
150 Profiles: Stephanie Jeremie

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Author: Stephanie Jeremie

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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: Stephanie Jeremie

Current role in the sector: Youth Friendly Program Coordinator, Apathy is Boring

Years working and/or volunteering in the non-profit sector: 3



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

I was an intern with Equitas for their International Human Rights Training Program (IHRTTP). During the program, I was given the opportunity to engage and exchange with over 90 human rights defenders from around the world. I learned about social justice issues from various personal perspectives and experiences. It was amazing. I knew then that I wanted to learn more about sustainable program management. Since, I have been challenging myself to be part of programs that are effective and more importantly, accessible to diverse populations and groups.

Describe your desk/workspace.

My workspace is inspiring and a little messy. I have a stash of tea for those first hours in the office because they're always the toughest. Memorabilia from past workshops and other programs because they challenge me to consider new approaches to my work. A quote from my colleague, Sarah because it's important to be reminded that there's life outside of work. And of course my office laptop, which owns my professional life.

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

I am interested in learning more about social justice issues as well as intersectionality, identity and politics and therefore listen to podcasts where such topics are discussed. There is a need to diversify organizations and foundations, and I feel learning from different experiences can help me become more aware of the different realities various marginalized groups face on a daily basis and consequently, work towards creating programs that are sensitive to these realities.

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

I want to better understand how to affect systemic change through programming. I feel that newer models and more innovative programs will help participants not only gain awareness, but be given the tools and resources needed to equip themselves when met with different challenges. I also would like to learn more about program evaluation. I think certain older models need to be reviewed, even revamped, to inspire change and inclusion and to promote creative solutions when creating programs responding to various needs in the community sector.

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