

## Director's Note



I'm writing this at a time of transition: my body is still adjusting from the time change, Ramadan is here, I am witnessing the spring equinox in action, there is less snow on the ground, and the cherry blossoms are coming.

This air of change is felt beyond the boundaries of my own body and physical environment. The work we do at RADIUS and the people who do it are changing, too. The redistribution of leadership and the centring of community-led solutions we dream of and work so hard towards are happening.

Immerse yourself in what is written below: the farewell to some, the warm welcoming of others, the celebration of our community of team members and alumni, and an investment of our energy into the power of transformative storytelling in enacting the systems change we want to see.

Véronik Campbell  
Associate Director, Labs

Photo by Biegun Wschodni on [Unsplash](#)



### **Farewell to RADIUS' Founder**

This month, we bid farewell to Shawn Smith, who co-founded RADIUS over 10 years ago. We want to take a moment to thank him for a decade of dedication to the inspiring, messy, visionary, challenging, and all-encompassing journey of building RADIUS. [READ MORE](#)



### **Canada's Noteworthy Figures: Congratulations, Ilhan!**



We are incredibly proud of RADIUS' Ilhan Abdullahi for her recent recognition as one of Canada's Noteworthy Figures. Ilhan's work as a community organizer, educator, advocate, and storyteller does not go unnoticed by anyone in her circles, and it is fantastic to see her outstanding contributions recognized at this scale. [LEARN MORE](#)



## Welcome to RADIUS, Laurel!

We are excited to welcome to the team Laurel Sabur, who has stepped into a new role at RADIUS as Associate Director, Strategic Partnerships. Learn more about Laurel on our [blog](#).



Join us for a mix of talks, debates, masterclasses, artistic experiences, and peer-to-peer exchange.

**Join Our Hybrid Event**

[REGISTER NOW](#)

**FUTURE OF GOOD**

**2024 Social Finance Forum: Learn How to Participate!**

RADIUS is excited to announce its partnership with [Future of Good](#) for the 2024 Social Finance Forum from June 12-13! Join us for an immersive experience as we host the hybrid version of this groundbreaking event on Day 1 in Vancouver. The Forum convenes 1,000+ social purpose leaders from coast to coast to develop actionable insights, celebrate game-changing ideas, convene community, activate capital, and reshape finance tools for a better future. The in-person Vancouver gathering is on **Wednesday, June 12, 2024**, and attendees can network, share, and engage fully with both the national livestream agenda and in-person programming. RADIUS is seeking partners to sponsor this event; contact Laurel Sabur at [lsabur@radiussfu.com](mailto:lsabur@radiussfu.com) for more information.

## Alumni Highlights



### Purpose-Driven Entrepreneurship: Meet Six Organizations from Our Investment Readiness Program Cohort!

Social innovation programs cultivate transformative ideas to meet real-world challenges and play a vital role in shaping a more resilient and equitable society. We're thrilled to spotlight six incredible social purpose organizations who participated in our Investment Readiness Program with Community Foundations of Canada and who are creating impact in their communities. [READ MORE](#)



STORY SERIES

Hadil Al-Ashwal



## She Sparks Impact: Hadil Al-Ashwal

"I believe that together we can spark change, one connection at a time."

On the blog, we're spotlighting Hadil Al-Ashwal, RADIUS alum and founder of [She Sparks Impact](#). Read about how her passion for gender equity guides her work on our [blog](#).

STORY SERIES

Mayra Gonzalez



## Embracing Resilient Care: Mayra Gonzalez

RADIUS alum and master of counselling student Mayra Gonzalez is a dedicated advocate for mental health. On the [blog](#), we chatted with Mayra about her transformative journey — immigrating to Canada, the systemic barriers she faced pursuing a career in clinical counselling, and why she is inspired to spark systems change.

STORY SERIES

Kabir Hosein



## Building Community Through Movement: Kabir Hosein

Kabir Hosein understands firsthand how physical activity can play a role in supporting migrants and newcomers. Through his experience in the Refugee Livelihood Lab, Kabir hopes to co-create initiatives that will inspire generational change. Learn more on our [blog](#).

STORY SERIES

Carla Carvalho



## Walk In My Shoes: Carla Carvalho

Carla Carvalho, a registered clinical counsellor and RADIUS alum, has always been passionate about storytelling as a pathway to empathy and healing. She started a short podcast series, [Walk In My Shoes](#), to create place-based community connections through storytelling. Learn more about Carla and her project on our [blog](#).

# Community



## Black Imaginaries – Worldbuilding Towards a New Public Health

Our Health Promotion Lab Manager, Ilhan Abdullahi, will be a panelist at this event, exploring examples of collective responses that oppose anti-Black racism and other systems of oppression and advance the health of Black people. [Get your ticket!](#)

**Celebrate Black History Month by making history!**

*Be a part of the*  
**National Quantitative Survey  
 on Black entrepreneurship  
 in Canada**

[www.bekh.org/bekh-survey](http://www.bekh.org/bekh-survey)





## BEKH Surveys for Black Entrepreneurs

The Black Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub (BEKH) wants to gain a better understanding of the experiences of Black entrepreneurs, their businesses, and the opportunities and challenges they face in Canada. If you're a Black entrepreneur, please check out the national qualitative and quantitative surveys through [BEKH's website](#).



## Black History Month, February and Beyond

February was Black History Month. In case you missed it, we compiled resources on [our blog](#) as a starting point for learning, including a list of Black-led organizations we admire and a reading list.

April 1st- Grant Applications Open

Mid-April (TBA) - Grant Application Q&A

April 30th - Grant Applications Closed



**SurreyCares  
Community  
Grants 2024**



## Grant Opportunity: SurreyCares

SurreyCares Community Foundation is giving away over \$50,000 in community grants by the end of May. Application areas include supporting: General Community, Special Needs, and Youth. Visit their [website](#) for more information.



### Ramadan Mubarak

Ramadan Mubarak to all our Muslim friends and colleagues observing this time of deepening spiritual practices and bonds among family and community.



### International Women's Day

At RADIUS, we are proud to have so many incredible and diverse women working together, bringing their unique perspectives, lived experiences, and wisdom to the work we are doing. This month is a chance to appreciate the progress made towards gender equity over the last 100 years and to rededicate ourselves to continuing the fight for current and future generations.

**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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