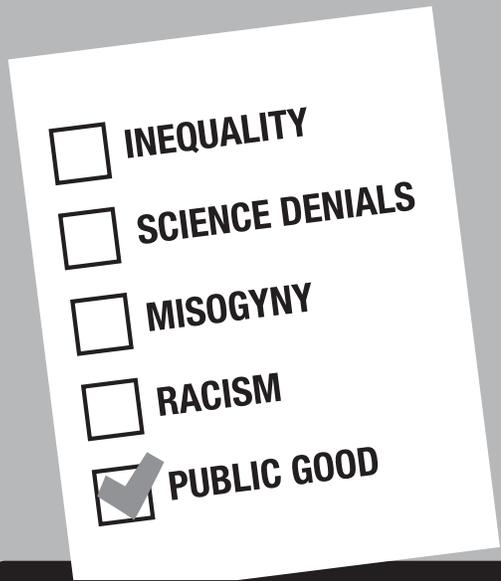


Parkland Institute's 26th Annual Fall Conference



# Doing Democracy Better

Challenging the politics of fear  
and resentment

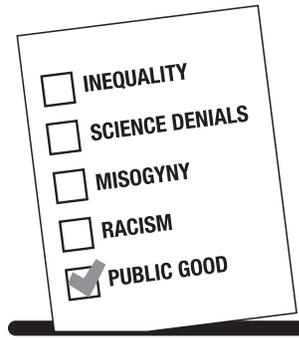
November 18-20, 2022

UAlberta campus & livestream



[ParklandConference.ca](https://ParklandConference.ca)





# Doing Democracy Better

Challenging the politics of fear and resentment

Alberta is facing an election in the coming months that will shape our economic and political future. It comes at a time when volatile right-wing populism and anti-science sentiment, feeding on the fear and anger of people, are on the rise in many countries, including Canada. At the same time, the politics of austerity continue to erode public services and social supports, leading to even greater inequality and social unrest.

It is more important than ever that we ensure our democratic institutions remain both vibrant and resilient. We need a better, reinvigorated form of democracy: one that is rooted more firmly in equity and equality. Doing democracy better will require looking at complex problems in new ways and expanding our vision of what democracy can be.

We need to challenge the populist forces threatening to undermine democracy, and we need to ensure the widest possible diversity of voices is heard. Only then will we be able to offer better alternatives and a compelling vision of the future – one that strengthens democracy for all citizens.

Parkland Institute’s 26th annual fall conference will do a deep dive into how right-wing populism, austerity, and science denial are impacting how we do democracy, and hear from academics, activists, and experts who are doing the work to reclaim it.

*We would like to thank the generous support of the following sponsors for helping to make this conference possible:*



Woodsworth-Irvine Socialist Fellowship Endowment



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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES





Greetings from Parkland Institute Director

# Jason Foster

Dear conference participants,

Welcome to Parkland Institute's 26th annual conference. Whether you are joining us in person for the first time in three years, or opting to watch the livestream, it is exciting to gather once again to discuss some of the important and pressing issues of our times.

This year's conference takes place in challenging times. The dual scourges of COVID-19 and rising inflation have us feeling exhausted, worried and stressed. Our health care and education systems are straining under increased pressures and ongoing underfunding. And our climate continues to send us clear signals that we can no longer proceed with business as usual.

This conference also may come on the eve of one of the most significant turning points for Alberta, Canada and the globe. We are witnessing the rise of anti-democratic forces on the right. To advance their agenda, these forces sow anger and fear, perpetuate anti-science misinformation and undermine confidence in our democratic institutions.

These anti-democratic forces seem to be gathering momentum. Recent election victories or gains by the far right in Italy, Sweden, Eastern Europe and elsewhere offer a troubling portent. And we are not immune here at home. Voices of right-wing populism have taken control of the federal Conservative

Party of Canada and, most recently, installed themselves in Alberta's Premier's Office.

There is a clear need to understand why we are witnessing a rise of such divisive and ugly politics, what risk they pose to democracy, and, most importantly, how we can defend against them while still building more positive alternatives. This year's conference, *Doing Democracy Better*, will examine the dimensions of right-wing populism and attempt to chart a progressive path to a democracy anchored in justice, equality and equity.

The conference also hopes to remind us that these kinds of divisive, reactionary movements are not new. While they bring with them pseudo-grievances specific to today, they are linked to anti-democratic populists spanning decades. And despite their claims of being the new oppressed, their movements actually double down on the racist and sexist structures that prop them up.

But a better world is possible. We can do democracy better. This conference also hopes to leave you hopeful and inspired. We do not have to be content to defend the status quo. We can challenge the new right while still pushing for a more complete democracy, one that can deliver political, economic and social equality and justice.

I hope you enjoy this weekend. Enjoy seeing old friends for the first time in a long time and meeting new ones. And along the way hopefully we can learn a bit more about how we can be a part of a brighter future for Alberta.

I also want to remind you that the work of Parkland relies on the support of people like you. So take a moment over the weekend to consider offering a donation to our work. You can do this by signing up as an ongoing supporter, by offering a one-time donation, or even just by letting our hardworking staff know how much you appreciate what they do.

Warm regards to all,

**Jason Foster**  
*Director*  
*Parkland Institute*

# Friday

November 18, 2022

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
1-001, ETLC

OPENING KEYNOTE

## Jared Yates Sexton

*The Gathering Crisis – Its Origins, Components, and Opportunities*

An examination of the failings of the neoliberal order reveals that seemingly inexplicable events, ranging from the election of Donald Trump and January 6th to the Truckers Convoy in Ottawa, are consequences of a crumbling consensus and portends of a rapidly approaching crisis. This presentation will diagnose elements of the gathering storm, including growing authoritarianism and weaponized paranoia, but also reveal opportunities for countering the austerity, exploitation, and cruelty of the neoliberal project and possibly establishing a better and more humane future.

# Saturday

November 19, 2022

8:00 am  
ETLC Lobby

Doors Open

9:00 am – 10:15 am  
1-001, ETLC

PLENARY

### Sam Moore

*Ecofascism and/or Democracy*

On what basis do we say that fascism and democracy are opposites? Proposals to expand the idea of democracy to include more-than-human actors have recently gained force. Fascists, too, made and continue to make strong appeals to ideas of nature in their politics, drawing on the idea of nature as regulator, avatar, and avenger. In this talk, Sam Moore will discuss the history of far-right interventions into the environment, both practically and in fascist rhetoric, and speculate on the likely futures of 'far-right ecologism.' How, if the urgency of climate change demands we consider the more-than-human, can we differentiate a democratic consideration of nature from the fascist seizure of its mantle?

10:15 am – 10:30 am  
ETLC Lobby

BREAK

Coffee and pastries will be available

10:30 am – 11:45 am  
A. 1-013, ETLC

CONCURRENT SESSION

*Myths as Reality: Alberta Politics, Society, and Democracy at a Crossroads?*

**Jared Wesley, University of Alberta**

**Michelle Maroto, University of Alberta**

**Feodor Snagovsky, University of Alberta**

B. 1-003, ETLC

CONCURRENT SESSION

*Rural/Urban Divide and Its Impacts on Politics and Democracy*

**Jack Lucas, University of Calgary**

*The Urban-Rural Divide in Alberta: Attitudes, Identities, Voting*

**Clark Banack, University of Alberta**

*Political Resentment in Rural Alberta*

## CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

11:45 am – 1:00 pm  
Second Floor Foyer

LUNCH  
Catered by Upper Crust

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm  
1-001, ETLC

PLENARY

### **Gilary Massa**

*Living at the Intersection: Fighting for a More Racially Equal and Gender Just Democracy*

Systemic problems require systemic intervention. This session will examine our current day political context and the rise and intersecting nature of racism, misogyny, and Islamophobia in Alberta and Canada more broadly. The session will also explore how institutions aimed at protecting us might better respond to the rise in racially motivated hate and deliver an action-oriented vision for what a more racially equal and gender-just democracy might look like.

2:15 pm – 2:30 pm  
ETLC Lobby

BREAK

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm  
A. 1-013, ETLC

CONCURRENT SESSION

*Growing Misogyny and Feminist Responses*

#### **Lise Gotell, University of Alberta**

*The UCP's Penal Populism and Violence Against Women*

#### **Michelle James, Calgary Women's Centre**

*Community: A remedy for an increasingly polarized society*

#### **Bo Masterson, Calgary Women's Centre**

*Community: A remedy for an increasingly polarized society*

B. 1-003, ETLC

CONCURRENT SESSION

*Convoys, Policing, and Community Well-Being*

#### **Temitope Oriola, University of Alberta**

*Policing, Use of Force and Lessons Not Learned*

#### **Alex Silas**

*Countering the Convoy: Then and Now*

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm  
ETLC Lobby

BREAK

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm  
1-001, ETLC

PLENARY

### **Riley Yesno**

*Beyond Reconciliation, Towards Liberated Futures*

Since 2015, reconciliation has been the dominant term we've used to describe our goals for the future of Indigenous / Canada relations. What does reconciliation really mean? What critiques do Indigenous people have of reconciliation? And, ultimately, what must we all do to be a part of building the futures the TRC sought to articulate?

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Dewey's Lounge

## Conference Social

Join us for conversation and snacks (cash bar).

Dewey's Lounge is on the campus of the University of Alberta not far from ETLC. Follow the crowd or the signs.

# Sunday

## November 20, 2022

<p>8:00 am ETLC Lobby</p>	<p>Doors Open</p>
<p>9:00 am – 10:15 am 1-001, ETLC</p>	<p>PLENARY</p> <p><b>Emma Jackson</b> <i>How To Build Power and Win In Populist Times</i></p> <p>In 1934, Bertolt Brecht wrote, “It takes courage to say that the good were defeated not because they were good, but because they were weak.” The recent election of Pierre Poilievre as Leader of the Conservative Party and the growing influence of the far-right must be a wake-up call to the Left— being right wins us nothing if we have no power. It’s more important than ever that we organize a popular force by breaking outside of our activist subcultures, meeting people where they are, and re-politicizing our currently de-politicized spaces and institutions. But building power in populist times will also require us to dismantle some dominant beliefs that the political and corporate elite in this country are invested in maintaining— namely, that populism is bad, polarization is to be avoided, and politics are something you “have” and not something you do.</p>
<p>10:15 am – 10:30 am ETLC Lobby</p>	<p>BREAK Coffee and pastries will be available</p>
<p>10:30 am – 11:45 am A. 1-013, ETLC</p> <p>B. 1-003, ETLC</p>	<p>CONCURRENT SESSION</p> <p><i>Quality of Life – Public Services and Housing</i></p> <p><b>Brad Lafortune, Public Interest Alberta</b> <i>Housing is a Human Right - now we need to act like it</i></p> <p><b>Rebecca Graff-McRae, Parkland Institute</b> <i>Public Services and Political Divisions: Lessons from a Deeply Divided Society</i></p> <p>CONCURRENT SESSION</p> <p><i>Jobs and Transitions</i></p> <p><b>Ian Hussey, Parkland Institute</b> <i>Job Creation or Job Loss? Big Companies Use Tax Cut to Automate Away Jobs in the Oil Sands</i></p> <p><b>Ana Guerra Marin, Iron and Earth</b> <i>Navigating Polarization and Fear While Building JUST Transitions from the Ground Up</i></p>
<p>11:45 am – 12:00 pm ETLC Lobby</p>	<p>BREAK</p>

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm  
1-001, ETLC

CLOSING KEYNOTE

## Malcolm Azania

### *Be the Victory You've Been Dreaming Of*

Despair is easy when fascism, the foe we thought we'd defeated nearly a century ago, is back from hell and rampaging across North America and the world. Still, we beat it before, and we'll do it again. But how? Without question, the best-funded and most powerful tools are in the hands of governments. But 20th and 21st Century history teaches us that we can't risk assuming that governments—even social democratic ones—will engage this fight effectively, or at all.

So what must we do? And while organizing to defeat this evil, how do we simultaneously engineer the world we want and deserve? In other words, how to we move beyond the myopia of anti- to embrace telescopic vision of pro-?

Citizens and citizen organizations, regardless of support or opposition from government forces, must begin with a frank analysis of why we must discard the flimsy notion of "allyship" for the clear and unmistakable terms of formal alliances. We must broker and expand intercommunal connections to create a common vision-action plans. We must practice asymmetric activation through pro-social innovation competitions, especially to seize control of the digital commons. And through our most powerful and best-funded organizations—labour unions—we must create expansive solidarity endowments to thwart the long-game of Koch Brothers-style social engineering to systematically build a better world.

# Welcome to Parkland Institute's 26th Annual Conference

Your full conference registration includes:

- Friday and Sunday Keynotes
- All Plenary and Concurrent Sessions
- Saturday Lunch
- Saturday Evening Social at Dewey's

## Food and Beverages

Coffee, tea, and water will be available during breaks. Pastries will be available Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Lunch on Saturday is provided to all full conference registrants, including volunteers and representatives of tabling organizations with badges. Lunch will include vegetarian options. Show your badge to gain entrance to the lunch room.

You are also welcome to bring your own lunch, and there are food vendors available a short walk away at the Students' Union Building (SUB).

## If You're Late

If you arrive late for keynotes or plenaries, please enter through the south side rear door so as not to interrupt the speaker.

## Parking

We recommend you park in the Windsor Car Park located at 116 Street and 92 Avenue. Friday evening after 6:00 pm, Saturday, and Sunday parking is available for a flat fee of \$5.50. Hourly parking is available on 116 Street for \$3.50/hour.

## Volunteers

The Parkland Conference would not be possible without the support of dozens of volunteers who perform hundreds of hours of work on our behalf. Please help us thank them.

## Special Thanks

Flavio Rojas, our graphic designer  
The A-Team Volunteers (you know who you are)  
Rob Butz, our webmaster

# We All Have a Story to Tell

*We all have a story to tell, but the precious few minutes afforded us at the end of each session for dialogue is not the time to tell it!*

Parkland people are remarkably diverse, and our conferences bring together a special blend of academics, activists, students, and community members—every one of whom has an incredible story to tell. That's why we've ensured multiple ways for attendees to converse with each other and our guests, including breaks and the Saturday evening social at Dewey's.

Please help ensure that the question and answer time at the end of each session is enjoyed by everyone by following these simple rules:

- Keep your remarks short and to the point. Questions or comments that require lengthy background information are not well suited to this format. If you cannot adequately ask a question within 30 seconds, consider saving it for another opportunity.
- Don't hog the microphone. People who have not yet had the opportunity to speak will be given priority.
- Speaking lists may be altered to balance representation by age, gender identity, race, ethnicity or other identities. Just because you put your hand up first doesn't mean it's your turn.
- Value dialogue. Everyone has something to contribute.
- Please do not interrupt speakers, facilitators, or other conference-goers.
- Do not campaign at the mic. It is inappropriate to ask your fellow conference-goers to support your cause, no matter how important it is.
- Be conscious of how your behaviour impacts others. Practice stepping up/stepping back so we can ensure that everyone is able to contribute.

# Friday

November 18, 2022

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
Room 1-001, ETLC

Opening Keynote



## Jared Yates Sexton

An examination of the failings of the neoliberal order reveals that seemingly inexplicable events, ranging from the election of Donald Trump and January 6th to the Truckers Convoy in Ottawa, are consequences of a crumbling consensus and portends of a rapidly approaching crisis. This presentation will diagnose elements of the gathering storm, including growing authoritarianism and weaponized paranoia, but also reveal opportunities for countering the austerity, exploitation, and cruelty of the neoliberal project and possibly establishing a better and more humane future.

*Jared Yates Sexton is the author of American Rule: How A Nation Conquered The World But Failed Its People, as well as seven other books, including the forthcoming The Midnight Kingdom: A History of Power, Paranoia, and the Coming Crisis (Dutton/Penguin-Random House, 2013). His work has appeared in The New York Times, The New Republic, The Progressive, The Daily Beast, Politico, and elsewhere. He is the co-host of The Muckrake Podcast.*

## Save the Date!

Parkland Seasonal

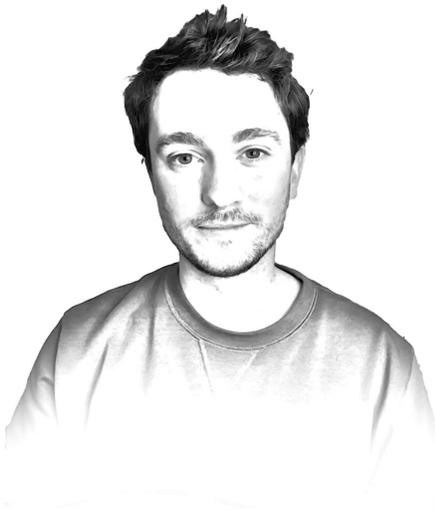
**OPEN  
HOUSE**  
December 15

5pm–9pm • 4th floor, Humanities Centre, UofA

# Saturday

November 19, 2022

8:00 am ETLC Lobby	Doors Open
9:00 am – 10:15 am Room 1-001, ETLC	Plenary



## Sam Moore

On what basis do we say that fascism and democracy are opposites? Proposals to expand the idea of democracy to include more-than-human actors have recently gained force. Fascists, too, made and continue to make strong appeals to ideas of nature in their politics, drawing on the idea of nature as regulator, avatar, and avenger. In this talk, Sam Moore will discuss the history of far-right interventions into the environment, both practically and in fascist rhetoric, and speculate on the likely futures of 'far-right ecologism.' How, if the urgency of climate change demands we consider the more-than-human, can we differentiate a democratic consideration of nature from the fascist seizure of its mantle?

*Sam Moore is an anti-fascist researcher and writer. He is one-half of the collective 12 Rules for WHAT, which produces a podcast on the politics of the far right and has written two books to date: Post-Internet Far Right (Dog Section Press, 2022) and The Rise of Ecofascism: Climate Change and the Far Right (Polity, 2022). His present work, separate from the collective, is focused on a critique of 'collapsology' as it appears both on the far right and across the political spectrum.*

10:15 am – 10:30 am ETLC Lobby	<b>Break</b> Coffee and pastries will be available.
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## Chivers Carpenter

### On Side with Alberta Workers

*The lawyers of Chivers Carpenter represent labour organizations and workers in all levels of court and facets of labour relations, human rights, administrative, professional regulatory and employment law.*

Tanya Kuehn  
Vanessa Cosco  
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Kelly Nychka  
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Allison Purdon  
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Daniel Waring



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# Saturday

November 19, 2022

10:30 am – 11:45 am  
Room 1-013, ETLC

Concurrent Session

## A. *Myths as Reality: Alberta Politics, Society, and Democracy at a Crossroads?*

Over the course of the pandemic, our Common Ground research has engaged thousands of Albertans, learning about their backgrounds, perspectives, and struggles. Through our surveys and focus groups, one thing has become abundantly clear – a gulf has emerged between who Albertans are as individuals, and who they see themselves to be as a community. When asked which values animate provincial politics, most Albertans continue to describe the dominance of “wild west” notions like populism, western alienation, bootstrap individualism, and prosperity. When asked about their own political preferences, however, the average Albertan is far less conservative than this image portrays. In this panel, we discuss the tensions between myth and reality as they apply to Albertans’ economic future, the Freedom Convoy movement, and the place of Alberta in Canada.



### Michelle Maroto

Dr. Michelle Maroto is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Alberta and Director for the Certificate in Applied Social Science Research. Her research interests include social stratification, gender and family, race and ethnicity, labour and credit markets, and disability studies. Her projects address the many dimensions of wealth inequality, the role of household structure in determining economic security, and labour market outcomes for people with different types of disabilities. In her recent work on disability, Dr. Maroto is currently engaged in two projects. The first involves surveying and interviewing people with disabilities and chronic health conditions to better understand how they have been managing under COVID-19. The second is a multi-city resume-based audit study that examines hiring discrimination against people with physical and cognitive disabilities. In addition to this work, Dr. Maroto is currently embarking on a large-scale mixed methods project, The Great Canadian Class Study, that brings together secondary data, multiple online surveys, and in-depth interviews to provide a better understanding of the complicated dynamics behind social class in Canada.



### Dr. Jared Wesley

Dr. Jared Wesley is a pracademic – a practicing political scientist and former public servant – whose career path to the University of Alberta Department of Political Science has included senior management positions in the Alberta Public Service. As lead of the Common Ground initiative, he studies the intersection of political culture, public opinion, and public policy. He is co-author of two leading books: *The Public Servant’s Guide to Government in Canada* (University of Toronto Press, 2018) and *Inside Canadian Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2020). Jared is a proud member of UAlberta’s Black Faculty collective, and a leader within the Black Youth Leadership and Mentorship Program in Edmonton.

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## Feodor Snagovsky

Dr. Feo Snagovsky is an Assistant Professor at the University of Alberta. His work has focused on the comparative analysis of elections and political behaviour, and particularly in the role that political elites play in shaping identity in public opinion. His current research examines the contours and impact of white identity on political attitudes, behaviours, and cultures in Canada. His work has appeared in *Party Science*, *Government and Opposition*, and *Parliamentary Affairs*.

10:30 am – 11:45 am  
Room 1-003, ETLC

Concurrent Session

### *B. Rural/Urban Divide and its Impacts on Politics and Democracy*



## Jack Lucas

### *The Urban-Rural Divide in Alberta: Attitudes, Identities, Voting*

Urban-rural divides in policy attitudes and voting preferences have been growing in Canada in recent decades. Using data from recent large-scale surveys of the Canadian public, this presentation will describe patterns of urban-rural identity and place-based resentment, along with an analysis of the policy issues on which urban and rural Canadians are most divided. The presentation will focus particular attention on Alberta residents.

*Jack Lucas is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Calgary, and a Board Member of the Parkland Institute. His research is focused on democracy and representation in Canadian local governments as well as urban-rural divides in Canadian politics. He is the author or editor of two books and more than thirty refereed journal articles, including *Big City Elections in Canada* (University of Toronto Press, 2021), an analysis of elections and voting in eight Canadian cities, and “The Urban-Rural Divide in Canadian Federal Elections, 1896-2019,” a long-term analysis of the size and character of urban-rural divides in Canadian elections. He is Project Director for the Canadian Municipal Barometer, an annual survey of mayors and councillors across Canada.*

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## Clark Banack

### *Political Resentment in Rural Alberta*

Drawing on his ongoing academic work in rural communities, and especially his recent “political ethnography” work across rural Alberta, Dr. Banack will provide his perspective on the growing tide of political alienation and resentment in Alberta, its unique roots, and its broader implications. The presentation will conclude with some thoughts on the rural-urban divide in Alberta politics and how such a divide is often depicted.

*Dr. Clark Banack is the Director of the Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities and an Adjunct Professor of Political Studies at the Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta. Clark has a PhD in Political Science from the University of British Columbia and is the author of God’s Province: Evangelical Christianity, Political Thought, and Conservatism in Alberta (McGill-Queen’s University Press), the co-author of Faith, Rights, and Choice: The Politics of Religious Schools in Canada (forthcoming in 2023 with the University of Toronto Press), and the co-editor of Building Inclusive Communities in Rural Canada (forthcoming in 2023 with the University of Alberta Press). He has also authored several academic articles and book chapters related to Alberta politics, rural issues, religion and politics, education policy, and populism in Canada. In 2022, Clark was the recipient of the Canadian Political Science Association’s John McMenemy Prize. He is currently working on research projects related to rural economic development, rural mental health supports, green energy transitions in rural communities, and political opinion in rural Canada.*

11:45 am – 1:00 pm  
Second Floor Foyer

**Lunch** – Catered lunch by Upper Crust

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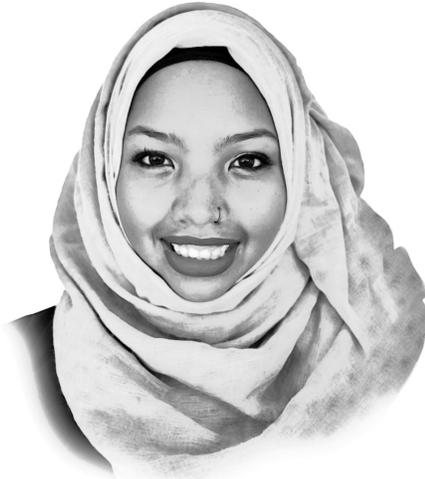
8720 – 149 Street, Edmonton, Alberta

# Saturday

November 19, 2022

1:00 pm – 2:15 am  
Room 1-001, ETLC

Plenary



## Gilary Massa

### *Living at the Intersection: Fighting for a More Racially Equal and Gender-Just Democracy*

Systemic problems require systemic intervention. This session will examine our current day political context and the rise and intersecting nature of racism, misogyny, and Islamophobia in Alberta and Canada more broadly. The session will also explore how institutions aimed at protecting us might better respond to the rise in racially motivated hate and deliver an action-oriented vision for what a more racially equal and gender-just democracy might look like.

*Gilary Massa (She/Her) is a Human Rights and Equity Educator and Strategist with over a decade of successful experience supporting school boards, advocacy organizations, labour unions, government agencies, and private enterprises through organizational change work that centers on human rights, equity, and inclusion. With roots in both the labour movement and Student movement, Gilary specializes in human-centred program and policy design and evaluation, regularly conducting EDI Audits and organizational coaching and training on issues impacting marginalized communities.*

*Gilary is driven by her own experiences as a black, immigrant, Muslim woman, and her practice is rooted, first and foremost in the community. She has a deep commitment to creating institutional and government policies and programming that are informed by the people that are impacted the most. She holds a Master in Leadership and Community Engagements from York University where she completed a major research project entitled: *Beyond Diversity Training: Road Map for Human Rights and Equity Organizational Change Work**

*Gilary is a mother of 3 young children aged 7, 4 and 8 months, and is currently spending the year in her home country of Panama City, Panama.*

2:15 pm – 2:30 pm  
ETLC Lobby

**Break**

# Saturday

November 19, 2022

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm  
Room 1-013, ETLC

Concurrent Session

## A. *Growing Misogyny and Feminist Responses*

### Lise Gotell

#### *The UCP's Penal Populism and Violence Against Women*

In this presentation, I explore the United Conservative Party's mobilization of penal populism in response to violence against women. Alberta has among the highest rates of sexual violence and intimate partner violence in Canada, social problems that dramatically escalated during the COVID-19 pandemic. While the New Democratic Party government had developed policy strategies to confront violence against women, as I will demonstrate, the UCP has instead embraced a form of penal populism that redefined this gendered problem through a rigidly individualized lens that privileged carceral responses. The presentation will focus on the UCP government's embrace of de-gendered police frameworks that make the problem of violence against women disappear, the use of "panels" as symbolic gestures (such as the Joint Working Group on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women), resistance to the federal National Action Plan, and the enactment of criminalization approaches, (such as Clare's Law).

*Lise Gotell is the Landrex Distinguished Professor in Women's and Gender Studies at the University of Alberta. Much of her recent work concerns the legal regulation of sexual violence in a context of neoliberalism. Lise has published widely-cited work on Canada's affirmative consent standard, on gender-based violence policy, on antifeminist backlash, as well as on the pernicious effects of the rough sex defense. Her research has been cited by the Supreme Court of Canada and in law reform initiatives in Australia, New Zealand, England and Wales and Scotland. Committed to feminist advocacy and public intellectualism, Lise has acted as the National Chair of the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund and is currently the Chair of the National Association of Women and the Law's Violence Against Women Working Group. She is the winner of the University of Alberta's Community Scholar Award, the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the Students Union Award for Undergraduate Teaching Excellence*



# Saturday

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## *Community: A remedy for an increasingly polarized society*

This presentation will offer an interactive perspective on the Women's Centre of Calgary's unique approach to community building and how that approach serves as a remedy for growing misogyny and polarization in our society. In particular, we will explore the protective properties of our community capacity-building peer model through case study.

### Michelle James

*Michelle James (she/her) is the Public Policy Specialist with the Women's Centre of Calgary. She holds an MPH with specialization in social policy and is a health and social equity enthusiast. Michelle has worked in the social services sector, in both BC and Alberta, for over ten years.*

### Bo Masterson

*Bo Masterson (she/her) is the Executive Director of the Women's Centre of Calgary. She holds an MSc in International Development and has over 15 years of international and community development experience. Bo moved to Alberta in 2014 and has since followed her passions of community building and creating welcoming communities and social connections for everyone, especially women.*

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm  
Room 1-003, ETLC

Concurrent Session

*B. Convoys, Policing, and Community Well-Being*



## Temitope Oriola

### *Policing, Use of Force and Lessons Not Learned*

This presentation explores police use of force in Canada. It draws on findings from a SSHRC-funded collaborative research on the deployment of conducted energy weapons and the Officer-Involved Shooting Database to underscore the micro-mechanics of police use of force in Canada. Policing of the freedom convoy is articulated as part of the ideational underbelly of law enforcement. The final part of the presentation focuses on recommendations for police reform.

*Dr. Oriola is an exemplary scholar, known for field-defining sociological research on terrorism and policing, for leadership and service to his discipline, and for his commitment to mobilizing knowledge in support of informed public debate. Internationally, he is known for his work on sociological terrorism studies and as a leading scholar on African security (specifically on resource-related political kidnappings in Nigeria and the war against terrorism). In Canada, Dr. Oriola's scholarship has focused on policing and his*

# Saturday

November 19, 2022

*work on protest and policing against Black and other minority groups has earned him a well-deserved reputation as a leading expert on police reform. A well-decorated scholar and teacher, Oriola is the 2022 recipient of the Faculty of Arts Research Excellence Award and the 2022 CAFA Distinguished Academic Award.*

*Dr. Oriola served as Special Adviser to the Government of Alberta on Police Act Reform: participating in several town halls, and citizen engagement sessions that have led to his development of recommendations for reforming Alberta's Police Act. His community work on policing reform has led him to being one of the most sought-after public intellectuals, in Canada, on policing. He has written over 100 op-eds and news commentaries on these issues, bringing many new elements into public discussion. In 2022 alone, Dr. Oriola has received two research grants of over half a million dollars: the SSHRC Insight Grant (principal applicant) and the Government of Canada's New Frontiers Research Grant (co-applicant). In addition, Dr. Oriola contributes as a leader within the academy and his discipline: he is a Joint Editor-in-Chief of the international journal African Security, Past President of the Canadian Association of African Studies, President-elect of The Canadian Sociological Association, serves on the Board of Directors of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, and is Chair of the University of Alberta Press Committee.*



## Alex Silas

### *Countering the Convoy: Then and Now*

Alex Silas, Regional Executive Vice-President for the Public Service Alliance of Canada's National Capital Region will share lessons learned from organizing on-the-ground against the Ottawa convoy occupation last winter, including the mass response on February 12, the Battle of Billings Bridge and organizing in the context of a far-right occupation.

*Alex Silas was appointed the PSAC Regional Executive Vice-President for the National Capital Region (NCR) in May 2020 and was elected REVP in May 2021. He previously served as the Alternate REVP for the NCR, having been elected to that position in December 2018.*

*Born in Moncton, New Brunswick, Alex has lived in Ottawa since 2003. Alex attended La Cité Collégiale for the Police Foundations Program.*

*He first became a member of PSAC in 2010 when he was hired at the Bank of Canada as a security officer, and then became a shop steward for directly chartered local 71250. He has served on various regional committees such as the Young Workers' Committee as secretary, the Directly Chartered Local Committee as secretary-treasurer, and was elected as a member-at-large in 2018 for the NCR. He was also the Vice-President of directly chartered local 71250.*

*He is a community activist involved with the \$15 and Fairness campaign and Ottawa ACORN, and comes from a long family history of labour activism.*

*Alex is the first member of a directly chartered local to serve on the National Board of Directors (NBOD) in PSAC's history.*

# Saturday

November 19, 2022

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm  
ETLC Lobby

Break

4:00 pm – 5:15 am  
Room 1-001, ETLC

Plenary



## Riley Yesno

### *Beyond Reconciliation, Towards Liberated Futures*

Since 2015, reconciliation has been the dominant term we've used to describe our goals for the future of Indigenous / Canada relations. What does reconciliation really mean? What critiques do Indigenous people have of reconciliation? And, ultimately, what must we all do to be a part of building the futures the TRC sought to articulate?

*Riley Yesno (she/her) is a queer Anishinaabe scholar, writer, and advocate from Eabametoong First Nation. She has been a contributor and commentator for some of the largest media outlets in Canada and the world, including the New York Times, BBC World News, The Globe and Mail, and CBC National News. Riley has also travelled the globe speaking at internationally renowned institutions and events, including the UN climate negotiations, the Stockholm Forum on Gender Equality, TEDx stages, and many others. Her major project right now is to finish her Ph.D. at the University of Toronto, where she studies Indigenous/Canadian politics and is a Vanier Scholar. Her love and gratitude for her communities, passion for radical ideas, and the call she feels to challenge systems is what inspires her work.*

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## Conference Social

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

### Dewey's

(Dewey's is on the campus of the University of Alberta not far from the ETLC. Please follow the crowd to the venue.)

# Sunday

November 20, 2022

8:00 am ETLC Lobby	Doors Open
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9:00 am – 10:15 am Room 1-001, ETLC	Plenary
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## Emma Jackson

### *How To Build Power and Win In Populist Times*

In 1934, Bertolt Brecht wrote, “It takes courage to say that the good were defeated not because they were good, but because they were weak.” The recent election of Pierre Poilievre as Leader of the Conservative Party and the growing influence of the far-right must be a wake-up call to the Left— being right wins us nothing if we have no power. It’s more important than ever that we organize a popular force by breaking outside of our activist subcultures, meeting people where they are, and re-politicizing our currently de-politicized spaces and institutions. But building power in populist times will also require us to dismantle some dominant beliefs that the political and corporate elite in this country are invested in maintaining— namely, that populism is bad, polarization is to be avoided, and politics are something you “have” and not something you do.

*Emma Jackson is an organizer, writer and campaigner based on Treaty 6 territory in Edmonton, AB. She grew up in the Canadian labour movement and first cut her organizing teeth in the student fossil fuel divestment movement. She now works for the global climate justice organization [350.org](https://350.org), organizes locally with Climate Justice Edmonton, and sits on the board of the Alberta Workers’ Association for Research and Education (AWARE). She’s passionate about how we can build transformative mass movements, defeat Pierre Poilievre and the rise of the far-right, and win the world working people deserve.*

10:15 am – 10:30 am ETLC Lobby	<b>Break</b> Coffee and pastries will be available
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# Sunday

November 20, 2022

10:30 am – 11:45 am  
Room 1-013, ETLC

Concurrent Session

## A. *Quality of Life – Public Services & Housing*



### Brad Lafortune

#### *Housing is a Human Right - now we need to act like it*

There is a housing crisis in Alberta. Instead of reinvesting in housing across the spectrum — from deep-subsidy supportive housing to interventions in market housing — the provincial government is embarking on a strategy to privatize current public housing stock and is ideologically opposed to market interventions.

As a result, the crisis is deepening. But there are solutions and we know what they are. Public Interest Alberta is building a provincial blueprint with partners across the province to propose a generational investment in adequate, affordable and accessible housing. With the seven principles of adequate housing as the foundation, Alberta can and will become a leader in making housing a human right — not just in principle or legislation, but in reality

*Brad has worked most of his life on Treaty 6 territory in Alberta as an advocate for worker rights and social, economic and environmental justice. Most recently, he has served as the Director of Campaigns for Western Canada at Point Blank Creative, a progressive communications firm promoting and supporting civil society and labour rights.*

*Brad previously served as the Chief of Staff to the Minister of Labour for the Alberta New Democrat government, where he helped implement Alberta's \$15 minimum wage in 2018 and set up North America's first Coal Workforce Transition Fund.*

*Organizing, advocacy, and political action that centers on real stories and builds power are the principles that guide Brad's work. He is committed to building diverse, inclusive, and equitable networks with Public Interest Alberta to help shape our province's future.*

*When he's not working on campaigns or advocacy work, you can find Brad running around with his daughter Maven and their dog, Rufio. He loves long-distance running and when we can all get together, he co-produces and hosts a drop-in singing party called Pub Choir.*

# Sunday

November 20, 2022



## Rebecca Graff-McRae

### *Public Services and Political Divisions: Lessons from a Deeply Divided Society*

In deeply divided politics and those emerging from political conflict, the (re) establishment of reliable, equitable public services is crucial – not just for the reconstruction of a functional society, but also towards the (re)building of a shared civic identity.

While Alberta is not deeply divided in this extreme sense, it nonetheless has deep political and socio-economic divisions that have been reinforced and redrawn during the seismic shifts of the last few years. This presentation asks how these divisions have impacted our ability to maintain and expand our vital public services and whether our failure to protect them may contribute to a deepening divide. Finally, it explores how we can strengthen our services for the good of all Albertans.

*Rebecca Graff-McRae is a Research Manager for the Parkland Institute at the University of Alberta, where her areas of research include public healthcare, seniors' care, and public services. She holds a doctorate in Irish Politics from Queen's University Belfast, and has held fellowships with the Institute of Irish Studies at Queen's, Memorial University Newfoundland, University College Cork, and a SSHRC Post-doctoral Fellowship in Political Science at the University of Alberta. Rebecca is the author of Remembering & Forgetting 1916: Commemoration and Conflict in Post-Peace Process Ireland (Irish Academic Press, 2010), and her scholarly work has appeared in Éire-Ireland, Nordic Irish Studies, and Ethnopolitics among other publications. She has also contributed to the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives forthcoming 2023 Alternative Federal Budget, as well as Alberta Views magazine. She has previously worked for Edmonton City Council, the Centre for the Advancement of Women into Politics at Queen's (now the Centre for Gender in Politics), and the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland through a competitive internship program. Her recent reports for Parkland include: Misdiagnosis: privatization and disruption in Alberta's medical laboratory services (2022); Time to Care: staffing and workloads in Alberta's long-term care facilities (2021); and Blurred Lines: private membership clinics and public healthcare (2017). When not researching or writing, Rebecca can be found practicing her Irish dancing and raising a quartet of critical thinkers.*

# Sunday

November 20, 2022

10:30 am – 11:45 am  
Room 1-003, ETLC

Concurrent Session

## B. Jobs and Transitions



### Ian Hussey

#### *Job Creation or Job Loss? Big Companies Use Tax Cut to Automate Away Jobs in the Oil Sands*

My presentation analyzes how the four biggest oil sands companies received \$4.3 billion in tax cuts from the UCP government since 2019 through the so-called “Job Creation Tax Cut,” while at the same time eliminating thousands of employees from their payrolls. The research shows the Big Four used the tax giveaway to increase executives’ pay and boost cash transfers to shareholders, while accelerating automation and cutting jobs.

*Ian Hussey began his work as a research manager at the University of Alberta’s Parkland Institute in 2014, and he earned a career appointment in 2019. He is a steering committee member of the Corporate Mapping Project, a seven-year initiative supported by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) and focused on the oil, gas, and coal industries in Western Canada (2015-2022). Ian is the author of “Job Creation or Job Loss? Big Companies Use Tax Cut to Automate Away Jobs in the Oil Sands” (Parkland Institute, 2022), and of “The Future of Alberta’s Oil Sands Industry: More Production, Less Capital, Fewer Jobs” (Parkland Institute, 2020). Ian is the co-author with Emma Jackson of “Alberta’s Coal Phase-Out: A Just Transition?” (Parkland Institute, 2019).  
Twitter: @ianHussey12*



### Ana Guerra Marin

#### *Navigating Polarization and Fear While Building JUST Transitions from the Ground Up*

Ana (she/her) is the Communities Director and Just Transition Lead at Iron & Earth. She started her career in Colombia, listening to and empowering oil, gas and mining workers at various work sites through forming partnerships and understanding worker issues. As Ana delved into the extractive industries, she became more aware of how important it is to address the environmental and socio-economic impacts she was witnessing, and how urgent it is to create long-lasting solutions rooted in community-based initiatives that focus on the most vulnerable persons.

*This started a 15-year career focused on helping communities achieve self-determination through social and environmental justice in Latin America and Canada. As a white, cisgender, immigrant woman with invisible disabilities, Ana recognizes her position in the world and challenges societal ideas by creating transformative change through a praxis informed by intersectionality and Black feminism, womanism, critical race theory, Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge, decolonization, and critical consciousness.*

11:45 am – 12:00 pm  
ETLC Lobby

Break

# Sunday

November 20, 2022

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm  
Room 1-001, ETLC

Closing Keynote



## Malcom Azania

### *Be the Victory You've Been Dreaming Of*

Despair is easy when fascism, the foe we thought we'd defeated nearly a century ago, is back from hell and rampaging across North America and the world. Still, we beat it before, and we'll do it again. But how? Without question, the best-funded and most powerful tools are in the hands of governments. But 20th and 21st Century history teaches us that we can't risk assuming that governments—even social democratic ones—will engage this fight effectively, or at all.

So what must we do? And while organizing to defeat this evil, how do we simultaneously engineer the world we want and deserve? In other words, how do we move beyond the myopia of anti- to embrace a telescopic vision of pro-?

Citizens and citizen organizations, regardless of support or opposition from government forces, must begin with a frank analysis of why we must discard the flimsy notion of "allyship" for the clear and unmistakable terms of formal alliances. We must broker and expand intercommunal connections to create a common vision-action plans. We must practice asymmetric activation through pro-social innovation competitions, especially to seize control of the digital commons. And through our most powerful and best-funded organizations—labour unions—we must create expansive solidarity endowments to thwart the long game of Koch Brothers-style social engineering to systematically build a better world.

*Malcolm Azania has engaged in Africentric, multicultural, and social justice organising since he was a high school student in the 1980s. In addition to having been a sketch comedy writer, video game writer, poet, high school English teacher, workshop leader, and public speaker, he has also been a radio broadcaster and producer, podcaster, and national television host, and is an award-winning print journalist and award-winning novelist under the pen-name Minister Faust. In this era of climate chaos and the rise of fascism, much of Azania's current work writing and exploration is focused on eclectic solutions and democratic creating expansive opportunities.*



# Alberta needs pharmacare.

No more waiting!

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# I NEED YOUR HELP TO BUILD A BETTER CITY FOR EVERYONE

A message from Councillor Michael Janz



## MY FOUR PRIORITIES FOR BUILDING A EDMONTON FOR ALL



### 1 PROMOTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY, GOOD JOBS & ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

Edmonton's economic recovery is an opportunity to build on our existing financial strengths and invest in our future. With the right tools and approaches, we can continue to ensure a high quality of life and low cost of living, which makes Edmonton a great place to live and start or grow a business.

### 2 STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SERVICES & PUTTING THE PUBLIC INTEREST FIRST

COVID-19 has taught us that now more than ever we must invest boldly in our collective well-being. For Edmonton to remain a great place to live for all ages, wages, and stages we need to look at investments in transit, libraries, parks and recreation, and support for seniors and families.

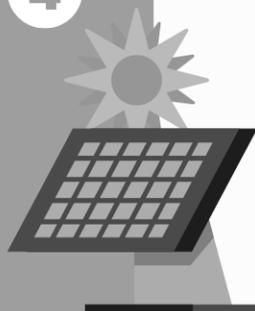


### 3 BUILDING A SAFE, CARING & WELCOMING CITY FOR EVERYONE

As we emerge from the pandemic, we must prioritize an equitable recovery for all through our next operating and capital budgets, and execution of the City Plan.

### 4 ACCELERATING ACTION ON ENERGY TRANSITION & CLIMATE CHANGE

As a city, we must meet the challenge of the climate crisis by committing to the accelerated actions for climate change.



Let me know your thoughts and get updates on our progress

Sign up for my newsletter and receive regular updates!

## Before You Go Parkland People

Parkland People – the special people who support Parkland Institute and the Parkland conference with their ideas, volunteer work, and money—make it all work. Without you, Parkland does not exist.

Please consider becoming a monthly donor (there's a reason it's called sustaining support) or making a one-time donation. Donation forms are available in the lobby. You can also become a monthly donor or make a one-time donation online at [parklandinstitute.ca/donate](https://parklandinstitute.ca/donate).

## Feedback Forms

Your feedback is critical to our planning for future conferences and other programming. Please fill out the conference feedback form by using the QR code below:



## Hand In Your Nametags

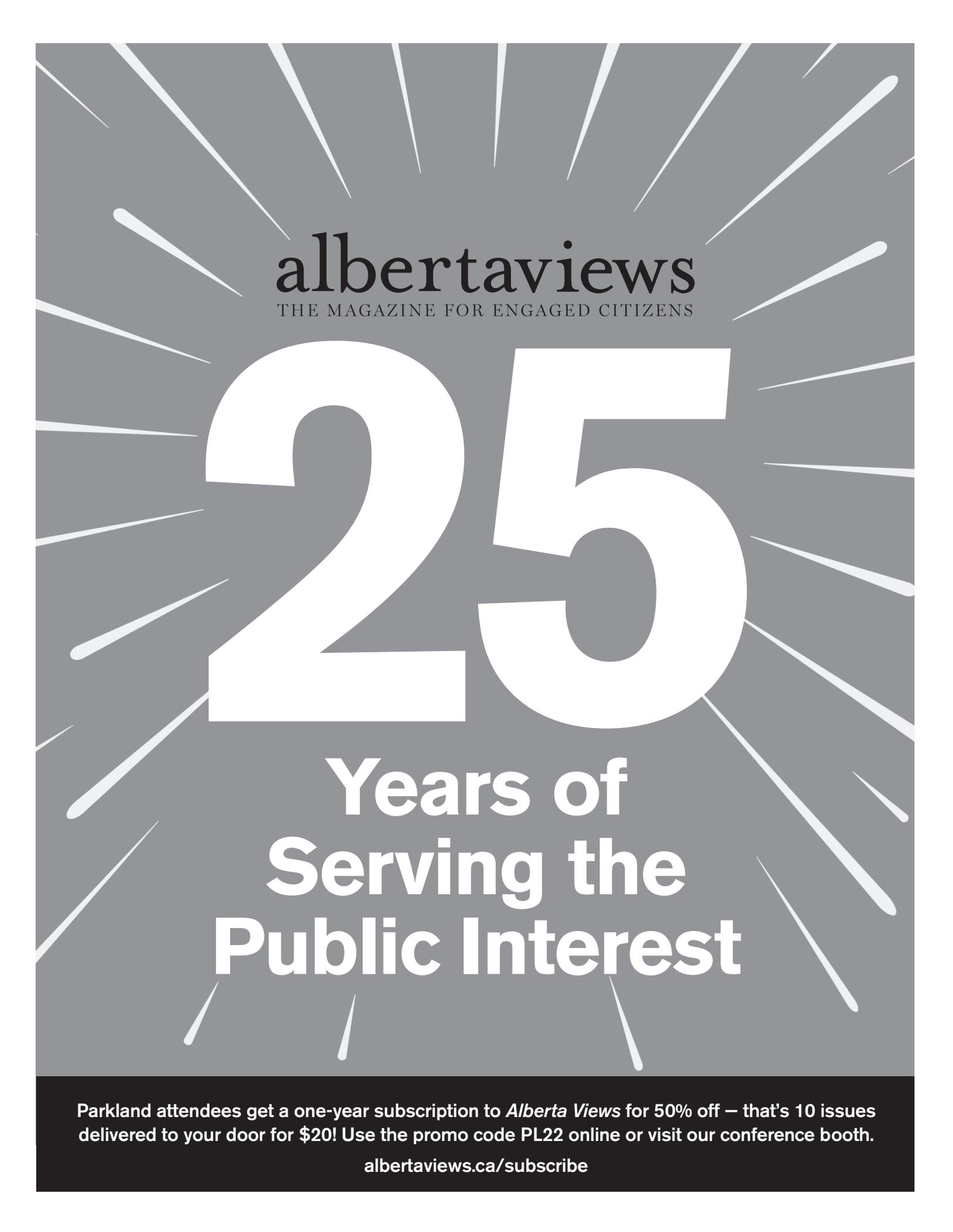
Please hand in your nametag to the volunteers in the front lobby and return your mugs to one of the beverage stations. We will reuse the nametags to save money and the environment. The mugs are rented and we will have to pay a replacement fee for every mug that we lose.

# Save the Date!

Parkland's Annual Fundraising Gala  
and Silent Auction

**February 23, 2023**

Chateau Lacombe Hotel  
10111 Bellamy Hill Rd NW

The graphic features a dark grey background with numerous white, diagonal, tapered lines radiating from the top center, creating a sunburst or starburst effect. The text is centered and rendered in white.

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THE MAGAZINE FOR ENGAGED CITIZENS

25

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