



A A R I N S H A P I R O

M D E V B A A T C L

 aarinshapiro.com

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 @aarin-shapiro

 Ottawa, Canada

PROFILE

Experienced professional with specialization in the fields of international affairs and development, Indigenous issues, cultural heritage, and responsible travel, with a regional focus on Latin America and the Caribbean. Currently available for new opportunities working remotely from Ottawa, Canada, or on site around the world.

LANGUAGES

English: Native speaker | **Spanish:** Full fluency | **French:** Advanced | **Portuguese (Brazilian):** Basic

WORK EXPERIENCE

Policy Advisor, International Affairs Branch, Americas Division

Government of Canada, Department of Environment and Climate Change | 2022 – 2024 | Ottawa, Canada

- Analyzed and proposed recommendations for implementation of North American trade and environment mechanisms, in consultation with other government departments
- Coordinated Canada's involvement in the Canada-US-Mexico Trade Agreement (CUSMA) environmental enforcement mechanism, administered by the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC)
- Supported stakeholder engagement for Canada's Prime Minister and the Minister of Environment at the UN Biodiversity Conference COP15 (Montreal, Dec. 2022)

International Affairs Advisor, Indigenous Affairs and Cultural Heritage Directorate

Government of Canada, Parks Canada Agency | 2021 – 2022 | Ottawa, Canada

- Provided guidance and strategic advice to senior management and jurisdictions across Canada on implementation of UNESCO World Heritage Convention
- Collaborated with Indigenous communities and local organizations across Canada on meeting World Heritage conservation and management obligations
- Produced recommendations for Canada's policy position on the impact of climate change for the future of the World Heritage Convention and protection of important heritage places

Cultural Heritage Policy Officer, Indigenous Affairs and Cultural Heritage Directorate

Government of Canada, Parks Canada Agency | 2020 – 2021 | Ottawa, Canada

- Developed planning and engagement materials for a long-term policy project related to Indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage practices
- Led key steps in reviewing the approach to heritage designation of government-owned buildings, involving collaboration with an inter-governmental committee

Freelance Editor and Copyeditor

Self-employed, remote | 2016 - 2022

- Conducted detailed reviews of doctoral theses, academic articles, book prospectuses, and scholarship or fellowship applications in the fields of environmental studies, anthropology, sociology, cultural heritage, and international development
- Edited materials submitted to: Geneva Graduate Institute, University of Lausanne, Swiss National Fund Mobility Fellowship, University of Arizona, Columbia University, University of Oxford, Yale University Press, U.S. Fulbright Commission, Kyoto University, Journal of Peasant Studies, Routledge

WORK EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Consultant (full-time)

United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), World Heritage Centre, Latin America and Caribbean Unit | 2017 – 2020 | Paris, France

- Conducted research, analysis, and developed recommendations on complex and wide-ranging issues affecting natural and cultural World Heritage sites in LAC region
- Designed and oversaw implementation of a portfolio of short and medium-term international assistance projects (\$10,000 to \$450,000 USD) on diverse topics including capacity-building, disaster risk reduction, community-based management, and conservation and monitoring activities
- Organized and helped facilitate workshops (Zacatecas 2018, Havana 2019) on strategic regional action plans for heritage conservation, in coordination with expert advisory bodies ICOMOS, IUCN, and ICCROM
- Prepared background materials for field missions to World Heritage sites to assess ongoing conservation challenges, in coordination with national governments and implicated experts
- Coordinated and copy-edited the flagship UNESCO publication (Spanish and English) on the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System heritage site, in collaboration with six South American countries and regional experts; organized a related side event at the 2019 World Heritage Committee meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan

English Language Instructor

Universidad Industrial de Santander | 2013 – 2014 | Bucaramanga, Colombia

- Designed and delivered relevant, engaging lessons in a classroom setting to students of diverse language levels and learning goals at one of Colombia's top public universities

Internship Placements ('Cooperative Education' Program through University of Victoria)

Government of Chile, Ministry of Mining, International Affairs Unit | 2012 | Santiago, Chile

Government of Canada, Global Affairs, International Education Division | 2011 | Ottawa, Canada

Government of Canada, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, Litigation Management and Resolution Branch | 2011 | Calgary and Vancouver, Canada

EDUCATION

Master of Development Studies (MDev)

Geneva Graduate Institute | 2015 – 2017 | Geneva, Switzerland

- Two-year interdisciplinary program; specialization in sustainability and environmental issues, Indigenous rights and territorial conflicts, alternative development models and theories, regional focus on Latin America and Canada
- Thesis: The 'Nature' of Ontological Conflicts between Indigenous Peoples and Extractivism in Latin America: The Struggle for Wirikuta; received 'highest recommendation' evaluation by thesis supervisors
- Exchange semester at El Colegio de México (Mexico City); PhD-level courses in Spanish

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Social Science, Political Science Major (with Distinction)

University of Victoria | 2012 | Victoria, Canada

- Focus on international relations and development, Indigenous issues, gender studies
- Completed four semesters of 'cooperative education' internship placements related to field of study

Associate Diploma in Teaching Speech Arts & Drama (ATCL) (with Distinction)

Trinity College London | 2011

- Expertise in public speaking, verbal and non-verbal communication, improvisation, writing, dramatic performance, and linguistics
- Culmination of 10 years of training, performances, and formal examinations

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Family Partner

Habitat for Humanity | 2022 – present | Ottawa, Canada

- Provide ongoing guidance and support for a local family beneficiary of Habitat for Humanity's affordable home ownership program through regular meetings and training

Mentor and Mentee

Canadian International Council Mentorship Program | 2021 – 2023 | Ottawa, Canada

- Provided/received professional guidance and sharing of personal experience in the area of international affairs

Translator

Indigenous Peoples' Centre for Documentation, Research and Information (DOCIP) | 2017 – 2020 | Geneva, Switzerland

- Translated and facilitated distribution of diverse materials in support of Indigenous delegates attending UN and other international conferences (Spanish < > English)

President, Alumni and Career Services Committee

Geneva Graduate Institute Students' Association | 2015 – 2016 | Geneva, Switzerland

- Developed innovative projects and events for students and alumni, including the first 'Masters Thesis Share' conference and photo exhibit

Recreation Coordinator

Goles por la Paz Foundation | 2013 – 2014 | Bucaramanga, Colombia

- Organized and facilitated weekly athletic and educational activities with children in one of the city's most underserved neighbourhoods

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

WORK OR STUDIES

Paris, France (3 years)
Geneva, Switzerland (2 years)
Bucaramanga, Colombia (1.5 years)
Mexico City, Mexico (5 months)
Santiago, Chile (3 months)

TRAVEL

Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile,
Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic,
Czech Republic, Ecuador, France, Greece, Israel,
Italy, Jordan, Mexico, The Netherlands, Peru,
Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, USA

CONTINUED LEARNING

Graduate Diploma Indigenous Policy and Administration - partial

Carleton University, School of Public Policy and Administration | 2020 - 2021 | Ottawa, Canada

Protected Areas and Sustainable Development

UNDP, The Nature Conservancy, UN Convention on Biological Diversity | 2019 | online

Indigenous Canada

University of Alberta | 2018 | online

Globally Relevant Indigenous Knowledge of Latin America

University of Victoria, Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies | 2014 | Victoria, Canada

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Please visit my website aarinshapiro.com.