



The Carold Institute

for the advancement of citizenship in social change

"In a democracy people don't sit in the social and economic bleachers; they all play the game."

—Moses M. Coady



*"Because of the Fellowship
my network
grew exponentially."*

—Peggy Edwards, Ontario ✦ 2009 recipient of the
Alan Thomas Fellowships



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The Carold Institute is a small, agile Canadian foundation established in 1989 with a generous gift from the estate of Clare and Harold Clark. Clare was a passionate supporter of the Canadian Association for Adult Education and its work to nurture citizen engagement and voluntary action.

Clare's legacy created the Carold Institute with a mandate to promote adult education and civic engagement and to support social change by working with leaders and organizations in the not-for-profit sector.



Creating spaces for conversations that advance democratic participation in Canada.

Supporting leaders in the voluntary sector to reflect on, refine and share their practices and knowledge.

OUR MAIN PRIORITIES

We have a passionate commitment to use our resources to promote civil society, creative voluntary action and inspired leadership for social change.

Fostering innovative partnerships with likeminded organizations and individuals.



"The opportunity to step back and reflect was important for me personally, enabling me to integrate my thinking on how to expand and deepen the work of building strong intercultural communities."

—Paula Carr, British Columbia ✨ 2010 recipient of the Alan Thomas Fellowship



Luc Gaudet, Québec: **THE POWER OF PLAY**

Is play a simple child's game? Luc Gaudet, The Carold Institute's 2014 Alan Thomas Fellow, has shown through innovative projects that popular theatre and the use of games can help create engaged individuals and communities.

As a leader working in interventionist and popular theatre for more than 30 years, Gaudet established the Québec-based non-profit organization *Mise au jeu* in 1992. This unique organization draws upon the evocative nature of theatre and games to spark civic engagement.

Gaudet used the sabbatical year afforded him by the Alan Thomas Fellowship to reflect on the role of popular theatre and play, and to develop training programs so that others can also effectively use art and theatre as a means to increase civic engagement.



Nurturing inspired leadership

We rely on the vision, expertise and experience of not-for-profit organizations and their leaders to foster a strong and creative civil society in Canada. Carol is committed to supporting and nurturing these leaders as catalysts for social change and democratic action. Each year, the Alan Thomas Fellowship is awarded to an outstanding leader in the sector to take a sabbatical year. This sabbatical year allows the recipients to reflect on, refine, and share their practice and knowledge, often helping to make space for new leadership.



Penny Goldsmith, British Columbia: **ONLINE COMMUNITIES OF CHANGE**

Anti-poverty advocate, Penny Goldsmith, was an early adopter of online communities and social networking. Acknowledging her work, The Carol Institute named Goldsmith as the inaugural recipient of the Alan Thomas Fellowship award.

In 1997, Goldsmith founded PovNet and worked tirelessly to develop this online space where anti-poverty workers could access resources and tools, and where members of the community could access legal information in plain language. With the time made available to her by the Carol Institute's Fellowship, Goldsmith created a casebook to help communities integrate online tools for information sharing and social justice networking into their practice.

Today, PovNet continues to play a central role in the anti-poverty movement with its evolution into PovNetU, which offers online courses for anti-poverty advocates. Goldsmith, meanwhile, continues her work as an anti-poverty activist by writing a book about PovNet and running a small progressive publishing house.

Kim Pate, Ontario:

EMPOWERING THE DISEMPOWERED

Kim Pate considers advocating with and for marginalized, victimized, criminalized, and institutionalized women as her life's work. At a time when non-profit organizations face increasingly tenuous futures, Pate used her time as the 2013 Alan Thomas Fellow to develop practical tools and approaches for ensuring long-term transfer of knowledge and expertise.

She spent her Fellowship year working with students and professors within the faculties of law at four Canadian universities, as well as community support workers, advocates, coalition partners, imprisoned women, and corrections officers across Canada. The resulting training and educational tools, particularly the Human Rights in Action handbook, have been widely recognized and well-received.

In 2014, Pate was named a member of the Order of Canada for her research and advocacy work. Based in Ottawa, she was the 2015 University of Saskatchewan's Ariel F. Sallows Chair in Human Right, and Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies.

Promoting civil society

As citizens, we need to engage in a continuous process of reflection and critical thinking about civil society and how we build strong democracies in a rapidly changing world. Every year, Carold identifies a number of emerging questions related to voluntary action, civic engagement and adult education. We invite leaders to wrestle with the questions and propose innovative approaches. These "Learning Days" offer space for creative thinking, foster new networks among leaders and organizations and inspire new ways of acting together.

Building collaboration

Carold is a small organization with an ambitious agenda. We seek to collaborate with organizations who share our priorities. By working together, we leverage our modest resources and multiply the impact of our activities. In recent years, we have

partnered with many colleges (George Brown and Langara), universities (Simon Fraser, Concordia, and St. Paul's/Waterloo), the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, L'Institut du nouveau monde (Gordon Selman Scholarship), Cuso International (Bob Ward Memorial Fellowship), and the Community Foundations of Canada, among others.

Governance at the Carold Institute

Our Board of Directors and our members represent a diverse cross-section of leaders in civil society. Members have backgrounds in education, administration, communications, business and not-for-profits. Founding President, Alan Thomas and past President, Michael Clague are recipients of the Order of Canada.

The Carold Institute has supported **more than NINE** fellowships since 2007 **including** those of:

 **Vincent Greason** (2009, Québec) - a leader in popular education and inclusive citizenship strategies.

 **Michel Venne** (2010, Québec) - a pioneer in inspiring young adults to participate and become engaged citizens and social innovators.

 **Nicole Rycroft** (2012, British Columbia) - an environmentalist researching new models to successfully mobilize leading international businesses to undertake projects based on preservation.

"Talking and giving presentations with other organizations, as well as within our own gave us a renewed sense of confidence in the accomplishments of People First."

—John Cox, Nova Scotia  2011 recipient of the Alan Thomas Fellowship

SUPPORT OUR MISSION

We are always interested in hearing from people who want to help support our mission. If you'd like to learn more about the Carold Institute, donate to our foundation, or discuss a partnership with your organization, please visit:

www.carold.ca

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