



RADIUS Newsletter

June 2025

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Reflections on Indigenous History Month



Véronik with her child, Niobe, with Siyám Smánit (Squamish Chief) in the background

From my window stands Siyám Smánit: welcoming yet imposing. Solemn yet exuberant. And, above all– for me– a daily, visual reminder that I am accountable to this land and its people.

This personal accountability carries into my role as Co-Director at RADIUS, where over the years our team learned (and continues to) how to deepen our relationships with Indigenous Peoples.

Recently, our team encountered two important moments that helped us clarify how we intend on practicing solidarity with Indigenous Peoples: (1) our decision to sunset the First Peoples Enterprise Accelerator Program (FPEAP), and (2) the drafting of our strategic plan.

If you have bandwidth, we'd love to invite you to witness our lessons learned.

In solidarity on behalf of the RADIUS Team,

[Show me Véronik's reflections](#)

Migrant Systems Change Leadership Program is back



Our Refugee Livelihood Lab team is looking forward to bringing back the Migrant Systems Change Leadership certificate program **starting this September!** This program is for people in British Columbia with first-hand lived experiences of being a racialized refugee, newcomer, or migrant.

Our team and participants will work together to deepen our collective understanding of systemic issues affecting migrant and refugee communities.

We invite folks who are interested to **join us at an online information session** on one of these Tuesdays: July 8, 15, or 22.

[Tell me more about the program](#)

Empowering Black Entrepreneurship



We're thrilled to share the launch of the RADIUS' [Black Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub](#) research report titled, ***Empowering Black Entrepreneurship: A Research Report of Comprehensive Analysis of Challenges, Opportunities, and Policy Recommendations for Western Canada.***

This research done in partnership with the [Black Entrepreneurs and Businesses of Canada Society \(BEBC\)](#) dives deep into the realities of Black-owned businesses in Western Canada. It surfaces not just the challenges such as the barriers to capital, mentorship, and market access but also the immense contributions Black businesses are making to innovation, job creation, and economic justice in Canada and their impact on the Canadian economy.

The report also offers policy recommendations and strategies for building a more inclusive, equitable entrepreneurial ecosystem.

There's so much more work to be done! If you feel inspired, please reach out to collaborate at community@radiusfu.com.

[Show me the report](#)



Designing for Equity: Why this



Equity-centred consulting that

work can't wait

In April 2025, our RADIUS Consulting and Training team launched the Designing for Equity Masterclass with a clear motivation: to push back against the growing rollback of equity commitments and make the case that equity work is not only still essential, it's non-negotiable.

We were delighted to welcome participants from various sectors! Alia Sunderji, one of our facilitators, has insight to share about our first ever Masterclass.

[Tell me Alia's takeaways](#)



Participatory Grantmaking Initiative

We have now selected 16 grantees and we are working with them behind the scenes. We are excited to announce our grantees, their initiatives, and also a bit about our decision-making process this summer.

In the meantime, we invite you to read about our process in shifting power back to community working together to disburse over \$500,000 in grant-based funding.

meets you where you are

Our RADIUS consulting services are grounded in over a decade of experience alongside equity-deserving communities. We support nonprofits, governments, academic institutions, and businesses in building inclusive leadership, cultures, and systems—no matter where they're starting from.

Whether you're designing inclusive hiring practices, rethinking how you engage communities, or navigating internal culture shifts, we blend systems thinking, anti-racism, and inclusive design to help you move forward with purpose.

We don't offer one-size-fits-all solutions—we co-create strategies that are practical, human-centered, and built to last.

[Give me more details](#)



Lead with purpose in a digital world

SFU Beedie's Digital Transformation Management (DTM) program equips early-to mid-career professionals to lead digital initiatives that are people-centered and equity-informed.

Starting September 24, this 12-week, part-time program blends practical tools with strategic thinking to help you drive meaningful change. Members of the RADIUS community receive 10% off tuition with code UPSKILL10 (all caps).

Refresh my memory

Show me more information

Resources

Here are some resources you may find valuable:

- **Learn about the lands you're on** through land-based tours with Talaysay Tours.
- **Get the new *The Colonizer Playbook: an Indigenous Designer's Guide to Dismantling Power Games*** by Ta7taliya Michelle Nahanee.
- **Take a free online *Indigenous Canada* course** with University of Alberta.
- **Volunteer in the Squamish Nation Youth Pow Wow** happening in July by [emailing them](#).
- **Enroll in a free *Land Back* course** with Yellowhead Institute.
- **Check out the article, *The AI Landscape in Canada: A Critical Moment for First Nations***, by Natiea Vinson, CEO of First Nations Technology Council and member of Canada's Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence.
- **Read the new *Trauma of Money* book** by Chantel Chapman.
- **Apply to join *Our Stories, Our Voices*** (Immigrant and Refugee Women's edition), a free six-week writing series by Preeti Kaur Dhaliwal.

Community events

We hope to catch you at one of these community gatherings:

- **Saturday, June 14:** Alley Oop Street Party (Vancouver)
- **Monday, June 16:** Sudan Through Story: The Power of Sudanese Art and Keeping Culture Alive (Online)
- **Saturday, June 21:** National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration at Grandview Park (Vancouver)
- **Saturday, June 21:** Surrey's National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration and Wellness Event (Surrey)
- **Sunday, June 22:** Coast Salish Plant Walk with Cease Wyss (North Vancouver)
- **Wednesday, June 25:** Community Kitchen: Language as Nourishment (Burnaby)
- **Friday, June 27:** Celebrating Culture, Nourishing Dreams: Newcomer Women Food Business Launch (Vancouver)
- **Sunday, June 29:** [Threaded Memories: My Grandmother Speaks of Palestinian Embroidery \(Online\)](#)
- **Sunday, July 20:** Solastalgia: Addressing Climate Anxiety Through Community Building and Art-making (Victoria)

If you have events or resources to share with our community, please reach out to community@radiussfu.com and we'll do our best to feature it.



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RADIUS SFU operates on the unceded, traditional, and ancestral territories of the xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh), ḱíčəy̓ (Katzie), & kwikwəłəm (Kwikwetlem) Nations.

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