

BRRRERS

2022 IMPACT REPORT

DISCLAIMER: Some pictures taken before mask mandates and social distancing guidelines were in effect.

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CivicAction acknowledges that the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area is situated upon traditional and current Indigenous territories that include the Wendat, Haudenosaunee, Anishnaabeg, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. We believe in the spirit of the "Dish with One Spoon" concept—that land can be shared to the mutual benefit of all its inhabitants.

Today, the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area is still home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (North America) and we recognize the historical oppression and inequalities that they continue to face.

We also recognize the non-settlers and the dis-planted, such as people of African descent who were brought here forcibly and enslaved and who continue to face oppression and inequality on land that is not their own.

Depending on our ancestry, we each have different relationships to the land on which we live. In our role as a civic convener, and in the spirit of reconciliation, CivicAction is committed to rebuilding and renewing respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, we support Indigenous sovereignty and we support the recommendations of The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.





2022 was a challenging year for many of us. Our region confronted multiple crises and COVID-19 continued to exacerbate pre-existing inequities. However, the pandemic didn't stop us or slow us down. We continued to break barriers for rising leaders and deepened our connection with our network and community. In fact, we hosted our first in-person events since the arrival of the pandemic.

Now more than ever, we need to change the status quo and make space for diverse, civically minded voices and lived experiences at decision-making tables. Only then will we create bold, collaborative solutions to our region's pressing challenges.

2023 marks CivicAction's 20th anniversary. In addition to celebrating two decades of impact, we will be hosting our 6th Summit to ignite collective action and mobilize solutions to the GTHA's biggest issues. We need you and we hope you'll join us in co-creating a better and more inclusive future for our city region.

LESLIE WOO CEO, CivicAction



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS: ROB MACISAAC AND TIM HOCKEY

The last year was steeped in uncertainty and challenges, and COVID-19 continued to take a toll on our economy, our community, and our residents. In these daunting circumstances, inclusive leadership and the need for our leadership tables to reflect our region's rich diversity has never been more important. A future where everyone thrives and belongs can only be realized by diverse, passionate, and empowered city-builders.

This is CivicAction's strength. We convene, co-invest, collaborate, and co-create.

When David Pecaut founded CivicAction 20 years ago, he recognized the power of the collective. Two decades later, his vision continues to guide our work and fuel our impact.

There is nothing more important to the future of our cities than the people who will lead them. That's why we've bolstered our commitment to building the leadership capacity of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. Over the last year, we continued to expand and empower our network of rising leaders, especially from underrepresented groups. We've invested in our region's leadership pipelines through award-winning programs like BoardShift (read more on page 26). We have also continued to connect hundreds of Indigenous, Black and racialized leaders with our region's most senior executives. These strategic connections open doors, minds and opportunities while accelerating leadership trajectories.

Looking ahead, we remain inspired by the notion of inclusive cities that invite and value the perspectives, experiences, abilities, and aspirations of all their residents. We need your support, because as David Pecaut said: "A city that is filled with civic entrepreneurs practicing collective leadership will be able to face any challenge and do all kinds of great things."



ROB MACISAAC Chair, CivicAction



TIM HOCKEY Chair, CivicAction Leadership Foundation

OUR VALUES

DRIVE ACTION

We are relentlessly driven and tenaciously curious. We set ambitious, informed goals and drive towards measurable impact.

HARNESS COLLECTIVE WISDOM

We are a multiplying force for action. We believe that collaboration leads to stronger outcomes and that when we work together, we become more than the sum of our parts.

CULTIVATE INCLUSION

We unrelentingly work towards a culture of inclusion and belonging. We embrace diversity and seek to create an environment that respects the perspectives, experiences, abilities and aspirations of all.

BE BOLD

We don't settle for the status quo. We experiment, learn and work continuously to achieve better outcomes.

INTEGRITY AT OUR CORE

We are non-partisan in all we do and believe trust and integrity are core to who we are. We build trusted relationships and strive to be principled, decent, balanced and fair.





CIVICACTION'S THREE-YEAR STRATEGY



For two decades, CivicAction has provided a non-partisan platform for collaboration and leadership focused on improving our region's social, economic and environmental future.

Now more than ever, people want to feel seen and heard, get involved in causes they care about, and create inclusive change. At CivicAction, we're turning this collective commitment into meaningful action.

Our Three-Year Strategy (2021–2023) remains focused on deepening inclusion in leadership and the economy by connecting and collaborating with leaders from all sectors, backgrounds, and lived experiences.

CivicAction, alone, cannot build a more equitable future for everyone who calls the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area home. Our partners, sponsors, champions, alumni, and many more are the foundation of our shared success.



Visit our website to learn more about the Three-Year Strategy and how you can support this important work.





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Toronto's gift to the world could be this unique and powerful model of city building that comes from collective leadership.

David Pecaut, Original founder of the Toronto City Summit Alliance, now CivicAction





EDWIN WHITE CHACON

IMPACT STORY

"

Growing up in a working-class neighbourhood in Toronto, the scope of opportunities available to me were limited. There was so much information out there on how to enter the trades but barely any on how to enter those so-called "white-collar" industries. If I wanted to enter those industries, it was up to me to figure out how - and as a second-generation Canadian, that lack of social capital is difficult to overcome.





Fortunately, I met mentors and friends at CivicAction that helped me map my future when I joined the Emerging Leaders Network in 2014. Since then, my leadership experience has been incredible. Accessing that community had a major impact on my career journey. What I love most about CivicAction is not only their ability to connect you to the right people in the room, but also the ability to bring those people together in the room in the first place to tackle our region's most complicated issues.



At the end of the day, decisions on how to approach those issues will be made with or without you. And what CivicAction does best is empowering people to have their perspectives, ideas, and voices heard when those decisions are being made. CivicAction is doing the important work of helping people break barriers while simultaneously connecting communities from different personal and professional backgrounds to make our region a better place.



Edwin White Chacon

Emerging Leaders Network Member since 2014, 2022 BoardShift Candidate, #BreakBarriers 2022

TAKING ACTION

The time for action is now. We can no longer ignore the systemic barriers that confront equity-deserving communities, especially Indigenous, Black, and racialized people.

At CivicAction, we're bringing ideas to life. We are harnessing our diverse and powerful network, and sharpening our focus to empower leaders and create an equitable economy as we build a better, more inclusive future – for everyone who calls the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area home.

CivicMatch

CivicMatch leverages the power of networks to advance Indigenous, Black, and racialized rising leaders across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA). Through small group conversations with established leaders, CivicMatch delivers critical strategic connections that open doors to new opportunities and new relationships to accelerate leadership trajectories. In 2022, we curated conversations with established entrepreneurs and leaders in the public sector and start-up community based on feedback from participants. In addition to core programming, CivicAction partnered



with Canadian Tire for a pilot program of CivicMatch which was delivered internally to Canadian Tire employees. The program was a great success, with 100% of rising leaders describing their experience as constructive and insightful.



95% OF PARTICIPANTS FOUND THEIR CONVERSATION TO BE INSIGHTFUL.



Emerging Leaders Network

CivicAction Leadership Foundation's Emerging Leaders Network (ELN) connects, develops, and activates rising leaders from across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA). Created in 2006, the ELN is now 3,100+ rising leaders strong and represents a wide range of ethno-cultural backgrounds, communities, and sectors throughout the GTHA.

3000 RISING LEADERS ATTENDED 11 EVENTS THAT OFFERED OPPORTUNITIES TO NETWORK AND DEVELOP LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY-BUILDING SKILLS.



ORGANIZATIONS COLLABORATED WITH ELN INCLUDING MUSIC CANADA, ARTSCAPE, CITY OF TORONTO, TMU AND LIFELINE SYRIA



HireNext is a free made-in-Canada tool that helps employers better hire and retain diverse, young talent. By helping employers better recruit, screen, onboard and most importantly retain entry-level talent, HireNext takes the guesswork out of creating more open, accessible, and inclusive hiring and HR practices.







889/0 OF EMPLOYERS INDICATED USING THE JOB POSTING ASSESSMENT INCREASED THEIR AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE OF BARRIERS THAT MAY DETER YOUNG APPLICANTS FROM APPLYING FOR ENTRY-LEVEL JOBS.





DiverseCity Fellows

CivicAction's DiverseCity Fellows program is an award-winning leadership experience for diverse rising leaders (referred to as 'Fellows') in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) who are looking to amplify their leadership skills, grow their network, explore social issues, and discover how to make a positive change in their communities.

90% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS STRENGTHENED OR DEVELOPED NEW LEADERSHIP SKILLS AS A RESULT OF THE PROGRAM.

80% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS IMPROVED THEIR **INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP CAPACITY** AS A RESULT OF THE PROGRAM.

GO% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS BELIEVE THE PROGRAM **EXPANDED THEIR NETWORK AND INTRODUCED THEM TO LEADERS** THEY WOULD NOT HAVE INTERACTED WITH OTHERWISE.

For the first time in CivicAction's 19-year history, we brought together Fellows from all 12 cohorts for a special reunion. We announced the launch of the Alumni Committee and hosted a fireside chat with Tim Hockey, former President and CEO, TD Ameritrade and Board Chair, CivicAction Leadership Foundation; Joe Natale, former CEO, Rogers Communications; Som Seif, Founder & CEO at Purpose Financial; and Lisa Lisson, President, FedEx Express Canada.





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Representation matters. Navigating tokenism, negotiating white spaces, and trying to understand what true allyship means were all part of my leadership journey. CivicAction provided me an opportunity to see myself in different spaces and helped me realize that I belong at any leadership table.

Alicia Rose,

DiverseCity Fellow and AVP, Social Impact, TD



Despite often being recognized as one of the most diverse nations in the world, with one in four people identifying as a member of a racialized group, Canada's leadership tables continue to have a diversity deficit.

In Toronto, racialized individuals make up 51.4% of the population but hold only 15.5% of board positions. Racialized individuals make up 17.7% of the population in Hamilton but hold only 8.8% of board positions.

Research clearly shows that representation of diverse voices results in stronger, more innovative decision-making, yet diverse voices continue to be missing from the governance landscape. Non-profits, charities, and public sector organizations face unique challenges when filling governance positions, and traditional recruitment methods often reinforce systemic barriers that hinder diverse leadership. Now more than ever, we need diverse voices at our leadership tables.

Launched in Fall 2022, BoardShift prepares and matches talented Indigenous, Black, and racialized candidates with non-profit, charitable, and public board opportunities. Leveraging a proven model, the program also provides tools and resources to support boards in welcoming, amplifying, and empowering equity-deserving voices.

Several candidates and organizations across various sectors have already signed up for BoardShift including the City of Toronto, United Way Greater Toronto, SoulPepper Theatre, Hamilton Community Foundation and Hamilton Health Sciences.



PREPARING CANDIDATES

PARTICIPANTS ACCESS 10+ HOURS OF Relevant online Board, governance & Inclusion training developed in Consultation with experts.

BOARD MATCHING

BOARD-READY PARTICIPANTS ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES WITH NON-PROFIT, CHARITABLE AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS SEEKING QUALIFIED CANDIDATES.

INCLUSIVITY TOOLS

ORGANIZATIONS SIGN AN INCLUSIVITY CHARTER AND ACCESS A GOVERNANCE TOOLKIT COMPLETE WITH INCLUSIVE AND ANTI-RACIST PRACTICES DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN RECRUITMENT EFFORTS.

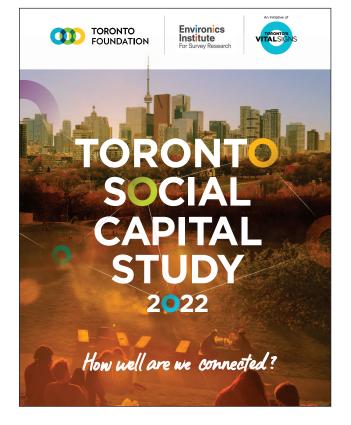
In partnership with the Empire Club of Canada, we hosted a panel discussion where established leaders shared their own journeys and offered perspective on how to deepen inclusion for Indigenous, Black, and racialized leaders. The panelists included the Honourable Ratna Omidvar, Senator for Ontario, The Senate of Canada; Daniele Zanotti, President & CEO, United Way Greater Toronto; Yulena Wan, Director, Finance & Operations, Hamilton Community Foundation; and Leslie Woo, CEO, CivicAction.

CO-CREATION

Bold impact requires collective action from a community of changemakers. In 2022, we were fortunate to collaborate with a number of partners to drive impact and build a better, more inclusive city region.







TORONTO FOUNDATION SOCIAL CAPITAL STUDY

Toronto Foundation and the Environics Institute, along with 15 partners including CivicAction, released the findings of the second Toronto Social Capital Study in 2022. The study examined Torontonians' wellbeing based on their social networks, social trust, civic engagement and neighbourhood support.



ACCELERATING ACCESSIBILITY COALITION

CivicAction is proud to be a founding member of the Accelerating Accessibility Coalition, a first-of-itskind coalition that challenges home builders to make physical accessibility a greater priority as they build the millions of new homes needed across Canada in the next decade. Urban Land Institute's

ACCELERATING ACCESSIBILITY:

THE LAUNCH OF A NEW COALITION



Toronto District Council serves as the coalition secretariat and will leverage its platform as one of the largest chapters in the global ULI network to shine a spotlight on this issue and mobilize change.





LEADERSHIP IS FEMALE: GREAT LEADERS BUILD GREAT CITIES

In collaboration with CivicAction's Board Members Godyne Sibay, Regional Managing Partner Ontario, McCarthy Tetrault LLP, and Poonam Singh, Managing Partner, Deloitte Canada, Leslie Woo hosted an intimate evening with senior female executives from various sectors across the GTHA. The event created opportunities to network and rally our collective power to highlight the importance of civic responsibility. The evening included a fireside chat with two DiverseCity Fellows, Emily Mills, Founder, How She Hustles, and Lana Majid, Director, Maple, where they shared their stories of how their civic-minded leadership created change and impact in our communities.

OUR COMMUNITY

A team of doers, dreamers, advocates, and allies we believe in the bold potential for our region's future, and we're committed to turning these innovative ideas into tangible solutions.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CIVICACTION BOARD



ANDREW GRAHAM Co-Founder and CEO, Borrowell



RONALD (RON) ALEPIAN

Chief Communications Officer and SVP of Corporate and Public Affairs, TD Bank Group



LISA KIMMEL

Former Chair and CEO, Canada and Latin America, Edelman



DANIELE ZANOTTI President and CEO. United Way Greater Toronto



MARK BOYAJIAN Executive Vice-President, Chief **Business Engineering** Officer, CGI Canada



ROB MACISAAC President and CEO. Hamilton Health Sciences; Chair,



HON. DAVID CROMBIE Former CEO, Canadian Urban Institute, Former Mayor, City of Toronto, and CivicAction Chair EmeritusCanada LLP



NAN DASGUPTA Managing Director and Senior Partner, BCG, Toronto; Vice-Chair, CivicAction

TSERING YANGKI

Unlimited Corp.

EVP, Real Estate Finance

& Development, Dream



JENNIFER QUINN



WISDOM TETTEY

University of Toronto;

Principal of University

Vice-President,

of Toronto

Scarborough



JANET DE SILVA President & CEO of Toronto Region Board of Trade, Chair, Finance Audit and Risk Committee



TIM HOCKEY Board Chair, CivicAction Leadership Foundation - Past-President & CEO, TD Ameritrade Corporation





WES IQBAL 2022-2023 Co-Chair; Senior Manager, Executive Advisor to the **Deputy Solicitor General** of Ontario, Ontario Public Service (OPS)



ANOWA QUARCOO 2022-2023 ELN Co-Chair; Principal Moja

"

Almost 10 years later, here's what stands out about my leadership journey with CivicAction: I expanded my network. I made an impact. I developed my career."

Letecia Rose,

2013 DiverseCity Fellow, Former CivicAction Leadership Foundation Board Member

CIVICACTION LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION BOARD



LAYTH ASHOO Partner, Maverix Private EquityFoundation





CATHERINE PRINGLE Director of Communications and Public Affairs, Trillium Health PartnersELN Co-Chair; 2010 **DiverseCity Fellow**



MERYAM AL-WAADH Senior Analytical Lead - Telecom, Tech & Public Sector, Google; 2022-2023 ELN Co-Chair



President & CEO, York University Development Corporation

SALIMA RAWJI

CAM FOWLER

Directors, Chief

Strategy and

CivicAction Board of

Operations Officer, **BMO Financial Group**

ROB MACISAAC

Hamilton Health

Sciences; Chair,

CivicAction

President and CEO,



TIM HOCKEY Past-President and CEO, TD Ameritrade; CivicAction Board Member, Board Chair, CivicAction Leadership Foundation Committee





GODYNE N.L. SIBAY

Managing Partner, Ontario Region, McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Chair Governance, Nominating & HR Committee





LESLIE WOO Chief Executive Officer



CAMILO GARAY Director, Partnerships & Development



EMMA HOSEIN Interim Program Manager, DiverseCity Fellows



TIMOTHY CHAN Senior Director, Communications & Marketing



LESLIE DOMENICO Program Director



JOANNA RODRIGUES Program Manager – BoardShift





MASOOD QADRI

Operations Analyst











JODIE RAWN Vice President. Activation

CHRIS ADAMS

Chief Financial

SARAH HASHEM

Vice President,

Partnerships &

Development

Officer

HAMNA AWAN Interim Senior Manager, Communications & Marketing



YASMINE MOHAMED Program Director

AMAN VELLANI Project Officer



Senior Policy

RHEA DEASE Design & Digital Manager

BRIAN JOE Project Manager



DANIEL LYNN Senior Director, Operations









ANAM ZAKARIA Project Manager, DiverseCity Fellows







Project Officer



AMREEN KALSI Executive Coordinator



2022-2023 N EXECUTIVE COMMITT

The ELN Executive Committee is a team of volunteers who help shape the programming for the ELN. This includes launching campaigns and initiatives to increase member engagement, planning, and executing exposure opportunities for members, and deepening the overall impact the network provides to its members.



ALEEM PUNJA ELN Programming Lead; National Operations Officer, Aga Khan Council for Canada



ALLIE SUTTON ELN Communications Lead; Associate, Social Impact

Practice, Generation

Capital



ANDREA ERNESAKS ELN Communications Lead; Associate Principal, Navigator



ANOWA QUARCOO ELN Co-Chair; Director, Strategy and Planning, Loblaw Companies Limited



KATELYN KOZMA Programming Lead; PhD Candidate & (Incoming) Consultant, Bain & Company

ROSSHANE VIGNARAJAH ELN Programming Lead; Manager, Community Reintegration, Ontario Public Service (OPS)



WES IQBAL

Co-Chair; Senior Manager, Strategic Initiatives, Ontario **Digital Service**



SARAH BALDEO **ELN Programming** Lead; Director, Deloitte, Canada

MERYAM AL-WAADH

ELN Co-Chair; Senior Analytical Lead - Telecom, Tech & Public Sector, Google



Programming Lead; Coordinator for Learning Opportunities, Centre for Connected Communities





BREAK BARRIERS: 2022 IMPACT REPORT 37

As a co-chair of the Emerging Leaders Network, it is important to see rising professionals from different communities come together and share their thoughts and perspectives about the issues that are impacting their regions.

Meryam Al-waadh,

2022–2023 ELN Co-Chair; Senior Analytical Lead – Telecom, Tech & Public SectorGoogle





OUR PARTNERS

From funding our innovative programs, to providing services that empower our work, to offering expertise that amplifies our impact in the community, our partners and donors make this important work possible.

If you are interested in partnering with CivicAction, please contact Sarah Hashem, Vice President of Partnerships & Development at sarah.hashem@civicaction.ca.

*All partners and donors listed have contributed between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023 (our fiscal year).







CIVICACTION LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION DONORS

LEGACY CHAMPIONS (\$100,000+)

Tim and Lana Hockey

CITY BUILDERS (\$49,999-\$25,000)

John Tory and Barb Hackett The Joyce Family Foundation

CITY FRIENDS (\$24,999-\$5000)

Angela Clayton Angela Longo Fund Cameron Fowler Crescent Investment Partners Godyne Sibay Jennifer Quinn Mark Boyajian Mavi Developments Inc. Ontario Trillium Foundation Poonam Singh Tsering Yangki Zabeen Hirji Nan DasGupta

CITY SUPPORTERS (<\$5000)

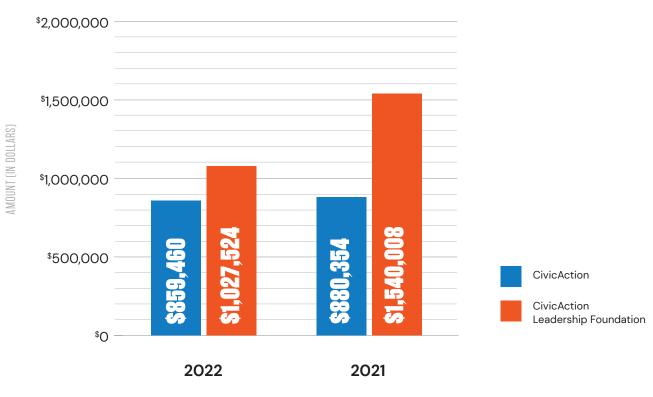
Alaina Aston Alicia Ali Alyssa Lai Amy Wong Ana Badour Andrew Graham Angela Brown Anita Carroll **Beatrice Herwats** Belinda Schubert **Brian Rosborough Catherine Pringle** Clayton Gyotoku Daniel Lynn Daniele Zanotti Daryl Robinson Dennis Findlay Dina Kamal Dolf DeJong **Elaine Crossland** Farzana Rajwani **Generation Capital** Georgie Kershaw Guy Burry lan Fung Janelle St. Omer Janice Lao Jeff Junke Joanna Rainbow John See Josie Lee Julie Lautens Kanchan Ghadge Kendra Kerr **Kyle Watts** Lana Paton Laurie Payne Lawrence Kotseff Layth Ashoo Les Klein Leslie Woo

Linda Howell Lindsay Broadhead Lisa Kimmel Malaika Fazal Marlaine Koehler Mary Williams McGregor Faulkner Michael Doucet Michelle Ackerman **Michelle Savoy** Nargis Khurram Nicole Danesi Ori Abara Peter Gill Philippe Bellon **Ralph Harding Renee Gomes** Rob MacIsaac **Robert Wright** Rohit Goenka **Ronald Alepian** Salima Rawii Salvatore Badali Sarah Harris Sarah Hashem Sarah Qadeer Scott Stratten Sharmayne Mistry Sheila Botting Stacey Murie Susan Wortzman Tahmeed Omar Tanya Sinha **Timothy Chan** Todd Hofley University of Toronto Wende Cartwright Yulena Wan **Yvonne Yeung** Zia Abbasi Zymewire

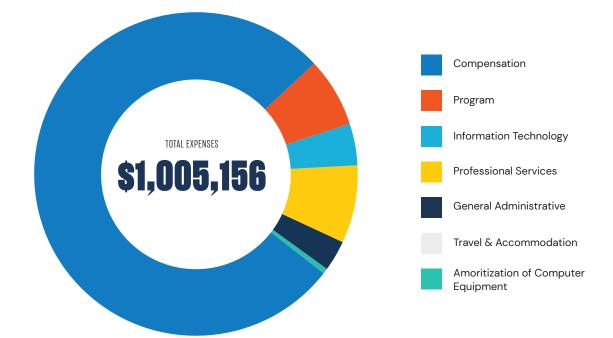
FINANCIALS

Financials as reported in this annual report capture revenue and expenses between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022 (our fiscal year). Program activities reported above are from the 2022 calendar year. The following information is derived from the 2021-2022 financial statements of both organizations as audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

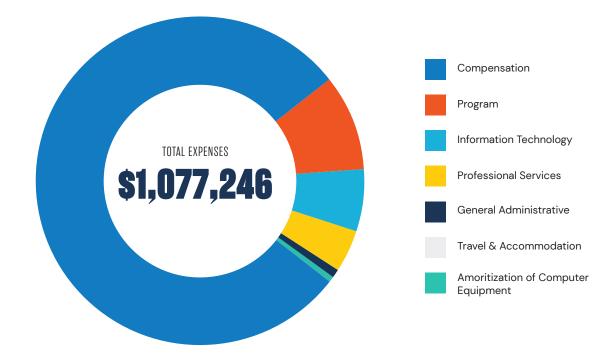
For more information, please contact Daniel Lynn, Senior Director of Operations at daniel.lynn@civicaction.ca



2021-2022 REVENUES



2022 CIVICACTION LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION EXPENSES





#BREAKBARRIERS

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