
150 Profiles: Kimahli Powell

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As we mark the 150th anniversary of confederation, The Philanthropist is profiling Canadians from across the non-profit sector and putting a face to 150 individuals who work or volunteer in Canada's social sector.

Name: Kimahli Powell

Current role in the sector: Executive Director of Rainbow Railroad

Years working and/or volunteering in the non-profit sector: 15



What was your first job in the sector or a defining moment?

My first job was working at the YMCA, which was important because that organization was really beneficial to me growing up. My current defining moment is helping facilitate a safe haven for LGBTQ people who have escaped persecution in Chechnya.

Describe your desk/workspace.

It's really important for me to have a uncluttered workspace to keep focus. I also create a space that allows for huddles with my colleagues.

What are you reading or following that has expanded your understanding of the non-profit sector?

I try to read a variety of blogs, but a book I read recently that was very helpful was *The Networked Nonprofit*.

What do you think our sector needs to be thinking about?

I think a lot about questions about succession in non-profit leadership needs more exploration. How long should an Executive Director stay in their post? What is best for our organizations?

Do you know someone we should profile as part of this series? Email us at philanthropistprofiles@gmail.com