

Canadian Journal for the Academic Mind  
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## **Canadian Journal for the Academic Mind, Volume 1, Issue 1**

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In honour of the enduring legacy of bell hooks  
a transformative thinker, a beacon of wisdom, and an advocate for change.

With deep admiration, we dedicate the first volume of the Canadian Journal for the Academic Mind to the memory and lasting influence of bell hooks. May her teachings continue to inspire scholars and students alike, empowering them to challenge assumptions, provoke critical thought, and strive for a more equitable and inclusive world.

**“true resistance begins with people confronting pain... and wanting to do something to change it.”**

- bell hooks (2014). *“Yearning: Race, Gender, and Cultural Politics”*.



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## **Honouring Indigenous Knowledge and Fostering Decolonization**

The Canadian Journal for the Academic Mind recognizes that it is headquartered on the traditional, unceded land of the Omàmìwininiwag, Anishinabewaki, Kanien'kehá:ka, and Haudenosaunee nations.

We honour the rich knowledge systems and cultural contributions of Indigenous peoples and aim to create a space that values Indigenous ways of knowing and being. We acknowledge the detrimental impact of colonization on individuals, communities, and knowledge systems. By seeking to decenter dominant Western paradigms, we aim to embrace diverse epistemologies, methodologies, and research approaches. Our goal is to challenge traditional boundaries, promote cross-cultural dialogue, and dismantle systems of oppression embedded in academic structures.

Together, we can forge a scholarly community that reflects our shared commitment to equity, inclusivity, and positive change. Join us in our collective endeavor, in proud collaboration with the Carleton Feminist Institute of Social Transformation, to reshape the academic landscape, advance knowledge rooted in justice, and create a more equitable future.



**Carleton**  
**University**

Feminist Institute of  
Social Transformation





## Letter from the Editorial Board

It is with immense honour, pleasure, and excitement that we introduce to you the inaugural issue of the *Canadian Journal for the Academic Mind* (CJAM). This remarkable milestone marks the culmination of months of dedication, collaboration, and support. In a rapidly evolving world, the pursuit of knowledge and the exploration of ideas is vital. CJAM aims to foster a vibrant community of students, both undergraduate and post-graduate, who are committed to pushing the boundaries of knowledge across academia. The journal will encompass a wide range of disciplines, reflecting the diversity and multidimensionality of academic pursuits in Canada. We believe that the multidisciplinary approach that we have taken will foster cross-pollination of ideas and encourage readers to explore the connections and intersections between various fields.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all the authors who have contributed to this inaugural volume. Your scholarly contributions have paved the way for meaningful discussions and have set the stage for the high standards we aspire to maintain in this journal. We would also like to express our deep appreciation to the diligent expert peer reviewers who have dedicated their time and expertise to ensure the quality and rigor of the published articles. Your commitment to upholding academic scholarship is commendable, and we are grateful for your valuable contributions.

We thank all of the organizations and institutions that share our commitment to promoting open-access academic research and advancing scholarly communication. We especially thank the Arthur Kroeger College of Public Affairs and the Barrie Crossing Dental Centre for their generous donations to CJAM. These contributions have greatly assisted with the success of the journal and our mission to foster a vibrant academic community that pushes the boundaries of knowledge and enriches the academic landscape of our world.



**Arthur Kroeger  
College of  
Public Affairs  
Carleton University**



Barrie Crossing  
**DENTAL  
CENTRE**

Lastly, we owe our heartfelt indebtedness to our incredible faculty advisors, Dr. Katherine Bausch, Dr. Mary Francoli, and Dr. Michelle MacDonald, for their unwavering commitment, invaluable guidance, and devoted mentorship. Their expertise, wisdom, and dedication to

academic excellence have been essential in shaping the direction of this journal.

As we embark on this journey together, we invite you, our readers, to engage with the rich tapestry of ideas presented in the following pages. It is our hope that this journal will serve as a catalyst for innovative thinking, inspiring new avenues of research, and fostering collaborations that transcend disciplinary boundaries. We look forward to the continued growth of this journal and the opportunity to showcase the brilliance of academia. We invite you to join us on this transformative academic voyage, as together we embark on the journey of *expanding knowledge, shaping perspectives, and connecting minds*, fostering a global community of intellectual growth.

Yours sincerely,

**Nir Hagigi**, Editor-in-Chief

**Maya Bethune**, Associate Editor

**Olivia Omoruyi**, Associate Editor

**Riley Mae Williamson**, Director of Communications

**Hailey Baldock**, Editor

**Anya Niedermoser Roth**, Editor

**Haley Glass**, Editor

**Ava Bizjak**, Editor

CANADIAN JOURNAL FOR  
THE ACADEMIC MIND

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EXPANDING KNOWLEDGE  
SHAPING PERSPECTIVES  
CONNECTING MINDS

