

Nisa is a Senior Policy Analyst with the Brookfield Institute for Innovation + Entrepreneurship, where she leads research on innovation economies and inclusive growth. She brings a social policy and social services lens to the team, having worked on employment and training, poverty reduction, entrepreneurship, and other issues for the federal and municipal governments and the nonprofit sector.

In her work, she seeks to build communities and forums that create space for collaboration across sectors, disciplines, and jurisdictions. She was part of the team that founded the Privy Council Office's Innovation Hub, a policy lab at the heart of the federal government, and a former member of the Deputy Ministers' Committee on Policy Innovation. In 2016-2017, she was a City of Toronto Urban Fellow, working on skills training and job-readiness programs for social assistance recipients and improving access to housing. Prior to joining the public service, she ran digital literacy courses for seniors, newcomers, and job seekers. She has been an invited speaker on public sector innovation in Canada and abroad and was a program advisor for the Banff Leadership Centre's Alt/Now Economic Inequality incubator.

Nisa holds an MA in Public and International Affairs from the University of Ottawa, where she researched how open government is redefining and digitizing civic virtue and citizen engagement, and a BFA in Writing from the University of Victoria. Most recently, she attended a Banff Centre Emerging Writers Residency.