
WELCOME TO OUR FIRST PUBLICATION: IDW 2021 REFLECTION SERIES

Letter from the Director

WRITTEN BY

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IDW 2021, as with all past IDW conferences, served as a space for IDS students to extend their learning beyond the classroom and engage with complex discussions on development and social justice in dynamic ways. While delegates cite having gained insight on a number of topics and feeling empowered to take action or pursue further research on these subjects, the spark of interest ignited at IDW is often too quickly extinguished, with no clear way to extend the learning process and engagement with issues beyond the week's events.

IDS students across Canada and abroad have valuable ideas and can engage in rich discussion, but often lack a clear understanding of how to initiate such conversations or connections. Furthermore, recent IDS graduates are seeking a way to let employers know that they have the ability to publish their work and thoughts around important ideas in international development.

IDW 2021 is committed to community-driven learning by connecting peers, professionals, and experts in the dynamic context of the conference. Given the web-based nature of this year's conference, IDW 2021 has worked creatively to preserve and

nurture aspects such as community learning through an online format. This platform seeks to address these needs and create a space for the IDS student community to learn, share, and grow.

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Our first publication series on the platform, *Continuing the Conversation: Reflections from IDW 2021* hopes to leverage the momentum of IDW 2021 to continue the conversation. From February 1 to February 13, 125 delegates came together to engage with complex topics in interactive ways. We discussed exhibiting compassion across borders, rethinking the ethics and equity of development practice, and moving towards true partnership and reciprocity in development projects. We had enriching conversations, powerful workshop simulations, and stimulating Q&A sessions. Now, we as a community can share our newfound reflections on equity, ethics, and emergency response. Here's to creating and showcasing youth voices in the IDS field. We cannot wait to hear your feedback and replies!

Feel free to drop a line on our discussion boards at www.idw-sdi.ca to add your voice to the ongoing conversation.

To read more about Yasmin please [consult our website](#).