



Biography

Marie-Lauren Gregoire Drummond, SCMP, BJ, BA (Hons), aka MLGD, is a professional communicator, spoken word poet, speaker and published author. Marie-Lauren is currently Director, Communications and Stakeholder Relations at the Alliance for Healthier Communities.

MLGD was speech writer and senior advisor in communications to the Ontario Minister of Education Mitzie Hunter from 2017 to 2018. She has provided strategic communications support to organizations in healthcare, education, child welfare and community and social services including Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada, South Riverdale Community Health Centre, Ryerson University's Diversity Institute, Canadian Hearing Society, Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies and Peel Children's Aid.

In 2012, she travelled to the Democratic Republic of Congo to volunteer with the VIDES program of the Salesian Sisters, working with children and youth and improving her French language skills. While there, MLGD performed spoken word poetry and classical music at Café Mozart. MLGD has been speaking publicly since the age of five and has given speeches and interviews on a variety of topics as: an ambassador for the International Villages Festival, a student government leader at the Western University, a spokesperson for the Diversity Committee at Peel Children's Aid and Peel Children's Aid Foundation, a Black History Month guest speaker and workshop leader.

MLGD has served on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Institute of Cultural Affairs, the Toronto Women's Housing Co-operative, One Park Place- TSCC 2365, FemCare Community Health Initiative and volunteered with Western Alumni, Faith Connections at Fontbonne

Ministries, the Salesian Sisters, and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto and Black Women's Social Toronto.

MLGD is a motivational speaker, facilitates public speaking workshops and performs poetry in Toronto and Brantford. Her essay, "Living a legacy, lessons from a faith filled life", was published in [Portraits of Faith](#), Novalis, November 2016. MLGD holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts from Western University, a Bachelor of Journalism from Ryerson University and is certified as a Strategic Communications Management Professional (SCMP^(TM)). MLGD lives in Toronto with her husband Adrian, and their fur babies Kongo and Chat Noire.