



Alumni Profile

Kinga Koltun

BA Hons '16 French Language & Literature and Social Justice & Peace Studies

Current Career

Organization: City of London

Title: Coordinator, Government and External Relations

Career Overview

I worked on the Community Diversity and Inclusion Strategy (CDIS), the first strategy of its kind within the City of London, with all content being fully created by residents. My work consisted of conducting background research, volunteer recruitment, project coordination, public consultation, and eventually delivering the final report to Council for endorsement. The main focus of this process was working directly with residents to ensure the voices of the community resonated through this document.

This process gained interest from other organizations, municipalities and universities, not only within Canada but also internationally. In July, 2017 I delivered a presentation about the development process and highlights of CDIS at the Seventeenth International Conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities & Nations - Urban Diversity and Economic Growth in Toronto.

I have also been highly involved with the Diverse Voices for Change Initiative (DV4C), funded by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and aimed at increasing the participation of women from diverse backgrounds in local government. We chose to focus on City of London Advisory Committees, Boards and Commissions. As part of this initiative, I have had the opportunity to work with FCM staff, City of London Councillors, Indigenous leaders, and community stakeholders. In 2016, we carried out the first diversity census across all City of London Advisory Committees, Boards and Commissions. This allowed us to gain a baseline understanding of the composition of these bodies and which gaps ought to be addressed in order to make them more representative of the community.

How has SJPS helped prepare you for your current work or helped you get where you are today?

SJPS taught me that in order to achieve something you have to be at the table & get involved to have your voice heard.

Have you volunteered with any organization or cause that seeks to promote social justice and peace?

I have volunteered at the YMCA with the YMAP program which is an integration program for newcomer youth to London.

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