

MARVA WISDOM, M.A. (LEADERSHIP)
SENIOR FELLOW, MUNK SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC POLICY
FOUNDER AND PRINCIPLE, WISDOM CONSULTING

Marva Wisdom is a committed leader who believes deeply in the importance of building inclusive spaces where all are afforded a sense of belonging. She provides her clients with the tools and courage they need to facilitate meaningful growth through promising practices in leadership, effective engagement, equity and inclusion. Her service delivery includes keynote speeches, workshop facilitation and design, chairing discussions & research.

Marva has been a driving force as Director of Outreach and Engagement behind the well-received [Black Experience Project](#) (GTA), which is a seven-year research study of the lived experiences of the Black community living and working within the region.

She is the director of the [ArtsEverywhere Festival](#) where over four days, the festival offers lectures, conversations, music, artistic performances, circle gatherings, literary readings, exhibitions, and much more. As the publisher of ArtsEverywhere.ca, Musagetes co-presents the festival in partnership with the University of Guelph and the Eramosa Institute.

Marva's past projects have included: External Lead Advisor for the City of Guelph's long-term community plan, and president of [Canadian Black History Projects](#).

Over the past three decades, Marva's volunteer work has included: being an active Rotarian for more than a decade; Board President of [Kensington Market Jazz Festival](#); Advisory, [Operation Black Vote Canada](#); founding past President of the [Guelph Black Heritage Society](#) (2010-2015), which acquired a historic British Methodist Episcopal Church associated with the Underground Railroad; Founding Chair, [Institute of Canadian Citizenship](#) Guelph Chapter (2008-2013); Vice-Chair of the [Canadian Centre for Diversity](#) (2006-2013), fundraising cabinet member of the [Canadian Museum for Human Rights](#) (2006-2011); chair of two [United Way](#) campaigns with record-breaking results (2010 & 2011) and serving 14 years on the [YMCA-YWCA Guelph](#) Board; the last two as chair (2002-2016).

Marva's political engagements include the Prime Minister's appointment as co-chair of two policy platform committees and a three-year elected term as a national policy chair, shepherding equity-seeking policy priorities.

Included among Marva's many recognitions are the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, YWCA's Woman of Distinction Award, Toronto Police Exemplary Service Award, Jamaican Canadian Association's Community Volunteer Leadership Award & CIBWE Top 100 Canadian Black Women to watch.

Marva has her Master of Arts (Leadership) from the University of Guelph and has served the University in various capacities including as a member of 2017, twenty-year strategic planning committee; the honours and awards cabinet, as well as the College of Economics & Business' MA Leadership Advisory Board - receiving the College's inaugural Alumni with Impact Award.