Performance Management in the Office of the President and the Vice President of South Sudan (2007-2013), where he worked mainly to help implement the CPA and the post-referendum policy agenda. He abandoned the position when the crisis erupted in mid-December 2013 for security reasons, and has since then dedicated his time to advocate for the restoration of peace, justice and democracy in South Sudan. Joseph holds a Master's degree in Human Resource Development from the University of Pune (India), and a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Political Science (Public Finance) from Calicut University (India).