

# RADIUS Newsletter

## Q4 | April 2022



Photo credit: Brian Washington Jr.

The present is a fickle thing. While these past two years have felt both like the blink of an eye and an eternity, they've brought us here: to this very moment, right here and now, this instant where you feel your breath rise in your throat, then release it as you read these words. One breath, one blink—this steady passing of time is all we've ever known. When stories are told of historic events, these short, personal breaths are never featured, but they're the only way time has ever passed. It's something that each of us shares with every towering figure and every forgotten child. At one moment in time, everything you've ever experienced was on the other side of that child's shaky exhale.

It seems like a lot right now—in this moment, this breath—yet these moments create what is. From here, we face infinite possibilities. Tomorrow you might fall in love, learn something new, or intend to finish that chapter in your book but end up scrolling on Twitter instead. Tomorrow might bring fire, uprisings for justice, or sheltering in subway stations.

One of RADIUS' principles is that future systems will draw on the new and the old. When you think of the future, I invite you to consider the intersections of new and old at which we find ourselves. When we think of the past, it's not just the breaths you've drawn these last few paragraphs or even these past two years: it's the time that you had with loved ones who shaped you, and the time you've had to endure without them; it's the time that those loved ones had before they met you, the time that shaped them. It's a comet tail of

humanity, filled with millions of tiny course corrections that have led to right here, and to what comes next. The future isn't just about what's new and novel; innovation doesn't have to mean "never done before". As we face new challenges in these present moments, how might knowledge passed through countless generations help us solve our current crises? What marginalized wisdom can be centred? How might those of us alive today honour the fact that [we are our ancestors' wildest dreams come true](#)?

We'll get there; one breath at a time.

Bonnie Arthur, Associate Director – Operations

## ▶ Behind the Scenes at RADIUS

### Introducing Jenny!

In January, we welcomed Jenny Labayog to the RADIUS team as the new Operations & Administration Coordinator. Jenny assists in moving a variety of operational and financial projects forward.



Check out Jenny's [bio](#) on our website.

### RADIUS' Consulting Team Update

#### Consulting & Training Services

RADIUS offers equity-centered consultancy services in pursuit of building individual and institutional capacity to collectively respond to complex challenges of our time.

We work towards this vision by training, coaching, and delivering projects around community engagement, organizational development, and problem-solving using liberatory, inclusive design, and anti-racism approaches.

##### Our Services Include

- Facilitation, Engagement, and Process Design
- Organizational Strategy and Support
- Training and Capacity Building



NEW!

This past December, RADIUS expanded our consulting team in order to share with others the experiences and knowledge we've gained at the intersection of deep equity, innovation,

and systems change. Our team hit the ground running on a variety of Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) consulting and training projects, from designing inclusive community engagement and building and delivering anti-racism training plans, to developing strategic HR plans for equitable recruitment and retention.

We are among many organizations from across the public, not-for-profit, and private sectors meaningfully striving for just, anti-racist systems. Though there is no shortage of institutions looking—and consultants offering services—to create such systems, we are finding that both consultants and clients have different interpretations around how to approach the work. This encouraged us to take some time and better define how we at RADIUS approach this integral work.

Are you interested in taking action on equity and inclusion in your organization's programs and services? Learn more on our updated Consulting and Training Services [webpage](#) and reach out if there are ways we can support you and your team.

[Learn More!](#)

## Program Updates

### Meet the 2022 Refugee Livelihood Lab Trampoline Cohort



We welcomed a new cohort out of our Refugee Livelihood Lab's Trampoline: Ideas into Action! program. Several alumni from the Migrant Systems Change Leadership Certificate program joined Trampoline, which is very exciting. Through Trampoline, participants refine an idea around migrant justice to enact a positive impact in their communities. Learn more about our latest cohort and the program in our [welcome blog!](#)

### Fellowship 2022: Coming Soon!



Applications for our 2022 RADIUS Fellowship program will open this summer for a fall start date. [Sign up for our Fellowship mailing list](#) to receive updates when applications open. This year, we look forward to welcoming curious, open-minded, and equity-centred individuals into our cohort-based learning program. We are currently planning for in-person delivery.



# ▶ Student Opportunities

## Apply for Round 4 Social Innovation Seed Funding



If you're an SFU student with an idea or venture focused on social change and impact, apply for the Social Innovation Seed Fund (Round 4) and receive up to \$2,000 from RADIUS and [Embark Sustainability](#) for your project! Learn more and apply by April 30 on our [website](#).



### Summer Business Courses Through The Chang Institute

Charles Chang Institute for Entrepreneurship is offering courses this summer open to students from all faculties. In BUS 238 – Intro to Entrepreneurship & Innovation (B-SOC), students develop solutions to wicked global problems and interact with real community innovators. Visit their [website](#) for more info.

# ▶ In the Community



## What Do We Need to Unlearn?

If you're fed up with box-checking exercises and virtue signalling in the social impact space, this conversation is for you. [Join this interactive discussion](#) on April 8 to reflect on your life and share ideas on how to embody other ways of being.

Skoll Scholarship recipients and speakers, Jess and Tara, shine a light on how norms like continuous urgency and prioritizing outputs over relationships make our sector less effective and perpetuate many of the problems we are trying to solve.



## International Day of Transgender Visibility

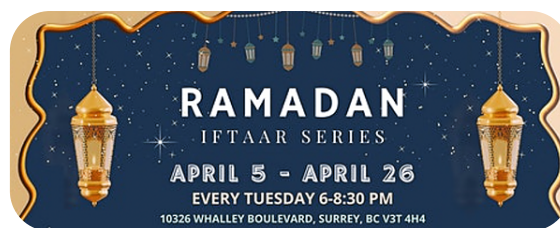
March 31 marked International Day of Trans Visibility: a day to honour trans, nonbinary, gender diverse, and 2-Spirit people, and to raise awareness about the discrimination and barriers they face. We know the systems we live in continue to cause harm to trans people — there remains a lack of access to safe and inclusive healthcare, education on gender and sexuality in classrooms, and the freedom to live openly without threat of harm or the consequential mental health crises that come with trauma. For more information on trans issues in B.C., visit [Qmunity](#) and the [Canadian Centre for Gender + Sexual Diversity](#).



## Supporting Women Entrepreneurs

On April 28, cheer on the three finalists of The Forum Pitch Program and learn who will walk away with \$25,000 to fund their vision.

Interested in learning more about The Forum Pitch Program? Visit their [website](#) to read about how this unique program helps women entrepreneurs navigate and fast track their funding journey.



## Happy Ramadan!

Solid State Community Industries is hosting a Ramadan Iftar Series this month. Each evening is tailored to a specific group (non-Muslim, Muslim, women-only, etc.) designed to foster community, sharing, and learning. If you've ever had a question about Ramadan or Islam, the first event takes place on April 5 with an Iftar for those from the non-Muslim community. The series takes place in Surrey, B.C. Register through the SSCI [Eventbrite](#).

Follow us on social media for more!



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200-308 W Hastings St., Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada,V6B 0P7  
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