

Investigative Journalism Bureau.

IMPACT REPORT

2025/26

Innovate.
Collaborate.
Illuminate.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DALLA LANA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Dalla Lana
School of Public Health



263 McCaul Street
University of Toronto





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The Investigative Journalism Bureau (IJB)

Led by award-winning investigative reporter Robert Cribb, the IJB conducts high-impact investigative research and reporting on matters of vital public interest while training the next generation of investigative journalists.

Based at the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health, the IJB brings together journalists, academics, students and media organizations in Canada, the United States and globally to tackle important issues with depth and context. The model has produced award-winning, groundbreaking reporting that has triggered political reaction, policy change, widespread public debate and follow-up reporting by journalists across the country.

Led by a team of senior journalists working alongside distinguished researchers and academics, the IJB empowers student and early-career journalists with the opportunity to have tangible public impact on major issues shaping the health and wellness of the Canadian, North American and global populations.

Postmedia Collaboration

In 2025, the Investigative Journalism Bureau proudly entered into a collaborative partnership with Postmedia that fosters ambitious investigative journalism that reaches Canadians across the country.

Through this collaboration, IJB stories are featured across Postmedia's vast network of news publications, expanding our reach to audiences nationwide. In addition, a rotating fellowship seat at the IJB provides Postmedia journalists with hands-on training in investigative reporting as they contribute to our ongoing investigations.

"Our collaboration with the IJB aligns closely with our values as a trusted, independent media organization committed to fostering informed communities and a robust national dialogue," said Andrew MacLeod, President and CEO of Postmedia. "This relationship enables us to support outstanding investigative journalism, empower the next generation of reporters, and strengthen the integrity of Canada's media landscape."

The IJB remains fully independent and continues to publish on its website, while Postmedia is the IJB's primary publishing partner in newspapers nationally.



Awards and Accolades

Clinical Trials

- National Newspaper Award (NNA) in the Business Reporting category
- Bodies for Rent, a documentary that takes viewers inside the shadowy world of clinical trials, directed by Habiba Nosheen, was nominated for a Golden Sheaf Award at the 2025 Yorkton Film Festival

Indigenous Mental Health System Failures

- National Newspaper Award (NNA) in the Investigative Reporting category
- Gold JHR / CAJ Award for Human Rights Reporting
- Mindset Award for Reporting on Workplace Mental Health

Lead in Drinking Water Project

- Silver Canadian Association of Journalists (CAJ) Award in the Online Media Category
- Shortlisted for Jackman Award for Excellence in Journalism by the Canadian Journalism Foundation (CJF)

Animals in Scientific Testing

- The Canadian Online Publishing Awards (COPA) silver medallion

Labour Exploitation

- “This is the new slavery’: Migrant farm workers underpaid, abused and injured” finalist for JHR / CAJ Award for Human Rights Reporting





Arachnid: Hunting the Web's Darkest Secrets (Podcast)

- The Canadian Hillman prize
- Voted among the top investigative podcasts of 2025 by the Global Investigative Journalism Network (GIJN)
- Binge List of Best Public Media Series
- Canadian Online Publishing Awards nomination for best podcast in 2025

Privileged and Confidential Project

- Nominated for Mindset Award for reporting on mental health in the workplace
- IJB reporter Emma Jarratt won a Landsberg award for investigations including sexual misconduct by Canadian lawyers and a forensic year-long project documenting every killing or suspicious death of a woman in Canada

The Ultimate Choice (Podcast)

- Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) media award for best podcast series
- Shortlisted for a New York Festivals Radio Award in the Health/Medical podcast category

Left To Their Own Devices (Podcast)

- Nominated for a Peabody Award in the Public Service category

Bad Practice Project

- Third place in Investigative – Large Division Association of Health Care Journalists Awards for Excellence
- Best Investigative Journalism Award at the Institute for Nonprofit News Awards (INNYs) in 2026



PUBLISHED STORIES

2025/26

Animal Testing

It's one of those stories that sounds made up at first – puppies being snuck into a major Canadian hospital where they are subject to induced heart attacks lasting hours as part of scientific research into human cardiac injury.

The IJB uncovered a dog testing program at St. Joseph's Hospital in London, Ont., that was kept hidden from the public by design.

Using internal documents, images, and interviews with two staff members, we traced the puppies' journeys from U.S. breeders to the hospital's back doors and into caged areas where they await procedures that end their lives.

A week after publication, the hospital shut down the animal testing program. The Ontario government has since passed legislation that aims to restrict invasive medical research on dogs and cats.



PUPPIES SECRETLY TESTED, KILLED AT ONTARIO HOSPITAL

INVESTIGATION

*SURGERIES WITHOUT ANESTHESIA,
CUT VOCAL CORDS: THE DOG FARM
SUPPLYING AN ONTARIO LAB. A3*



'IT FEELS LIKE THIS SHOULDN'T BE HAPPENING,' SAYS WHISTLEBLOWER OF THE CLANDESTINE DOG TESTING FOR HEART RESEARCH

JENNA OLSEN AND ROBERT CRIBB
in London, Ont.

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM BUREAU

HOSPITAL ENDS DOG RESEARCH STUDIES

Invisible Threats

The IJB continues its reporting on the invisible threats to health, including radon in public housing, lead in drinking water, tainted seafood and forever chemicals.

Radon Public Housing

Across Canada, tens of thousands of public housing residents have been exposed to elevated levels of radon gas — some for years without their knowledge — according to more than 20,000 test results obtained by the IJB.

Along with our reporting, the IJB has published an interactive map.



* Regions with lack of data are displayed with a hatched (---) pattern.
* Each dot represents a sample collected from the surrounding province.

Lead in Drinking Water

For the past five years, the IJB has been analyzing lead levels in drinking water at schools and daycares across Ontario. In 2025, the IJB reported on newly released documents showing Ontario officials have known that the provincial safety limit for lead in drinking water doesn't go far enough to protect the public.



Forever Chemicals

The IJB uncovered toxic water contamination by the federal government in North Bay, Ont., that remained concealed from residents for almost five years. Experts call the government's failure to inform the public a damaging abdication of its duty. Meanwhile, North Bay locals still grapple with levels of forever chemicals that often make their drinking water unsafe.

Toxic Oysters

In collaboration with the New York City News Service, the IJB found more than a third of all federal recalls in the past six years triggered by Canadian oysters on both sides of the border trace back to an area near Vancouver called Baynes Sound. The common link behind all of those recalls, outbreaks and illnesses is clear, according to government reports, shellfish farmers and experts: human waste flowing into the waters of Baynes Sound from nearby homes and passing boats.

‘There was a coverup’



Healthcare

Nurse-to-Patient Ratios

Nurses took to the streets in protest outside 26 hospitals in 15 cities across Ontario – including Toronto, Hamilton and Ottawa – days after the IJB published a story on how nurses are overburdened by unregulated patient loads.

For more than a year, the IJB fought to obtain the records that provided a rare glimpse at the scenes inside one Ontario hospital that speak to a pervasive problem across the province. The records showed nurses in the Niagara Health System facing overwhelming patient loads that are undermining care and risk triggering staff burnout.



Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)

Through Freedom of Information requests, the IJB obtained internal documents from the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), Canada's leading mental health teaching hospital. In them, staff inside the nation's leading mental health institution quietly describe a toxic workplace rife with discrimination and bullying that is triggering their own mental health challenges.

When they attempted to address their grievances, many say they were met with retaliation and a lack of accountability. We interviewed current and former staff who broke down in tears as they recounted their experiences.

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM BUREAU

Staff describe allegedly toxic workplace at a leading mental-health hospital



PETER J. THOMPSON / NATIONAL POST
Outside the CAMH facility in downtown Toronto.

WENDY-ANN CLARKE
AND ROBERT CRISS

Many staff inside the country's leading mental health institution say they are suffering their own trauma from a toxic workplace rife with discrimination and bullying. Anonymous employee feedback from health-care providers at Toronto's Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) include widespread staff complaints about a work culture they say left them with mental health challenges including anxiety, depression and even suicidality. When they attempt to address their grievances, many say they were met with re-

taliation and a lack of accountability. "I would throw up before work," one employee said. "I know no one would support me." Some staff blamed the workplace culture at CAMH for mental health challenges. "They make you doubt your sanity," one respondent wrote. Some respondents explicitly noted a gap between the hospital's mental health mission and the psychological state of its employees. "It is ironic that an organization that provides mental health support is so disconnected from the mental health of its staff," said one respondent. See CAMH on A10



Ontario Health (note 23)
Ontario Health Insurance
Other ministries
Patient and third
Investment income
Amortization of debt
Ancillary and other costs

131,043
36,481
29,998
44,656

Hospital Finances

IJB reporters compiled three years' worth of financial statements from 129 publicly funded hospital corporations, some of which run multiple hospitals. The analysis found 77 hospitals had not balanced their books by the end of March 2025. Fifty-two logged an annual operating deficit for three consecutive years. Many have turned to banks to loan them the money they need to keep their doors open.

The Ontario NDP demanded changes to the hospital funding model after the IJB's groundbreaking investigation.

In addition to our reporting, readers can access the Ontario Hospital Finance Explorer, a database created in partnership with the University of Toronto's HIVE Lab. By searching the name of their local hospital, readers can review metrics such as annual operating deficit or surplus past three fiscal years, amount borrowed from a chartered bank and one-time government funding.



Opioid Deaths and First Nations

IJB reporting revealed the rate of opioid-related deaths is nine times higher among First Nations people than among non-First Nations people in Ontario. IJB reporter Wendy-Ann Clarke interviewed former nurses, physicians, and people struggling with opioid-related concerns in First Nations communities to bring real-life stories to the numbers.

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM BUREAU
Opioid deaths take heavy toll among Ontario First Nations
A GAME CHANGER? SUBOXONE OFFERS ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT TO METHADONE

WENDY-ANN CLARKE
The treatment meant to save Nihil in Pabipapish's life began to feel like a person. After almost a decade battling an addiction that began with prescribed painkillers and later escalated to street opioids, she entered a treatment program in 2009. There, at a facility in Brantford, Ont., she was put on methadone, a drug prescribed to ease withdrawal symptoms and reduce craving.

Part of a drug class called Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT), methadone is a critical and life-saving way to address addiction for many. Pabipapish says doctors told her she could be on it for the

lion over 2025-26 to support mental wellness services in Indigenous communities, including \$28.3 million for OAT services to support those receiving OAT treatment.

In 2021, the Ontario government announced a \$36-million commitment to mental health and addiction support in Indigenous communities across the province.

The report connects the higher rates of opioid-related harm among First Nations to generational trauma, given the link to mental health struggles and substance use.

The alternative to funding OAT can be devastating. "Up to 10 per cent of people, if they have to go through opioid withdrawal, would consider committing

BY THE NUMBERS

- The rate of opioid-related deaths is nine times higher among First Nations people than among non-First Nations people in Ontario.
- The annual rate of opioid-related deaths among First Nations people between 2019 and 2022 nearly tripled, climbing from 4.3 to 12.8 per 10,000 people.
- People aged 25 to 44 had the highest rate of opioid-related death, with rates of 20.6 per 10,000 among First Nations people and 2.2 per 10,000 among non-First Nations.
- People aged 25 to 44 had the highest rate of opioid

Pabipapish, 50, has been clean since 2003 after about 12 years of addiction. Her recovery began not with an immediate change of heart, but with the cold reality of a police arrest in 2009. That moment started her on the long path through OAT. "Ever since I made up my mind... that was it," Pabipapish says of her decision to work hard. "It's a holistic decision, mind, body and spirit."

Pabipapish, who is part of the Lived Experience Circle that helped inform the new report, now works in prevention where she helps people in her community struggling with addiction. She serves as a resource, even after work hours, connecting people with traditional cultural supports and a caring community. "This is what my heart wanted," she said. "I

Researcher Tara Gomes is calling for community-specific services to boost addiction at Ontario's First Nations. simple access to an older, to support people carefully in the early stages of recovery, says Chief Michelle Soko-

Bad Practice

Doctors with troubling histories of medical negligence, sexual abuse and other offences can effectively erase or greatly obscure those records by crossing a national or international border and starting fresh in a new jurisdiction with a clean slate.

Bad Practice, a collaborative investigative project with 46 media partners worldwide that included the IJB, is based on an analysis of more than 2.5 million physician records. Reporters revealed how dozens of doctors have jumped borders and started anew, leaving behind troubling pasts including medical malpractice, botched treatments and more.



BAD PRACTICE

HOW DOCTORS WITH TROUBLED PASTS HAVE SNUCK OFF TO FRESH STARTS ELSEWHERE, INCLUDING CANADA. WPI

VOL. 27 NO. 274 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025

THE MECHANISMS IN PLACE FOR REGULATORS ACROSS THE WORLD TO SHARE INFORMATION REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTION OR CRIMINAL SANCTIONS TO DOCTORS IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS CLEARLY NEED URGENT REVIEW TO PROTECT PATIENTS.

— GARY WALKER, an attorney representing more than 40 victims of medical misconduct



PRACTICE LOCATIONS

■ Dr. Ali Cadli ■ Dr. Enyinnaya Ezema
■ Ken Shafquat Intikhab Abraham



B2 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025 OTTAWA CITIZEN

LONG STORY



Public trust in the regulation of medical staff is vital and it is deeply worrying that some doctors are managing to move country and continue to treat patient. Regulators and employers must have fool-proof systems for detecting those who try and move between countries in order to evade detection when they are restricted or banned from practicing in a country.

— Paul Whiteing, CEO of Action Against Medical Accidents.

Organized Crime

US-Canada Border

A months-long investigation into a burgeoning industry of underground human smuggling networks analyzed hundreds of Instagram ads pitching covert passage across the Canada-U.S. border.

To make contact with those breaching Canada's borders, IJB reporters created fake social media accounts to explore online pages where illicit services are offered. Quickly, we found thousands of posts, with some even appearing as paid advertisements on Instagram.

Posing as prospective clients, reporters contacted people advertising both border smuggling and visa services to learn about their business models, pricing and methods. Reporters found a network of often interconnected accounts that offer similar services.



Cocaine and Bananas

The IJB, with partners at the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) and Serbia's KRIK, detailed links between alleged Balkan drug traffickers, cocaine-laden shipping containers bound for Europe, and the family firm of Ecuador's sitting president. The reporting showed the benefits of the collaborative, cross-border journalism model, involving reporters and researchers in a number of countries coming together to get to the bottom of a story.

Cocaine and bananas

SHIPMENTS FROM ECUADOR PRESIDENT'S FAMILY FIRM ALLEGEDLY USED TO SMUGGLE DRUGS



CREDIT: POLICIJSKA UPRAVA DUBROVACKO-NERETVANSKA

Authorities seized over half a ton of cocaine at the Port of Ploče in Croatia in 2021. Police found drugs in shipments of bananas from Ecuador's Noboa Trading Co. — the family firm of Ecuadorian President Daniel Noboa.

Organized Crime

Hamdi Lataj appears to have enjoyed a wealthy lifestyle since coming to Canada from the U.S. in recent years. In 2023, he could be seen laughing and chatting with Canadian rapper Drake in a video for the song “Polar Opposites,” sitting with surly looking men playing cards in a dark gambling den.

IJB reporting revealed that behind his high-rolling persona, Lataj is in reality a convicted bank burglar who police suspected once trafficked drugs with Mexican kingpin Joaquín “El Chapo” Guzmán. We also found he was targeted in an illegal gambling and money-laundering case involving alleged members of Italy’s ‘Ndrangheta mafia.



GREGORY SHAMUS / GETTY IMAGES FILE

Hamdi Lataj, in black jacket and white T-shirt, behind Kyle Lowry's right, as Lowry celebrates after the Raptors defeated the Milwaukee Bucks in Game 6 of the NBA Eastern Conference Finals in Toronto on May 25, 2019.

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM BUREAU

Labour Exploitation

Migrant Farm Workers

The Temporary Foreign Worker program is exposing many migrant labourers to health risks, financial exploitation and physical abuse, the IJB found. For weeks, IJB reporters fanned out across farming regions of the B.C. interior and southwestern Ontario to document the lives of temporary foreign workers who harvest and produce our food. Gradually earning the trust of workers and advocates allowed us to responsibly report on harrowing experiences that include life-long injuries, unpaid wages and sexual assault.

LONG STORY

REGINA LEADER-POST
leaderpost.com

“Temporary foreign workers sustain our economy in countless unseen ways. As a society, we don’t owe them charity. We owe them justice and dignity.”

LORENA GROVER,
Inside Manager,
Migrant Workers
Centre,
Kelowna, B.C.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025 REGINA LEADER-POST A17



INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM BUREAU

‘This is the new SLAVERY’

In 2024, 78,079 temporary migrants on Canadian farms did work this country’s citizens can’t or won’t do. But the structure of the federal program leaves them prey to underpayment, injury and abuse

ROBERT CHIRK, MASIH KHALATBARI
AND RACHEL PARENT

Harvesting corn in British Columbia’s Okanagan Valley as a migrant labourer in 2023, Maria recalls being surprised when her boss invited her and two friends for dinner at his home in the nearby mountains.

It was an evening of drinking, smoking and boozing in a hot tub — rare luxuries for the then-28-year-old Mexican who says she lived in a cramped trailer on the farm where she worked.

Feeling intoxicated, she says she went to bed alone in a nearby bedroom.

Her next memory, she says, was of her boss on top of her, kissing her against her will and doing “many things to my body.”

“I wish I could have pushed him or hit him but I couldn’t,” says the woman, whose name is covered by a publication ban in a sexual assault case currently before the courts in B.C. “I wish I could have protected myself.”

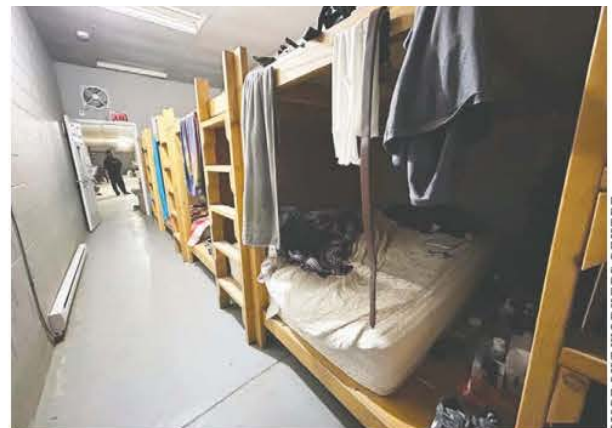
Maria is among tens of thousands from around the world who come to Canada every year to harvest and process fruit, tobacco, vegetables and other crops, often living in makeshift housing and working long, physically demanding days in sweltering summer heat, mostly for minimum wage.

Last year, nearly 80,000 migrants worked in agricultural jobs under Canada’s Temporary Foreign Worker Program, an increasingly controversial initiative designed in part to fill a labour gap left by Canadians who are unwilling or unable to do farm work.

IN CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



An aerial view of housing for migrant workers at a farm in East Kelowna, B.C.



From top, modular housing for migrant workers in the Okanagan; sleeping arrangements for about a dozen workers on a farm near Delta, B.C.; bunk beds in a house occupied by about a dozen men near Oliver, B.C.; dead rodents around a sink in housing for temporary foreign workers in Ontario.

Justice System

Femicide

Statistically, it's almost impossible to live in this country and not know a woman or girl who has been abused — most often by a man — at some point in her life. Some escape. Too many, as our team discovered over a year of reporting, do not.

Behind all 1,329 women and girls in the IJB's database of victims is a constellation of devastation: children who will grow up without their mothers, families torn apart by grief, communities struggling to make sense of senseless loss.



Misconduct by Ontario lawyers and paralegals to be made public

In a groundbreaking move towards greater transparency, the Law Society of Ontario (LSO) has committed to publicly disclosing details when lawyers and paralegals commit crimes or professional breaches.

The move follows a two-year investigation by the IJB into the law society's decades-long practice of withholding such information, even in cases involving high-risk conduct by legal professionals.

NDA's face heat for stifling effect

NDA's are publicly discouraged by the country's leading law association in harassment and abuse cases. Some provinces, as well as the federal government, have taken steps to remove NDA's as a bargaining tool in such disputes.

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM BUREAU

NDA's face heat for stifling effect

NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENTS CAN OFFER MONEY FOR SILENCE IN CASES OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT IN WORKPLACES

NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENTS CAN OFFER MONEY FOR SILENCE IN CASES OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT IN WORKPLACES



THE PRICE FOR SILENCE
NDAs often bury misconduct **NPI**

CANADA

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM BUREAU:
NDAs TO HUSH UP ALLEGED SEXUAL MISCONDUCT UNDER FIRE.
Page A3

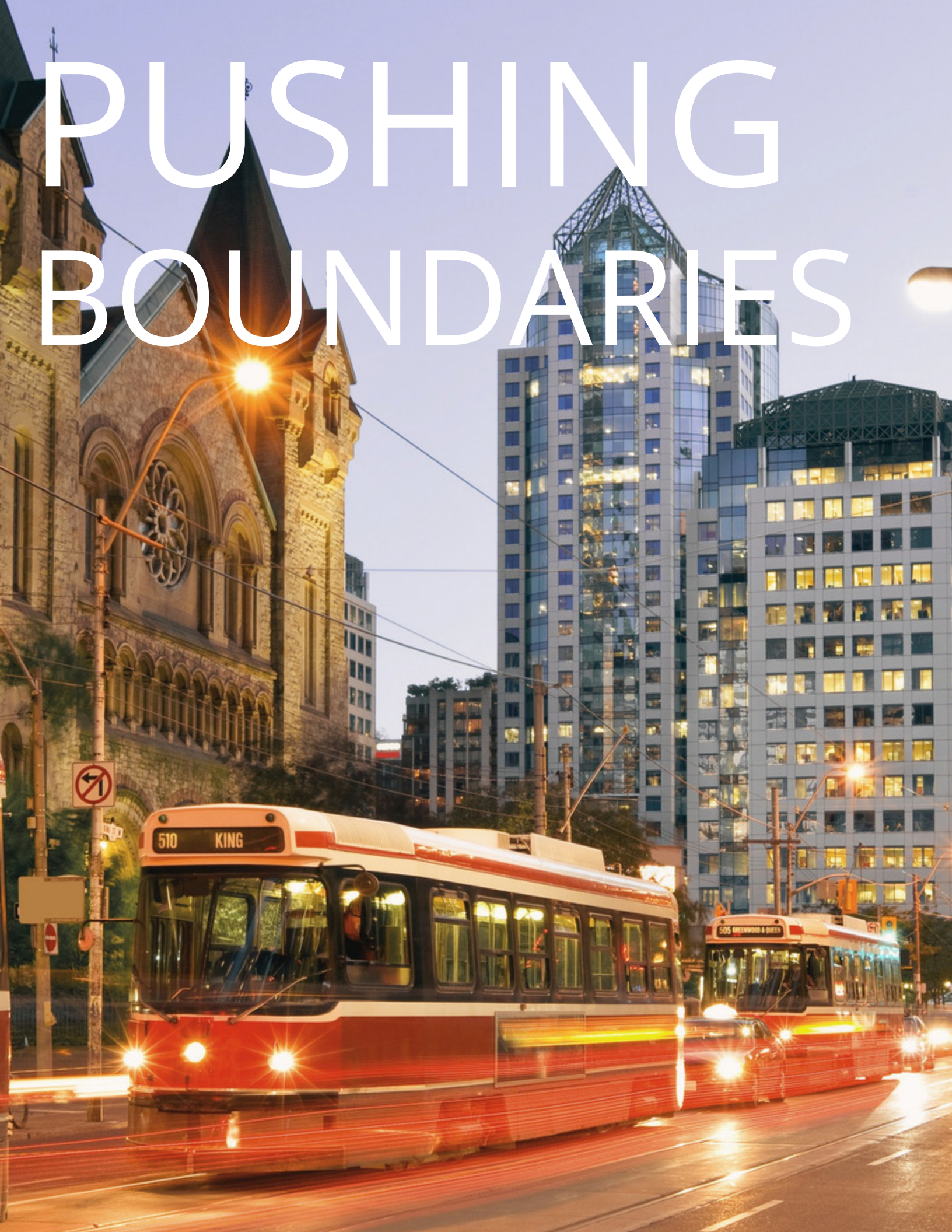
Online Child Exploitation

In the digital age, the same tools people use to stay connected with friends and family are being weaponized by bad actors to exploit children. The consequences for families can be devastating as online platforms distribute ever-growing volumes of child exploitation.

IJB investigations into online child exploitation include two podcasts and three investigative stories published with the National Post, the Toronto Star, and TVO.



PUSHING BOUNDARIES



Public Databases

The IJB, in partnership with University of Toronto's HIVE Lab which is dedicated to developing open-source tools to improve public health, created four public databases.

1. Ontarians can now access the key financial information of their hospital by using the Investigative Journalism Bureau's [Ontario Hospital Finance Explorer](#).
2. [Radon in Public Housing](#): an Interactive Map which includes more than 20,000 radon results in social housing units.
3. [School and Daycare Lead Tracker](#): An interactive database that allows you to check lead test results for Ontario schools and daycares between 2019 and 2024.
4. [Ontario maternal and neonatal death tracker](#), an interactive database of maternal and neonatal deaths over a decade in Ontario.



HIVE Lab

Health **I**nformatics, **V**isualization, and **E**quity

Insights

Insights is an ongoing series of guest opinion pieces that build on our investigative journalism, offering perspectives from scholars, researchers, community members, activists, and cultural commentators.

These contributions are grounded in the lived experiences and unique perspectives of the authors, using IJB investigations as a springboard to spark thoughtful and informed public discourse.

Since 2025, the IJB published more than 20 Insights pieces highlighting a range of voices including registered nurse Jenn Miller, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Child Sexual Abuse Mama Fatima Singhateh, and philosophy professor Udo Schüklenk.



Press Club

Beyond our journalism and training, the IJB has launched, in collaboration with Postmedia, a regular public speaking event called the Press Club. The events feature one-on-one conversations between IJB director Rob Cribb and prominent journalists and newsmakers reflecting on major stories shaping the public discussion.

"You can expect a behind-the-curtain peek at intriguing figures who are making the news you follow, either through the journalism they are creating or the public impact they are having on our lives," wrote National Post editor in chief Rob Roberts. "The discussions will be candid and enlightening."

The IJB welcomed more than 50 guests to its inaugural Press Club event on Jan. 29 featuring a detailed conversation with Rick Westhead, investigative journalist and author of best-selling book — "We Breed Lions." The discussion pulled back the curtain on how Westhead broke open a national story and conversation about widespread emotional, physical and sexual abuse in hockey.



Robert Cribb (RIGHT), Director of Investigative Journalism Bureau speaks with Rick Westhead (LEFT) Investigative Journalist and Author, about the Junior hockey scandal in London Ontario, at a IJB event held at Postmedia Place in Toronto, Thursday January 29, 2026. Photo By Peter J Thompson/National Post

Newsletter Sign-up

The IJB produces a weekly newsletter. Sign up for the latest updates on stories, Insights, and Press Club events.





COLLABORATIVE IMPACT

Education

The IJB has built one of the world's only multidisciplinary teaching newsrooms, offering an experiential opportunity for students from any career path the chance to not only learn, but practice journalism skills under the guidance of expert coaches. Specific streams for Black and Indigenous learners demonstrate our commitment to equity.

Students devise stories, plan reporting strategies, conduct interviews and research, undertake fieldwork, file freedom of information requests, participate in story meetings, write and record stories, and publish their work through the IJB and its media partners.

Since its inception, the IJB has welcomed over 70 learners, offering block, term, and year long practicums, internships and fellowships. Participants often travel from across Canada or participate in a fully virtual experience. Front line workers, such as physicians, public health professionals, nurses, and firefighters, along with working journalists and journalism students, have come to the IJB to learn how journalism skills offer a unique and impactful way to effect change.

Fellowship in Medicine and Media

Over the summer of 2025, two summer students from Dalla Lana's Journalism and Health Advocacy program joined the IJB to work with reporters to research and tell powerful stories.



Fatima Faruq is a Master of Public Health student in the Social and Behavioural Health Sciences stream at DLSPH.



Pavneet Kaur is a researcher and data analyst in Toronto, pursuing her Master of Public Health (Epidemiology) degree at DLSPH, specializing in Global Health.

Education

CJF-IJB Black Investigative Journalism Fellowship

As part of its highly competitive Black Journalism Fellowship Program, the IJB welcomes an early-career fellow each year for six-month reporting and research placements.

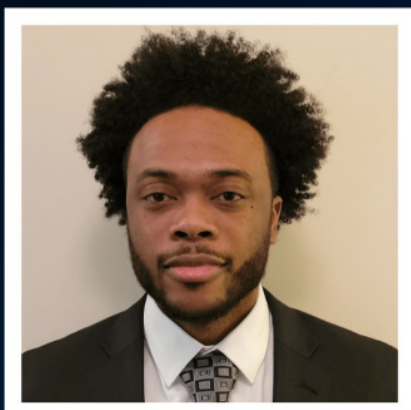
**Wendy-Ann
Clarke**



**Mzwandile
Poncana**



**Démar
Grant**



**Myrialine
Catule**



IJB/Unifor summer interns

Within a four-month period, summer interns cultivate high-level expertise that will accompany them throughout their professional careers.

"The IJB/Unifor Summer Internship is not just a student experience — it's an opportunity to work on the frontlines of rigorous investigative journalism with real-world stakes and to produce reporting that changes the landscape of our society." - Stacey Kuznetsova, 2025 summer intern

"It's not every day that you get to do your dream job before you graduate university. It's not every day that you have a hand in exposing clandestine research performed on puppies, and it's not every day that Ontario's Premier shuts down the program and vows to end all dog testing because of your work." - Jenna Olsen, 2025 summer intern

Education

King's College journalism students join the IJB for summer reporting positions

During the summer of 2025, King's Master of Journalism students Lindsay Catre, Jacqueline Newsome, Emily Enns, and Molly MacNaughton worked with the IJB to strengthen their reporting skills outside of the classroom in collaboration with journalists from the award-winning newsroom.

This partnership is facilitated by King's journalism professor Lisa Taylor.

"This collaboration is an absolute dream, in part because the IJB's work is transformative — it's focused on the concerns that matter most to Canadians," Taylor says. "Working as part of the IJB team gives King's students the chance to be part of a national investigative team pursuing stories in the public interest. It's a remarkable opportunity."

Toronto Metropolitan University Journalism Students

In 2026, the IJB welcomed two student journalists, Jacob Marion and Vihaan Bhatnagar, from Toronto Metropolitan University.

"After being introduced to the IJB through my coursework, I'm excited to build on that foundation and refine my investigative skills to produce thoughtful, in-depth reporting across all my work," says Marion, an undergraduate journalism student.

Bhatnagar, who is in his final year in the Bachelor of Journalism program at TMU, is interested in public policy, healthcare, financial and criminal reporting.

"I've been inspired by the work the IJB has done and the wide lens they use in their reporting. I hope I can learn from the people here and incorporate that into my own reporting," he shares.

Postmedia Fellowships

Longtime Vancouver Sun reporter Lori Culbert and National Post journalist Courtney Greenberg joined the IJB for six months. They are first recipients of the fellowship for Postmedia journalists to work with the IJB on in-depth investigative projects.

The new fellowships were created after the national newspaper chain formed a partnership with the IJB and now publishes stories produced by the bureau.

Education

SimNews Sessions

The Simulated Newsroom is an interactive workshop that arms emerging healthcare professionals and experts with vital communication skills and understanding of how journalists, newsrooms and the media work.

Led by senior editor and top physician-journalist Blair Bigham, the workshop teaches professionals and students how to advocate for populations that fall through the cracks, produce engaging content to win hearts and minds and strategize purposeful, effective public engagement.

As the information ecosystem rapidly evolves and people place trust in a wide array of voices, misinformation is negatively impacting our collective health. These workshops run participants through exercises to understand why and how experts should engage the press and effectively communicate in the information ecosystem.

Specialist Training

In recent months the IJB has expanded its international network further, with IJB staff, fellows, interns and academics receiving expert talks, training and information sessions from major global organizations.

This has included a session on open-source investigating from the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP), and a follow-the-money reporting workshop run by the U.K.-based Finance Uncovered.





PEOPLE & STAFF



ROBERT CRIBB

Founder & Director

Robert Cribb is founder and director of the Investigative Journalism Bureau. He has received national and international reporting awards for investigations into offshore tax evasion, child exploitation, human trafficking, dangerous doctors, environmental threats and public safety. He was part of the international reporting team that produced the Pulitzer Prize-winning Panama Papers investigation in 2017. Cribb is past president of the Canadian Association of Journalists, the first international board member of Investigative Reporters and Editors and co-author of *Digging Deeper: A Canadian Reporter's Research Guide* (Oxford University Press).

ROBERT STEINER

Assistant Professor And Director Of The Dalla Lana Fellowship In Journalism And Health Impact

Robert Steiner began his career as a global finance correspondent for The Wall Street Journal with postings in New York, Hong Kong and Tokyo, where he was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, won two Overseas Press Club awards and the Inter-American Press Association Award. After leaving The Wall Street Journal, Steiner received his MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and then worked as a business strategy executive, first at The Boston Consulting Group and later as Group Vice President in charge of Strategic Planning for Bell Globemedia, parent of the Globe and Mail and CTV. From 2006 to 2010, Mr. Steiner served as Assistant Vice President of the University of Toronto in charge of Strategic Communications.



BRIAN FITZPATRICK

Senior Editor

Brian Fitzpatrick is a senior editor at the IJB. Previously he was a senior investigative reporter and core editor at the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP), a global investigative reporting non-profit. Collaborative projects he worked on at OCCRP included The Steward Files (2025); the Narco Files (2023); Suisse Secrets (2022); the Russian Asset Tracker (2022), which won the European Press Prize for Innovation; and the Pandora Papers (2021), led by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists. Previously deputy news editor at the National Post, he has also frequently reported from Latin America, covering criminal groups and the drug wars.



BLAIR BIGHAM

Senior Editor

Blair Bigham is an award-winning journalist, scientist and physician who trained in emergency and critical care medicine at McMaster and Stanford Universities. He was a Global Journalism Fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Associate Scientist at St Michael's Hospital before joining the faculty of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto. His work has appeared in newspapers, magazines, newscasts, podcasts and medical journals. As an education scientist, his academic program uses contemporary approaches to understand how clinicians can be taught to build trust and communicate effectively with the communities they serve.

WENDY-ANN CLARKE

Reporter

Wendy-Ann Clarke is an award-winning multimedia journalist based in Toronto. She is known for her investigative reporting on healthcare injustices impacting the most vulnerable. Her work focuses on exposing systemic gaps and holding public institutions accountable. A former track-and-field athlete and coach, Clarke was previously a senior reporter at CBC Sports, covering major sporting events such as the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, in addition to reporting for outlets like The Catholic Register and the Toronto Star.



MASIH KHALATBARI

Reporter

Masih Khalatbari is an award-winning, Persian-Canadian investigative reporter based in Toronto. His work spans print, podcasting and documentary film, including in-depth exposés on human smuggling operations on the Canadian border, deception in the drug trial industry, and the federal government's concealment of a toxic spill in drinking water.



ANNA MEHLER PAPERNY

Senior Reporter

Anna Mehler Paperny is an award-winning journalist based in Toronto. Her bestselling book, *Hello I Want to Die Please Fix Me: Depression in the First Person*, was shortlisted for the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction. She's chased stories ranging from incarceration to migration, from post-quake Haiti to Guantanamo Bay. Her work on deaths in Canadian prisons won an RTDNA Dan McArthur Award for investigative journalism.

EMMA JARRATT

Reporter

Emma is Toronto-based investigative journalist and has worked at the national levels in both print and television in Canada. Her work has triggered real-world impact and won awards, but, most importantly, it has driven powerful public discussions on under-reported issues and issues of vital public interest across many different sectors and industries. Her investigations have probed Canada's controversial surrogacy laws, medical malpractice, workplace abuses and exploitation of vulnerable populations.



COURTNEY GREENBERG

Reporter

Courtney Greenberg is a Toronto-based journalist who has worked at National Post since 2022. Her recent coverage has focused on antisemitism in Canada. She has also reported on a wide range of topics including politics, women's health and crime. As a digital reporter, she specializes in trending and breaking news. She previously worked as a digital editor in several Toronto newsrooms and as a freelance journalist.

STACEY KUZNETSOVA

Reporter

Stacey Kuznetsova is a Toronto-based multimedia journalist focused on human rights, public policy, and healthcare reporting. Stacey has led data collection and analysis teams on high-profile national investigations, reporting on the systemic failings of the Canadian justice system, healthcare financing and governance, environmental safety, and animal cruelty.



JENNA OLSEN

Reporter

Jenna Olsen is a journalist and photographer from Guelph, Ontario. She is in her fourth year of the bachelor of journalism honours program at the University of King's College in Halifax, Nova Scotia, with a minor in international development at Dalhousie University. Jenna is the editor-in-chief of the Dalhousie Gazette and previously served as the paper's news editor.

DORI SEEMAN

Reporter

Dori Seeman is a Toronto-based reporter with a passion for community engagement and innovative storytelling. Dori has reported on environmental issues including lead in drinking water and tainted waters.



ANGELA DONG

Reporter

Angela Dong is an internal medicine physician and occupational medicine fellow at the University of Toronto, currently completing an MSc in Community Health (Occupational & Environmental Health) at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health. As a practicum journalist at the Investigative Journalism Bureau, her reporting centres on the fault lines of Canadian health systems – from health policy and workplace injury to artificial intelligence, data governance and digital health infrastructure.

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That support has allowed the IJB to build collaborative partnerships, expand its research and inform the public and create sustainable, transformative and equitable change on urgent public health challenges.

We couldn't do it without you!

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