

Thank You!

We would like to say a very big “THANK YOU” to the OCC Advisory Committee, who has been with the program since the beginning and has helped shape and ground its development. The Committee works on a volunteer basis. We have been so grateful to each and every one of you for showing up and bringing your individual perspective to this program. Thank you, on behalf of the entire 8 80 Cities team and all the Ontario Changemakers, past, present and future!

Steve Anderson



Steve is the former Deputy Mayor for the Town of Shelburne and Councillor for the County of Dufferin and is well known for his work in establishing and promoting Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives. During his time in politics, Steve was identified by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) as a “Municipal Trailblazer.” In addition, Steve is a Senior practicing litigation lawyer with over 17 years of experience with the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) where he has received several awards for his distinguished service.

Regarding his personal accomplishments, Steve was proud to be named by the Toronto Star as one of the Top 50 Jamaicans in the GTA in 2013 and equally proud of his acknowledgement by the House of Commons for his community service. In 2022, Steve was presented with an award from Unity in the Community for his excellence in advancing Diversity and Inclusion. He also received the City of Toronto Bob Marley Award in recognition for his advancement for Human Rights and was recognized as being one of the Top 100 Influential Black Canadians. Steve has recently added the title of Author with the highly anticipated release of his first book: Driven to Succeed that chronicles his journey growing up in the “infamous Jane and Finch community to becoming the first elected Black Deputy Mayor for the Town of Shelburne and Councillor for the County of Dufferin

Niko Casuncad

Niko Casuncad (he/him) is a planner and city-builder with a background in program design and management, research and policy analysis, and community engagement in the social impact sector. He is interested in the role of urban planning and community development in improving quality of life and reducing poverty in cities.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies and Certificate in Sustainability Studies from the University of Calgary and a Master of Planning from Toronto Metropolitan University’s School of Urban and Regional Planning. Recently, he worked on program delivery for an affordable housing support program at Evergreen and he has worked with the Metcalf Foundation, ArtsPond, and 8 80 Cities.

He is a second-generation Filipino-Canadian from Calgary, Alberta (Treaty 7) and is based in Toronto, Ontario (Treaty 13).



Shannon Holness

Shannon Holness' background and education are in urban planning and include experiences in affordable housing policy and development planning, public engagement and municipal planning. Consistent threads throughout her career have been: equity-based placemaking, supporting policy development, urban resilience, effectively working across a diverse range of stakeholder groups, partnership building and finally, an incredible passion for supporting the wellbeing of communities.



Tt Scott

Tt (Tasia) Scott is a recent graduate of Laurentian University. With a Double major in Criminology and Sociology and a focus on Interpersonal Communication, she was recognized with honours for her creative writing skills. Interests include research, data analysis, advocacy with vulnerable communities, and social theory. She participates frequently in various social movements, mentoring opportunities for racialized youth, and providing support to Grassroot and community organizations. She plans to continue her studies and professionalism in law to continue to support racialized groups and provide more holistic support to minority organizations.

Selina Young

Selina is Métis from the Prairies. She has been a guest on Anishnawbe and Haudenosaunee territory in and around Tkaronto her whole life. She is an active volunteer including roles with Katimavik, Park People, Peel Children's Aid Society, Toronto Raptors, the Toronto Public Library and the Urban Land Institute. Selina happily supports 880 Cities and the Ontario Community Changemakers in their efforts to create meaningful change with and for communities.

Selina is passionate about water and land; you can find her paddling local waters, hiking and running along the Great Lakes, local rivers, through urban parks and rocky trails, like the Bruce Trail. She has undergraduate and graduate degrees in aquatic toxicology and environmental studies.

Selina also has decades of experience in public service, having worked for governments in Ontario, Canada, and Scotland, and is currently the Director of the Indigenous Affairs Office at the City of Toronto. The Office strives to strengthen the City's relationship with Indigenous communities and works to advance truth, justice and reconciliation.

