

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[View this email in your browser](#)*Summer 2022*

PAST PARTICIPANTS OF THE NORTHSIDE CHANGEMAKER PROGRAM WERE SURVEYED. 23 RESPONDENTS SAID THAT THANKS TO THE PROGRAM, THEY:

**91%**

INCREASED THEIR  
SELF-CONFIDENCE

**96%**

DEVELOPED NEW  
CONNECTIONS &  
RELATIONSHIPS

**100%**

BETTER UNDERSTOOD  
THE COMMUNITY'S  
CHALLENGES

**100%**

EXPANDED THEIR  
SENSE OF WHAT THEY  
COULD OFFER THE  
COMMUNITY

## Learning & Impact

How do we know, and demonstrate, that we are making a difference?

This is a challenge in our work. Equity-centered systems change is often vague, emergent and complex. In other words, it's hard to describe, let alone quantify.

If you are curious about our work, I invite you download and read "[A Year of Transforming: Inspiring Communities' Annual Report on Learning and Impact 2021-22.](#)"

This document is to show the ways our work is showing impact, what we have learned, and how that is showing up in our work.

With systems, we talk about "all levels all the time": trying to keep focus on the horizon, the near horizon and the immediate at the same time. So it is, too,

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that are interacting differently; the equitable adjustment of power balances in communities; and, the ways that we and other practitioners have affected our own and each other's work with what we have learned.

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**“Our power comes from our fearless embrace of experimentation, our ability to build strong collaborations, and in our focus on finding leverage points to influence systems change. And this power has been shown in our ability to fundamentally transform our organization and the way we work.”**

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Over the last year, we have built many new relationships and carefully examined what foundation a collaboration needs to be productive. That is a theme we will carry forward this year, beginning with partnering on the Art of City Building in September. One of the metaphors for our work that came out of our recent staff planning retreat was that of an orchard; we have many seedlings we are nurturing in our orchard. We look forward to sharing their growth and eventually, their fruit of equitable systems change, with you in the future.

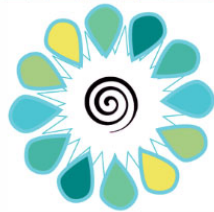
Yours in systems change,



Louise Adongo, Executive Director

**Download "A Year of Transforming"**

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## Atlantic Changemakers Council

We are pleased to announce the inaugural members of the Atlantic Changemakers Council. You can [meet these inspiring innovative leaders here](#). The Atlantic Changemakers Council fulfills a key function of our role as the Atlantic Node of SI Canada, convening changemakers and contributing to growth in the field of social innovation.

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## Inspiring Communities welcomes new staff

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## Between the Bridges

Anne Shileche and Shawna Wright have joined the Between the Bridges initiative in Dartmouth North, along with Administrator Cheryl Bishop. [Learn more about the new team here.](#)



## Interns for Communications and Research

Inspiring Communities welcomed two summer interns, Grace Hanley and Morgan Rose. Grace is the Communications and Events intern and is a Marketing student at UNB. Morgan is located at Memorial University in Newfoundland and is conducting research on Social Innovation Labs for us. [Learn more about these women here.](#)

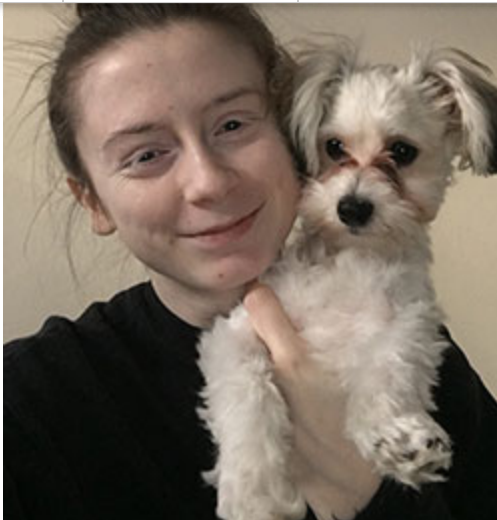


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## Core and Cape Breton hires

Manal Salha accepted the position of Accounting Officer in the spring, and has been marshalling order into our books ever since. Her years of experience are a boon to us, especially as she has overseen our first ever audit. At Northside Rising, [Des Ong is a familiar face](#), as an alumna of the Northside Changemakers Program. She has joined the initiative as network coordinator.



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## Turning the Tide youth worker and interns

Bobby-Jay Aubin joined our Digby initiative as Youth Outreach Worker earlier this spring. They bring over 30 years of experience working with youth and a dynamic energy for the work. Two youth interns have been engaged, Anastasia Nevin and Eli Wood (his dog is not on the payroll, though!). [Meet the Turning the Tide team here.](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Atlantic Summer  
Institute on  
Healthy and Safe  
Communities

l'Institut d'été  
sur les collectivités  
sûres et en santé au  
Canada atlantique

## Atlantic Summer Institute 2022 Forum

Together Again: Regenerating the power of connection

[Visit the Website to learn more](#)

*Note: Inspiring Communities Staff Treno Morton and Grace*

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**Mon Aug 22nd 6:00pm - Wed 24th 4:00pm**

140 Weymouth Street, Charlottetown, PE C1A 4Z1

Be part of a movement that brings together people who are capable of influencing and implementing changes at the policy and community levels! ASI 2022 aims to increase understanding of the importance of infant, child and youth mental health for the whole of society, and foster policy actions to influence upstream investment in support of mental health.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

St. John Ambulance parking lot,  
Highfield Park Dr, Dartmouth

## BURGERS & BACKPACKS!

Halal and vegetarian options will be available



**BACK TO SCHOOL  
COMMUNITY  
BBQ**

Join us!!  
**Saturday,  
Sept 3  
12-3 PM**  
#burgersandbackpacks

Burger cartoon vector created by analpata11 & Grill vector created by macrovector. Both: www.freepik.com

 We will distribute backpacks of  
school supplies to students.



Want to help with donations of backpacks or school  
supplies? Contact Shawna,  
[swright@betweenthebridges.ca](mailto:swright@betweenthebridges.ca).



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## The Art of City Building

Stay tuned for more to come! <https://www.artofcitybuilding.ca/>

### NEW on our BLOG

Check out these new posts on our blog:

#### [Mind the pace...](#)

August 18, 2022 [Learning](#)

by Charlene Boyce, Communications Manager In my first city job, I was a graphic designer at a printing company. It was back when manual [...]

#### [Poems by North Dartmouth Poet Kali JJ Williams](#)

July 28, 2022 [Nova Scotia](#)

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permission of the author.

## [Between the Bridges Renews Its Community Mandate](#)

July 28, 2022 [Nova Scotia](#)

Between the Bridges predated Inspiring Communities but formally became an initiative of the organization in 2019. In 2022 we returned to community to renew the mandate.

## [Dartmouth North Youth Engagement Informs BtB Work](#)

July 28, 2022 [Nova Scotia](#)

Below are some captured elements from a powerful engagement with youth in Dartmouth North held on June 15.

## [Call for Board Members](#)

June 22, 2022 [News](#), [Systems Change](#)

Inspiring Communities is a not-for-profit equity-centered systems change leader in Atlantic Canada. We believe that collective action is essential, so we innovatively connect communities.



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