

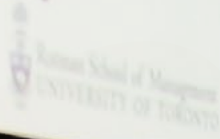
CANADIAN ARAB INSTITUTE 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



CANADIAN ARAB INSTITUTE
INSTITUT CANADO-ARABE



"under trades" with MENA
potential opportunities





The Canadian Arab Institute (CAI) is a charitable, non-partisan policy and community development think tank committed to Canadian ideals of freedom, democracy, human rights, gender equity and the rule of law.

It was founded in 2011 by a steering committee of community leaders, academics, professionals and activists from many faiths and with roots from various parts of the Arab world. Our aim was to start a new discourse about the life and contributions of Canadian Arabs, and to offer a unique perspective on public policy.

CAI's doors are wide open to all, regardless of their religion, ethnicity, sex or sexual orientation. It's open to the volunteers, the curious, the involved, and the dancing in between. It is open to Canadians old and new, and ideas innovative and inspiring. Come on in.

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Let us start from the very end – because it was sheer beauty. The end of 2014 brought us Sultans & Divas, a concert of discoveries in Canadian Arab performing arts on the glittering stage of Koerner Hall. A world of enchantment that melded east and west and fused Arab with Canadian – it was pure musical magic that brought a busy year to a beautiful conclusion!

We have many achievements to share from the past year, but here are some of its highlights.

We published six research reports analyzing the 2011 census. They told us how many we are and where we hail from; where we live and what work we do; the kind of education we've had and how much money we make; the faith we follow, our marital status and the state of our citizenship. All important to know, if we are to know who we are.

We also published a policy brief, *The Need to Protect Rule of Law*, that took to task Bill C-24 (An Act to amend the Citizenship Act) and an op-ed, *What's the holdup on Syrian refugees?*, in the *Globe and Mail* urging the relocation of 10,000 Syrian refugees to Canada.

And outside the paper world, we held a conference on Canadian Business Opportunities in the Middle East, co-presented with the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto.

We also held a four-part lecture series featuring *Perspectives on a Changing Middle East*, co-presented with the Bill Graham Centre for International contemporary History at the University of Toronto. We partnered with the Ontario Science Centre in promoting the Sultans of Science Exhibition, as well as with the Royal Conservatory of Music in producing and presenting *Sultans & Divas*

#YallaNetwork is yet another successful event we held this year – a youth professional development conference co-sponsored by Ryerson University and attracting over 200 participants. We also partnered with the Maytree Foundation for a Diversity onBoard workshop, promoting service on organizational, municipal, and provincial boards.

And to end it on an additional good note, we celebrated with twelve Canadian Arab individuals their achievement and contribution to society through the Canadian Arab to Watch program.

I am particularly proud of the many partnerships we developed and the enthusiasm shown by so many Canadian institutions for working with us. I'm also delighted by the good progress we made in expanding our donor base and our volunteer base (critical to our growth), as well as attracting new corporate sponsors for our events. CAI's message is clearly resonating!

In our third year we will continue to build on our achievements and aim to reach new heights. Our voice needs to be heard more often on matters of policy; our culture and history need better exposure in the face of corrupting world events; and our community's civic and political engagement need expansion at a more rapid pace.

Many have said that we at CAI have been punching above our weight – if so, we must continue, given the vexing challenges that face us, and the unrealized opportunities that await us.

And with your support – inshallah we will!

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT & ENCHANTMENT



RAJA G. KHOURI
*President and
Co-founder*

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



BRADY WOOD
CAI Board Chair

As perhaps an unlikely chair of the Canadian Arab Institute board of directors, I am often asked to explain my involvement. The truth is there are few causes that could be closer to my heart or the hearts of my fellow board members: we are all deeply committed to a Canadian society that is inclusive and respectful of all, as our vision says.

Though our organization takes particular interest in communities of Arab heritage, we are primarily concerned with championing those foundational Canadian values of pluralism and diversity. This is what makes Canada so vibrant, and why we have to be active in countering intolerance and fear.

Looking back on the last year, our volunteer board of directors feels immense pride at all the Canadian Arab Institute has accomplished. We have advanced our research agenda significantly, producing important reports on the lives of Canadian Arabs across the country. Our policy briefs continue to have an impact, perhaps no more so than our work to encourage and collaborate with the federal government to relocate Syrian refugees to Canada in response to a humanitarian crisis. On the education front, we have built partnerships with important institutions like the Royal Conservatory of Music and the Ontario Science Centre, and hosting important events in partnership with venerable institutions like the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto, the Bill Graham Centre on Contemporary International History, and the Mosaic Institute. We are also filled with pride about our work on community and youth development.

Nothing we have accomplished collectively would be possible without the generous support of our patrons, partners and participants in our events. We are deeply grateful, and I encourage you, if you have not already done so, to consider making a contribution toward our important mission. There are also opportunities to volunteer and be involved, and all are welcome.

At the beginning of this year ahead of us, the board, working with our president Raja Khouri and our team, are already planning an even more ambitious future, with renewed energy and strategic directions. I hope reading about our work of the last year will engage you and encourage you to participate in the exciting year ahead.



CAI articulates a Canadian Arab narrative that engages Canadian institutions and the public in the policy, cultural and civic spheres.

Why CAI? Because the Canadian Arab community is the second fastest-growing immigrant population in Canada, but also one whose voice isn't heard often and clearly enough; because the Canadian Arab community wants to meet the challenges of full integration into Canadian society; and because the Canadian Arab Institute is concerned with exactly that - facilitating a new, inclusive conversation.

CAI is concerned with identifying barriers and helping members of the community overcome them. It's concerned with highlighting the contributions of the Canadian Arab community to Canadian society in fields as diverse as business, law, medicine, trade, immigration, human rights, social justice, and the arts. It's concerned with participating in public discourse by generating new research on a wide range of critical policy topics.

Our Vision

An empowered and engaged community in an inclusive and respectful society.



Our Mission

To promote Canadian interests by researching and articulating the perspective and potential of Canadian Arabs and advancing their contributions to society.

THE CANADIAN ARAB COMMUNITY

ARAB IMMIGRATION TO CANADA HITS RECORD HIGH

75% OF CANADIAN ARAB
IMMIGRANTS CAME
TO CANADA IN

1991 – 2011

50% OF CANADIAN ARAB
IMMIGRANTS CAME
TO CANADA IN

2000 – 2011

% of the total immigration
to Canada

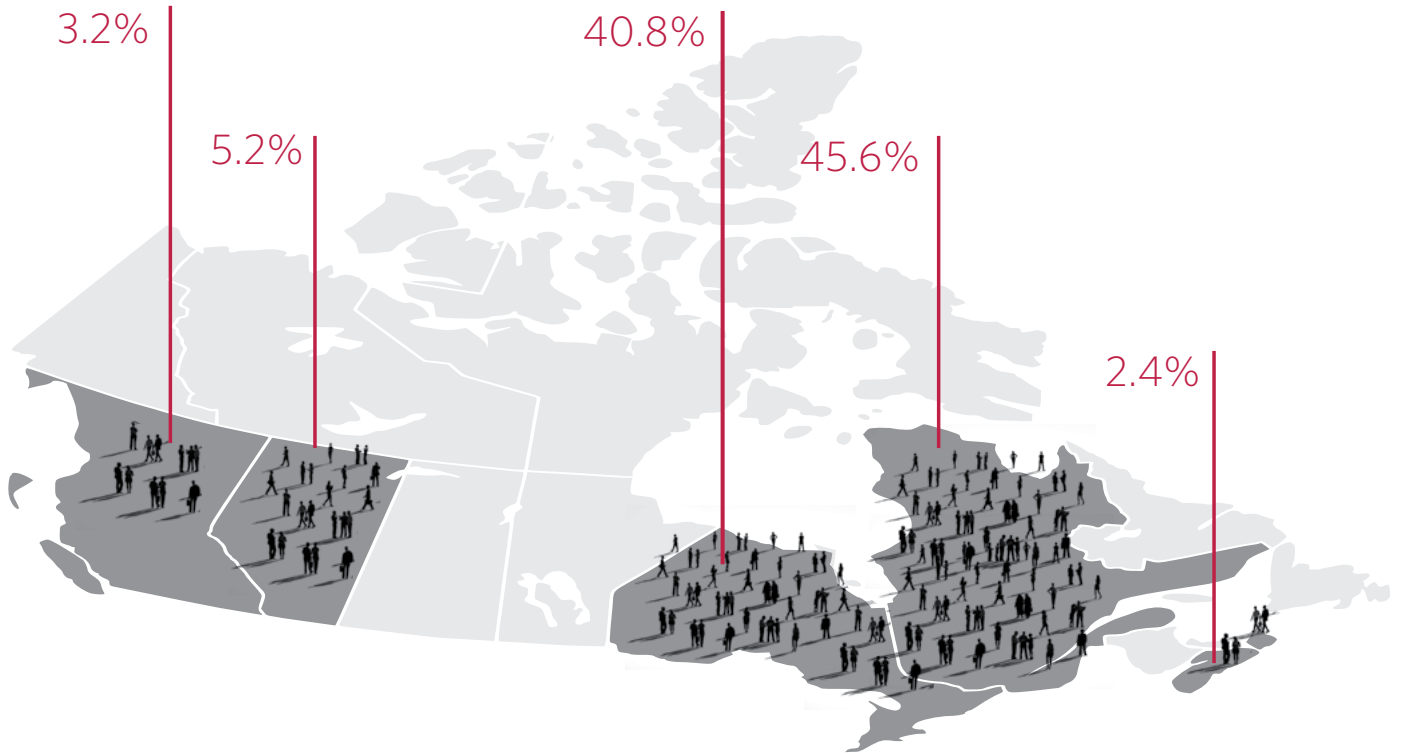


2010

In 2011, Arab immigration dropped slightly to 12.25% of total immigration, remaining in second place behind the Philippines.

750,925
CANADIANS HAIL
FROM ARAB LANDS

Between 1985-2012, most Arab permanent residents settled in Quebec (45.6%) and Ontario (40.8%). Rounding out the top five are Alberta (5.2%), British Columbia (3.3%) and Nova Scotia (2.4%)



89%

OF CANADIAN ARABS
RESIDE IN **12 MAJOR
CITIES** ACROSS CANADA

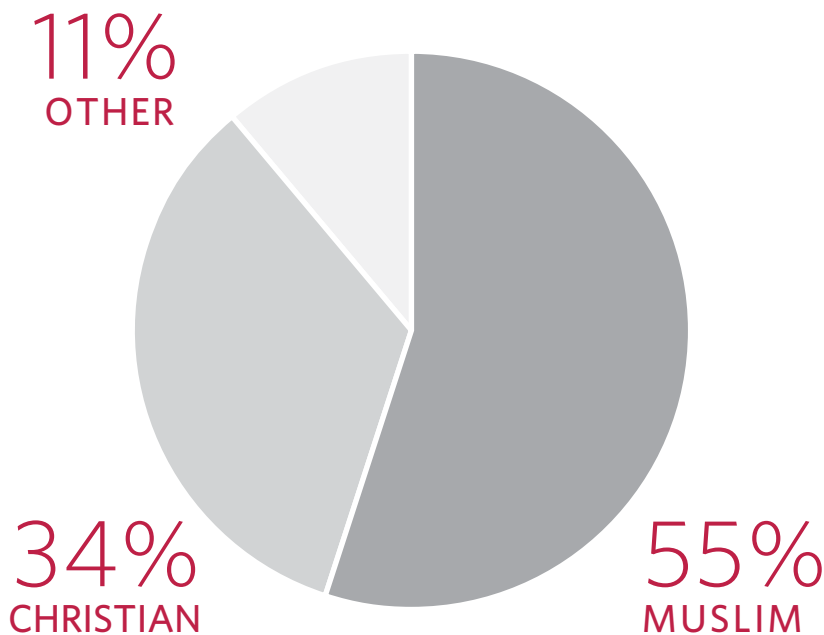
**MONTREAL
TORONTO
OTTAWA / GATINEAU**

**EDMONTON
CALGARY
VANCOUVER**

The Canadian Arab community increased by 33% from 2006 to 2011 and more than doubled since 2001.



RELIGION AND MARITAL STATUS IN THE CANADIAN ARAB COMMUNITY



INCOME

REPORTED NO
INCOME IN 2010

9% OF CANADIAN ARABS

VS.

5% OF CANADIANS

UNDER \$5,000
RANGE

15% OF CANADIAN ARABS

VS.

9% OF CANADIANS

AVERAGE
INCOME

\$32,653 CANADIAN
ARABS

VS.

\$40,650 NATIONAL
AVERAGE

\$40,641 ALBERTA
(HIGHEST)

VS.

\$31,529 QUEBEC
(LOWEST)

THOSE WHO HOLD UNIVERSITY CERTIFICATES,
DIPLOMAS, OR DEGREES AT BACHELOR LEVEL OR ABOVE

60%

OF CANADIAN ARABS



VS.

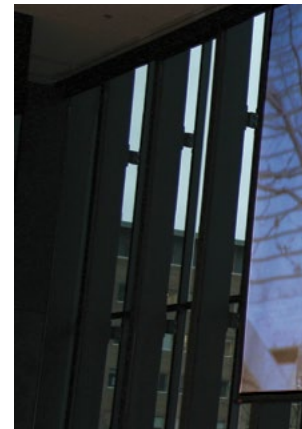
40%

OF CANADIANS



POLICY & RESEARCH

CAI conducts studies and produces research-based public policy papers that provide insight and recommendations for the benefit of policy makers, service providers, the media and civil society. Our interests include the social, economic, political, cultural and civic spheres.



POLICY BRIEFS AND RESEARCH REPORTS

THE NEED TO PROTECT RULE OF LAW: A RESPONSE TO BILL C-24

Bill C-24: An Act to amend the Citizenship Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts was thoroughly analyzed against Canadian constitutional principles of fundamental justice, equality and fairness. This brief focuses on the aspects of the bill that deal with the “expanded provisions against granting citizenship” and the “revocation of citizenship.”

LIVING UP TO A NOBLE TRADITION ON SYRIAN REFUGEES

With a civil-war-induced humanitarian crisis developing in Syria and neighbouring countries due to the displacement of over nine million Syrians, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees appealed to the world’s nations to help relocate 100,000 of the most vulnerable of Syria’s refugees. This brief makes the case that Canada has the legal obligation, the tradition, the knowhow, and the mechanisms that can support the relocation and integration of a large number of Syrian refugees in Canada, and provides a model to follow. Based on the above policy brief a commentary was published in The Globe and Mail newspaper on December 22, titled “What’s the holdup on Syrian Refugees?”



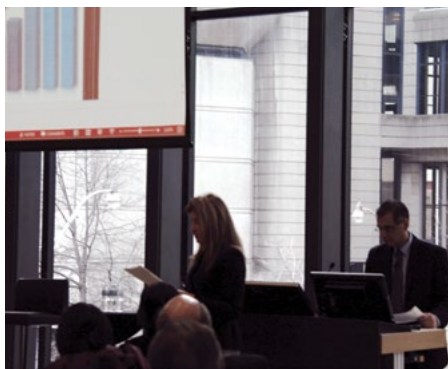
ANALYZING THE 2011 CENSUS DATA RELEASED BY STATISTICS CANADA, THE FOLLOWING REPORTS WERE PRODUCED:

- **A Profile of the Canadian Arab Community in Montreal**
- **Canadian Arab Demographics in Major Cities**
- **Income Distribution in the Canadian Arab Community**
- **A Highly Educated, Yet Under-employed Canadian Arab Community**
- **Canadian Arabs: An Adaptive Immigrant Community**
- **Religion and Marital Status in the Canadian Arab Community**
- **750,925 Canadians Hail from Arab Lands**

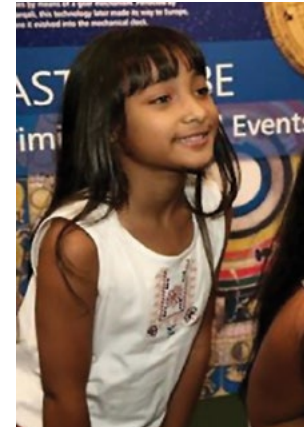


THIRD ANNUAL CANADIAN BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The third symposium on Canadian Business Opportunities in the Middle East illuminated the topic for professionals, students and business people of all backgrounds during a half-day conference presented in partnership with the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto. Guest speakers included H.E. Wael Aboulmagd, the Egyptian Ambassador to Canada, Dr. Bessma Momani (U of Waterloo), Prof. Walid Hejazi (Rotman), Dany Assaf, partner at Torys LLP, Theophilos Argitis (Bloomberg News), Saad Aboudeh (entrepreneur), Ned Ismail (Contingent Workforce Solutions), Mohamad Sawwaf (Investor's Group), Cassim Docrat, DDCAP (DIFC) Limited and more.



EDUCATION & CULTURE



Part of our work aims to educate Canadians about Canadian Arab culture, heritage, and contributions to society. We produce publications, panels, conferences and lecture series, providing perspective on Canadian domestic and international interests.

PROGRAMS, WORKSHOPS AND NETWORKS

SULTANS AND DIVAS: DISCOVERIES IN CANADIAN ARAB PERFORMING ARTS

In partnership with the Royal Conservatory of Music

Sultans and Divas presented a multi-artist event featuring a tapestry of Canadian Arab talent: Award-winning singer and actress mezzo-soprano Julie Nesrallah; the critically acclaimed soprano Miriam Khalil; 12-piece Montreal orchestra OktoEcho with its unique compositions of «incredible interlude between the Middle East and the West»; and the energetic Sultans of String, an “epitome of world music: no boundaries, no rules... the sort of band and music that would rip up any festival in the country!”



SULTANS OF SCIENCE EXHIBIT:

1000 Years of Knowledge Rediscovered, in partnership with the Ontario Science Centre

This exhibit was a three-month exhibition to help educate Canadians about the history of science in the Middle East. The scientists and innovators that the exhibition celebrated are powerful motivators for students, regardless of their cultural background. The exhibit was also a great opportunity for Canadians of Arab descent or the Muslim faith to become better acquainted with an important part of their heritage and culture.





GOVERNANCE IN TRANSITION ACROSS THE ARAB WORLD

Co-presented with the Rotman School of Management

Raed Charafeddine, First Vice-Governor of Banque du Liban and international lecturer, spoke about the tension between liberal economists and statist, or institutional economists, and indicated where the MENA region stands after outlining the World Bank's governance indicators, which include political, economic and institutional dimensions.

PERSPECTIVES ON A CHANGING MIDDLE EAST

Lecture series co-presented with the Bill Graham Centre for Contemporary International History

The series featured prominent guest speakers such as Ambassador Michel de Salaberry, Prof. Ussama Makdisi, Ambassador Mokhtar Lamani, and author and political columnist Rami Khouri. Each guest speaker touched upon major issues in the Middle East, including topics such as "Iran and the Middle East," "Sectarianism in the Arab Region," "Syria, Iraq and the Middle East," and "Turbulent road to democracy in the Middle East."



INTRA-ARAB DIALOGUE SERIES FOR YOUNG CANADIANS: CHALLENGING SECTARIAN DIVIDES

Lecture Series co-presented with The Mosaic Institute

A dialogue series featuring panel discussions on intra-Arab conflicts. The series gave the opportunity for a group of 20-25 students to engage with policy experts, researchers and community leaders and discuss how they can improve relations within diaspora communities in Canada with ties to the Middle East, including what roles they can play as members of the Arab diaspora to influence Canadian foreign policy pertaining to Arab countries. While not exclusively intended for students with personal or family ties to the Middle East, the dialogue series promoted stronger relationships between Canadians from different diaspora communities connected to the region.

BETTER KNOW A (ARAB) CANDIDATE

Canadian Arab candidates running in the 2014 Ontario municipal elections

Always on the lookout for Canadian Arabs working towards making an impact and improving the lives of Canadians, this series was created to showcase and recognize a selection of Canadian Arabs who ran in the Ontario municipal elections in October 2014. The series attempted to inspire and bring awareness to the importance of running and supporting candidates during elections.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

We engage in activities that draw on existing achievements and cultivate emerging intellectual and professional talent in the community. This includes professional development conferences, internships, mentorships, and initiatives that highlight role models such as the Canadian Arabs to Watch program.



EVENTS, PARTNERSHIPS, AND LECTURES

YALLA NETWORK 2014

Second Professional Development Conference

Another successful youth development conference brought together Canadian Arab professionals with Canadian Arab students, graduates, job seekers, and employees for guidance and networking in pursuit of diverse paths. The conference aimed to motivate and inspire curious minds to learn and expand their knowledge in various fields such as entrepreneurship, social work, marketing, law and finance. CAI is keen to create the opportunity for youth to meet successful Canadian Arab professionals, allowing them to network and be introduced to the necessary skills and tools that will help them lead and succeed in their careers.





ENVISION ARABIA SUMMIT 2014 (EAS14)

Development Lounge, in partnership with the Arab Development Initiative (ADI)

CAI is a proud partner of the Arab Development Initiative which presented its very first Development Lounge. The event aimed to tackle development in the Arab world from a unique angle that addressed some of the fundamental root problems behind the region’s most pressing challenges. Three specialists were invited to help explore the rich relationship between mind, society, and space.



DIVERSECITY ONBOARD

The Greater Toronto Leadership Project, in partnership with the Maytree Foundation

An exclusive opportunity for qualified members of the Arab community in the GTA to attend an information session presented by DiverseCity onBoard, an award-winning initiative of the Maytree Foundation. The program’s mandate is to connect qualified candidates from diverse communities to the governance bodies of non-profit and public sector organizations in the GTA.



2014 SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AT CAI

Internship opportunities in Toronto for university students or recent graduates with interest in public policy, community development and Canadian Arab affairs. The program is part of the Canadian Arab Institute’s commitment to youth leadership engagement and professional development.



*Lyan Khazanchi,
Communications
Intern*



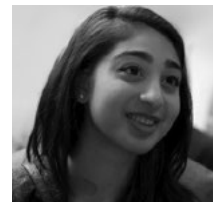
*Dina Bayoumy,
Projects and Grants
Intern*



*Bahaa Samy,
Policy Intern*



*Ahmer Khan,
Research Intern*



*Manaal Farooqi,
Research Intern*

CELEBRATING CANADIAN ARAB CONTRIBUTIONS

The Canadian Arab to Watch initiative highlights Canadian Arabs who are having a beneficial impact on society.



Dr. Samah El-Tantawy's groundbreaking PhD dissertation suggested a smarter design for traffic lights, one that would reduce delays and travel times. She seeks to boost efficiency in traffic flow by shifting from "transit-signal priority" to "passenger-signal priority."



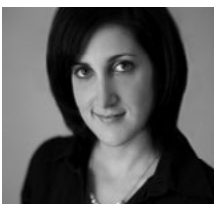
Dr. Kamal Al-Solaylee was featured in January 2014 for his impact on the field of journalism and literature. His personal story of battling stereotypes was not only published in his memoir, but is also lived in his personal life.



Julie Nesrallah was featured for her highly acclaimed musical talent and passion for singing. She takes opera to a variety of "un-classical" venues, and has a blast while she's at it. Her work has been described as inspired, riveting, and infectious.



Dalal Al-Waheidi was listed as one of Canada's 100 Most Powerful Women and is creating projects for the betterment of young people's environment and education.



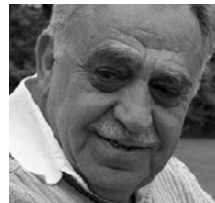
Rahaf Harfoush wrote *The Decoded Company*, described by World Economic Founder as a management toolkit for the future. In it Rahaf suggests ways to enhance the employees' experience and personalize it at the workplace.



Christopher Achkar's feature explains how he's simplifying law for those who haven't studied it. He co-founded the Beyond Reasonable Doubt community to raise their legal awareness and match them with the right legal representation, making the process an accessible one.



Mariam Hamaoui co-founded RefugeAid, a fundraising vehicle to aid Syrian refugees and also to track trends that affect refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers across the globe.



Dr. Farouk Chebib, one of the first Arab immigrants in Manitoba, recently founded the Canadian Federation of Bridge-Builders, where he encourages students to use their time and creativity to build multicultural bridges.



Lina Duque is a thought leader in her field, and a highly driven professional. Social media strategy is her focus and personal branding expertise, among things is why senior executives and entrepreneurs seek her advice and read her insightful articles for.



Dr. Ehab Abouheif is an associate professor in biology at McGill University who recently discovered a 35-million-year-old locked-in ancestral potential in *Pheidole* ants. His discovery is a major milestone for evolutionary science and for possible cancer research.



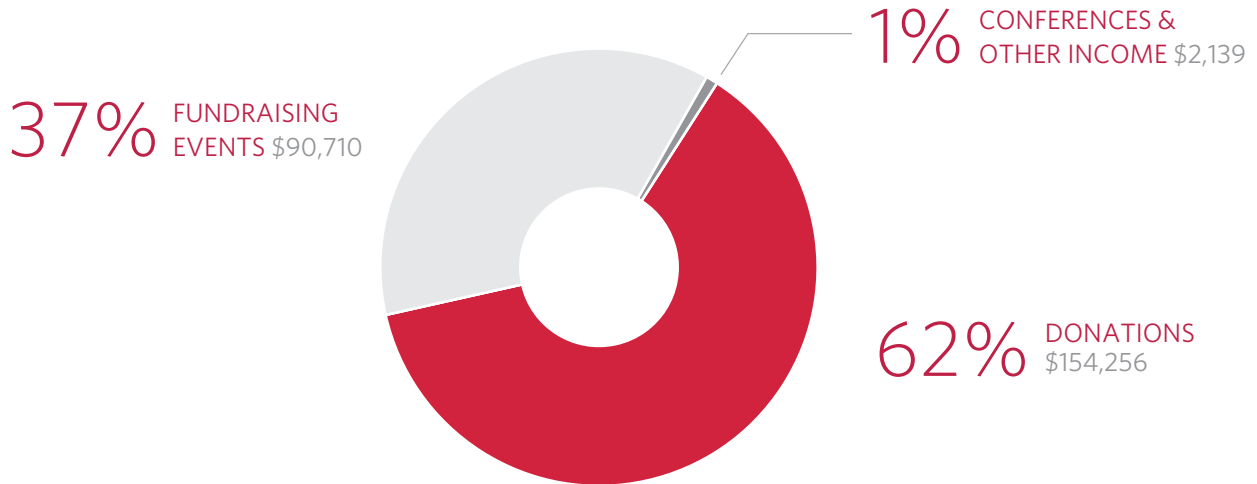
Tahani Aburaneh's resilience and willpower have driven her to become the real estate expert that she is today, focusing on its human aspect and personalizing it. She teaches her experience and is a frequent speaker across Canada and abroad.



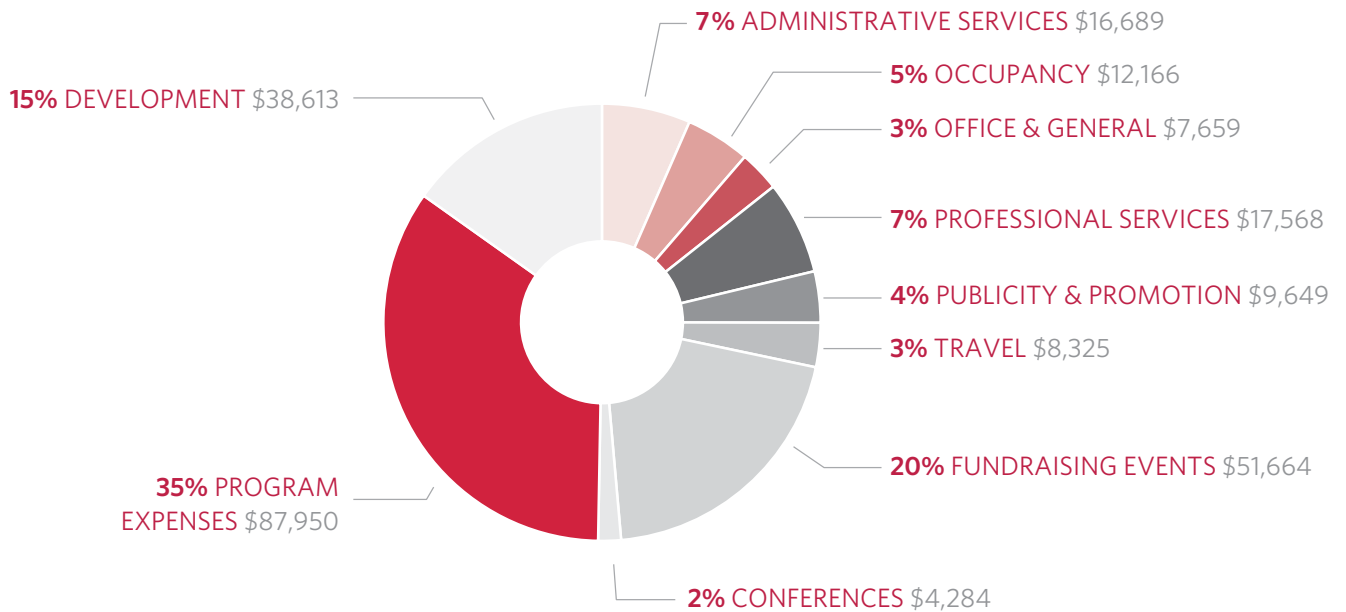
Loutfi Mouaket is a financial professional with expertise in equity market sales trading. He is also a dedicated volunteer who boxes for charity, each year using his boxing gloves to fundraise for the Nazareth House - a transitional healing space for women and their children.

CAI FINANCIALS

2014 REVENUES



2014 EXPENSES



VOLUNTEERS & CONTRIBUTORS

It would have been impossible to accomplish our many achievements without the support and efforts of those who believe in the CAI and its objectives. We would like to wholeheartedly thank each and every one who has contributed to our successes.

VOLUNTEERS

Noura Zaina
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Ghada El Husseini

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Moe Jaber
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Loubna Hisham

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