**CHRISTIAN NADEAU:**

**1. What has been the greatest benefit of being a Fellow of the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation?**

Being a Fellow of the Foundation has provided me with the wonderful opportunity to meet a dynamic community of scholars from different research backgrounds. I’ve also had the extraordinary good fortune to work alongside researchers such as Candis Callison, Marie Battiste and Aimée Morrison, not to mention the other mentors and students from my 2019 cohort. Apart from these personal connections, it’s as if whole bookshelves have been added to my library. This has directly influenced my research, especially in the context of my seminar this year on decolonial resistance.

**2. What do you think about the importance of engaged leadership in meeting the challenges we face in our society?**

In the past I’ve been wary of this notion of leadership, which I associate with vertical hierarchical norms. What’s interesting is that I’ve now come to see how certain individuals have spearheaded initiatives that have been really inspiring and important for their communities, while at the same time showing respect for each community member. Today I would say that the greatest leadership challenge is precisely to lead such initiatives for the community, while remaining completely focused on the causes. Too many leaders today play at being gurus or demagogues, but fortunately there are many counterexamples, such as the case of the Wetʼsuwetʼen struggle for their rights.

**3. Why is it important for leaders to dialogue with people who hold different views?**

This is extremely important in order to determine why there is disagreement; disputes based on a simple misunderstanding must be avoided at all costs. A first step toward reasonable disagreement is to agree on the terms of the disagreement. It’s also a first step toward a fair dialogue: each party must recognize the plausibility of the other’s position, without sacrificing or disregarding its own interests. Certain boundaries are therefore not to be crossed in the name of dialogue, for example if your interlocutor refuses the very notion and conditions of a fair exchange.

**CAROLINE LEBLANC:**

**1. What has been the greatest benefit of being a scholar of the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation?**

The greatest benefit of being a scholar of the PET Foundation is the opportunity to take my research even further and to be able to engage homeless people in the research process. Participatory research requires greater access to resources and the foundation provides me with the assistance necessary to achieve these goals.

The Foundation has also helped me established relationships with mentors who support me in my endeavors. This is an additional asset that enables me to develop my leadership skills, thereby helping me to improve the living conditions of homeless people.

The Foundation opens up access to a wealth of knowledge through various events that inspire me to think critically about social issues.

**2. What do you think about the importance of engaged leadership in meeting the challenges we face in our society?**

Engaged leadership is very important for enabling social change, reducing the social inequalities that many people face and thereby improving their living conditions and health. It’s our responsibility to speak out with the people affected by social issues and to challenge structures so that they truly meet the needs of our community.

**3. Why is it important for leaders to dialogue with people who hold different views?**

In my opinion, it’s really important to engage in dialogue with people who do not share the same ideological stance in order to better understand their points of view, deepen our own self-reflection and thus strengthen our own position in the debates on our society’s social issues. If we stay within our own networks, with people who are usually aware of our point of view, we will not have the same impact. It’s important to create safe spaces and to provide the necessary support to allow for discussion between those with opposing views, because oppressive discourse can have a violent effect on us when our point of view departs from the dominant norms of our society.

**DARREN SAUNDERS:**

**1. What has been the greatest benefit of being a scholar of the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation?**

It gives me an amazing opportunity to learn about and share different aspects of the challenges that we experience in our society, and to think about how we can work together to overcome these obstacles that hinder certain communities or individuals. The Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation gives me the chance to rub shoulders with other scholars, mentors and fellows from different fields and backgrounds. I find it very enriching to gain knowledge from outside of my own scholarly community.

**2. What do you think about the importance of engaged leadership in meeting the challenges we face in our society?**

First, it’s essential to deconstruct the notion of leadership as an elite group coming from privileged circles. I think that engaged leadership is about action involving many people from diverse backgrounds with different life experiences. This diversity allows us to address societal challenges from numerous angles so that we can find creative solutions together. Good leadership does not necessarily mean a single leader who directs everything, but rather a collective that can empower individuals to facilitate constructive change, individually and collectively, in their communities and in society in general.

**3. Why is it important for leaders to dialogue with people who hold different views?**

In order to engage in collective action to initiate constructive change, it is crucial to listen to diverse opinions, particularly those that are different from one’s own. In other words, when we express ourselves, we must also listen to others. We may be able to learn more about our own values and opinions when we listen to others who have different viewpoints. We could learn from these discussions and take the opportunity to revisit our own opinions and reevaluate our strategies from time to time in order to find the right path for our ongoing work to bring about change.