



# CAIDP - RPCDI

**THE VOICE OF CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY**

## EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

The CAIDP Board experienced an unexpected disruption shortly after the AGM. In June 2023, three members of the new Executive stepped down for personal and professional reasons leaving the President and both Vice President positions vacant. This meant that the Chairs of the Strategic Planning and Conference Sub-Committees were also vacated.

CAIDP thanks Ian and Vilupti for their hard work, especially noting Vilupti's work on the successful June 7th programming event and wishes them well as they focus on their careers. David Comerford remains active on the Board.

The Board has taken steps to recover. Three new CAIDP Board Members were recruited and elected at the July 31st, 2023, meeting on an interim basis to be confirmed by members at the next AGM. These include the following:

- Bart Edes (Professor of Practice, McGill University)
- Timothy Hodges (Professor of Practice in Strategic Approaches to Global Affairs at McGill University's Institute for the Study of International Development)
- Samira Saif (an independent performance measurement and women's economic empowerment consultant)

Noel Millson and Brianna Parent Long were elected as the new Vice Presidents of CAIDP. For now, the Board President position remains vacant. It was agreed that in the interim, Pamela Branch and Noel Millson would act as Co-Presidents.



The Conference Sub-Committee leadership role was assumed by the Programming and Conference Committee head Noel Millson. The Strategic Planning Committee was merged into the Revenue Generation and Growth Committee to become the Strategy, Revenue Generation and Growth Committee, with Jane Jamieson and Christian Novak as co-leaders.

The Committees with representation at the July 31st meeting reported on progress as follows:

- External Relations Committee held a CFO meeting in early June and met with GAC to discuss the evolution of risk at the end of June
- Programme and Conferences Committee reported on the June 7th event; it is working towards a second Parliamentary Briefing; and is planning anew for a CAIDP Conference now scheduled for February 2024
- The Strategy Revenue Generation and Growth Committee laid out their strategy to increase membership and revenue
- The IT and Digital Communications Committee continues to discuss strategies using all social media streams available to CAIDP to engage members



# OP-ED

## Disrupting Trust Fund Madness

By Ted Jackson

“Yes, you’re right; that issue is certainly important. Our problem is that we just don’t have the budget to address it fully. To do it real justice, we would need more money.”

The representatives of the donors to this multi-donor trust fund at a multilateral development bank (MDB) fired a volley of shots across the bow of the trust fund team, seeking more projects based in poorer countries and implemented by local partners rather than bank staff, addressing household poverty on the ground, and accelerating and deepening efforts toward gender equality.

And each time, the trust fund team leader—elegantly, calmly, bloodlessly, sonorously—fired back with a fundraising pitch—even while the trust fund’s account was already crammed with tens of millions of unspent dollars.

Over two days of meetings, it was a performance as purposeful as it was repellent.

Having provided much of their funding to the trust fund at the front-end of the programming cycle, the donors’ leverage on the behaviour of the team now proved to be very limited.

For the bank staff, their prime accountability was resolutely “upward”, to hit their fundraising targets and continuously grow their budget. There wasn’t a scintilla of evidence of “downward” accountability to the people in whose name they work: the poor and marginalized in the Global South.

The incentivizing of permanent fundraising campaigns by the employees of MDBs has reached new heights of institutional self-interest and acquisitiveness. This reward system and the organizational culture enabling it must be disrupted and, ultimately, shattered.

The development news platform DevEx recently asked: “Is the World Bank Going Trust Fund Crazy?” With more than 360 trust funds worth about USD 14B, it already has.

A frequent flyer in the trust fund space, Canada should work with its donor peers at the Board and senior-management levels of the World Bank and the regional development banks to reduce the number of trust funds, prioritize their themes, and reform the way they are used as well as how staff performance is assessed.

MDB staff must be rewarded for fighting poverty, not raising money. They should be promoted for making peoples’ lives better, fairer, cleaner, and safer, rather than bulking up the budgets of the institutions that employ them.

The World Bank and its sister regional banks have always been, well, banks: revenue-driven, institutions-for-themselves, expensive, arrogant, and self-referential. But their trust fund madness has gone too far.

Yet despite all of that, the World Bank is still the smartest development institution on the planet.

Moreover, it has the capacity, the heft, to take



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“on the recalcitrant fossil fuel industry that threatens to destabilize international agreements on everything from net-zero emissions targets to plastic pollution reduction and biodiversity conservation.

Engage, disrupt, reform. For the MDBs, that’s the way forward.

Edward Jackson, an Ottawa-based university professor and management consultant, is President of E. T. Jackson and Associates Ltd., a founding member of CAIDP.



## CAIDP ANALYTICS

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**CAIDP CONFERENCE**

**FEB 20-22, 2024**

September 2023	(Y)
Members	90
Hub Subscribers	1,287
Facebook Follows	1,083
Twitter Follows	622
Linkedin Members	615



# OP-ED

## **Development Aid in Conflict: A New and Sustained Wave of Securitization? By Jonas Mikkelsen**

“In 2023, the world is very far from “the end of history” and the all-out victory of liberal democracy that was proclaimed in 1992.

Punctuated by 9/11 the securitization discourse around development aid has had an existential weight. Power diffusion, instability, and conflict are now more prevalent.

With the war in Ukraine, its eventual aftermath, and the country's rebuilding, it is hard not to see a new wave of securitization of development aid.

Canada has supported Ukraine's efforts firmly with direct military aid - the NATO Summit offered Trudeau the opportunity to pledge continued support. The promise to Ukraine was made within the G7 and the NATO alliance framework, emphasising Canada's security alignment with the alliance and its closest partners.

When the Prime Minister speaks with the home constituency rather than the Minister of International Development, the stakes in domestic politics rise. The security issue dominates the debate, leaving little room for a normative development agenda.

Useful here is the Copenhagen School's publications popularising the term “securitization” in the study of international relations. It is intended to be meant as a critical

term for how fields before unrelated to security concerns become “securitized” by actors who attach (typically national) security value to them. This permits them to be prioritised as urgent concerns and so dealt with using extraordinary means.

Domestic constituents are currently facing multiple crises relating to cost-of-living, housing, and the genuine impact of climate change, among others. The list is long. Development aid does not sell at the ballot in this domestic political environment - the imperative of security might not either but will most probably receive a less hostile reception from voters because of its securitization.

A significant difference exists between a minister of development pledging for a water sanitation project and the PM pledging support for a country at war “for as long as it takes”.

Additionally, it is very difficult for politicians to turn back a securitization agenda from the PM's Office and yet look legitimate to the voting public. This is one of the many challenges that they face.

For development consultants, the securitization of aid has very practical ramifications. Firstly, the implementation where development consultants end up co-opted by securitization makes them part of the agenda working within the security paradigm, making them legitimate



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targets to those opposing the security agenda – sometimes putting their safety at risk”.

Secondly, the link to the end user of the outcomes of development aid and its beneficiaries largely becomes absent because of the discourse construct. Impact through a security lens looks very different. However, this does not in my view mean that the normative core of civilian development cannot be based on concern around inequality, climate justice, and well-being. It is a fine line: dogmatic views at either end of the security–development spectrum is either politically unviable or ineffective in creating sustainable development results.

Some people feel that all forms of securitization are wrong as a matter of principle, and therefore cannot coexist with development, whereas others feel that development cannot happen in the absence of a focus on security and stability.

Perhaps we should more pragmatically aim at a “developmentalization” of the Canadian security policy agenda, injecting normative development elements as early as possible in interventions rather than a refusal of the current domestic politics and foreign policy premises of securitization for development aid.

### **ENGAGE US!**

Information Technology & Digital Communications (IT&DC) committee is responsible for developing and maintaining the CAIDP website, listserv and social media accounts. From the beginning the Board asked that CAIDP IT&DC infrastructure be interactive in order to give a voice to Canadian international development professionals and provide a forum for members to exchange professional information, two aspects of the mandate of the association.

### **CAIDPHub**

The CAIDPHub listserv is the oldest IT&DC tool. It is designed to allow members to communicate with each other and the association, not just for CAIDP to send messages out. This means that members can and do send messages to the listserv, on average 30 to 50 per month, but many members seem unaware that they can also post information on the website and on CAIDP social media.



# STRATEGY, RESOURCE GENERATION & GROWTH

The SRGGC has been working diligently over the summer tackling an ambitious three-pronged approach to growing CAIDP's presence in the international development community. To that end, the committee is working on the following objectives:

- 1) Grow membership and profile of the organization
- 2) Raise funds for the February 2024 conference and some operational costs
- 3) Build relationships with academic institutions as part of the revenue generation and growth strategy

In addition to these goals for attracting new members and partnerships, CAIDP is also reconvening CAIDP's longstanding corporate partners in roundtable discussions to discuss how to best implement their expertise in a rapidly changing sector and world.

In addition to these initiatives, the committee is laying the groundwork for CAIDP's strategic plan. As the current strategic plan ends in 2024, CAIDP is looking to create a new vision for addressing the needs of its the membership, as well as being responsive to the directions in which international development is heading over the next 5 years.

If you have any suggestions that you would like to see reflected in the committee's work on these initiatives, please send your feedback to CAIDP's Manager of Operations and Engagement, Scott Marentette by email at [scott.marentette@caidp-rpcdi.ca](mailto:scott.marentette@caidp-rpcdi.ca)

## Strategy, Revenue Generation, and Growth Committee



**WE INVITE MEMBERS TO  
SHARE CONTENT TO BE  
INCLUDED IN FUTURE  
BULLETINS**

PLEASE SEND YOUR IDEAS TO MANAGER OF  
OPERATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT  
SCOTT MARENTETTE

# PROGRAMMING & CONFERENCES

On June 7, 2023, CAIDP in collaboration with the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA) Carleton University, and in conjunction with the 2023 Together/Ensemble Event (University of Waterloo) hosted a high-level meeting of experts to review Canada's progress towards achieving Vision 2030.

Minister Karina Gould (Minister of Families, Children and Social Development), Parliamentary Secretary Anita Vandenberg (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development), and Member of Parliament Ryan Turnbull attended and gave impassioned speeches on Canada's work in achieving the SDGs.

For her part, Minister Gould's speech and fireside chat were broadcast live to more than 700 people across the country. Mr. Matthew Bishop, Journalist and Innovator, Fellow at The Marshall Institute, Brookings, and Founder of the Social Progress Imperative and Dr. Teddy Y. Samy, Director, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA) also made speeches to the attendees (there were 58 attendees).

The link to the video recording of the event can be found on the CAIDP Web Site or on YouTube at [The Next Half of the 2030 Agenda: What can Canada do differently? - Together|Ensemble 2023 - YouTube](#)

- Looking ahead, the PCC is active with the following:

- Planning another briefing for Parliamentarians focusing on Canadian ODA and regional conflicts
- Preparing for a CAIDP Conference to be held on February 21 and 22
- Considering the production of podcasts or collaborating with existing podcasts (such as "The Global DevDalhousie University) to discuss topics of International Development (for example see his podcast on "Industrial Green New Deal")

We also encourage members to link to other producers of international development content. Any interesting content that you feel other CAIDP Members might be interested in could be posted to the CAIDP Listserv.

If you have comments or suggestions regarding content for CAIDP Members to be produced by CAIDP or suggestions for collaboration with other organizations, please contact to CAIDP's Manager of Operations and Engagement, Scott Marentette by email at [scott.marentette@caidp-rpcdi.ca](mailto:scott.marentette@caidp-rpcdi.ca) by using "Suggestions for CAIDP PCC" in the subject line.

Noel Millson

## COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, OR SUGGESTIONS?

CAIDP welcomes member feedback. Send your messages to Manager of Operations and Engagement [Scott Marentette](mailto:Scott.Marentette)

# CAIDP Website

The CAIDP website is complex and has multiple functions: as most members know, memberships are managed via the website. It sends automatic renewal notices and securely processes payments. When you become a member, you receive a username, a password and a membership number. These are important for accessing many of the benefits of Memberships.

Members are encouraged to provide a member profile (e.g. profile of former president Abbas Sumar ). Many members say that their professional profile is the first thing that comes up when potential clients google them. This provides the client with assurance that they are a member of a professional association and adhere to a Professional Code of Conduct.

Members can also post information on CAIDP Blogs , Events and Forums and Corporate members can additionally post Jobs . If you have information you want to share we encourage you to sign into your account on the CAIDP website, click on the members corner and add content!



The mandate of the IT and Digital Communications Committee is to enable the Board, its committees and the greater membership to carry out their respective missions and plans efficiently and effectively through the use of functional, appropriate and cost-effective computer-based tools and applications. Its focus is to protect and sustain the integrity of the underlying infrastructure CAIDP relies on to effectively fulfill its broader objectives, with a sub-focus on ensuring those tools are kept up to date and in good working order as appropriate.

# CAIDP Social Media



CAIDP members are also encouraged to share their social media posts via CAIDP's [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages or [Twitter](#) account. Our experience is that posting on CAIDP social media reaches many people who do not subscribe to the listserv.

We encourage all CAIDP members to link their social media and share posts with their fellow members via CAIDP social media. Engage us today!