

Jessie Thomson

Senior Director, Humanitarian Assistance and Emergency Team at CARE
Canada

Ottawa, ON, CA

Leading expert in humanitarian assistance and refugee protection

Biography

Jessie Thomson is currently the Senior Director of CARE Canada's Humanitarian Assistance and Emergency Team. Jessie joined CARE as an Emergency Response Program Manager in March 2011 and since joining CARE, has been deployed to Afghanistan, Pakistan, South Sudan, Lebanon, Jordan, Haiti, Chad, Mali, Kenya, Djibouti, and Turkey. Prior to joining CARE, Jessie worked as a protection delegate with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Pakistan; as a Senior Policy Advisor in the Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Response Group at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, leading the development of Canadian policy related to refugees, IDPs and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); and, as a Senior Policy Advisor and Manager in the Resettlement Division in Refugees Branch at Citizenship and Immigration Canada. As a 2008 Walter and Gordon Duncan Foundation Global Youth Fellow, Jessie co-produced and co-directed Home Free, a short film about the 1972 Burundian refugees in Tanzania. Jessie began her career with the UNHCR in London and as a volunteer with World University Service of Canada's Student Refugee Program at the University of Toronto. Jessie lives in Ottawa and speaks both French and English

Industry Expertise

Government Relations, Non-Profit/Charitable, Women

Areas of Expertise

Humanitarian Assistance, International Development, Refugee Protection, Forced Migration, Gender and Emergencies , Leadership and Management

Affiliations

Council of Women Executives Ottawa, OttawaWelcomes Private Sponsorship Group

Education

London School of Economics
MSc Development Studies

University of Toronto
Honors B.A. Peace and Conflict Studies

Oxford University

Certificate Course in Forced Migration Forced Migration

Accomplishments

Deputy Minister's Award - Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Deputy Minister's Award for overall contribution to improving diversity in the workplace through the creation of the Youth Newcomer Internship Program (YNIP), now an official Federal Government program known as the Federal Internship for Newcomers.

Humanitarian of the Year 2015

Awarded CARE Canada's Humanitarian of the Year award for leadership of CARE Canada's humanitarian work around the world

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