

September 2023

I wanted to take a moment to clear up some confusion. It's come to my attention that many of you were not aware that I parted ways with the GCUC organization - back in 2020.

My company <u>Creative Blueprint</u>, and the non-profit organization <u>Coworking Canada</u>, curates & produces the annual <u>Canadian Coworking Unconference</u>. We launched Coworking Canada back in 2012, when we produced the first Canadian Unconferences in Ontario.

In 2015 we began licensing the 'GCUC Canada' name, and we used that name for our annual Canadian Unconference from 2015 to 2019. Creative Blueprint independently produced the 2015 Unconference in Toronto, the 2016 Unconference in Montreal, the 2017 Unconference in Vancouver, the 2018 Unconference in Banff, and the 2019 Unconference in Toronto, using this name.

In 2020 the US-based GCUC team restructured their model, and chose not to renew their international licenses. So we simply returned to using our original name - <u>Coworking Canada</u>. It wasn't an ideal time to lose our name or channels of communication, but like everyone else during those days we simply carried on. We kept doing what we always do - supporting coworking operators & alliances across Canada.

From 2020-2022, we switched to an online *Coworking Canada Unconference* model to ensure the safety of all our participants. It wasn't the same of course, but it kept us all connected through those tough times. This October, we are thrilled to be returning to our 3-day, in-person Unconference format in Calgary, Alberta, along with an optional Leadership Retreat in the Rocky Mountains of Banff.

The 9th annual *Coworking Canada Unconference & Retreat* will take place October 10th-15th, 2023. You can find all the 2023 Coworking Canada details here: https://coworkingcanada.com/unconference

My understanding is that the US-based GCUC team is now producing their international events themselves, with some help from regional partners. We wish them all the best with their first GCUC Canada event this September.

We also want to ensure there is no confusion for our loyal Coworking Canada attendees, volunteers, partners & sponsors. Your support and engagement over the past 9 years has been integral to our success, and we are committed to producing events that share your collective vision for the coworking movement and the future of work.

We remain dedicated to strengthening our relationships with our collaborators, especially in working closely with Indigenous peoples and Indigenous-led organizations, as an essential pillar of our collective vision for a thriving inclusive, diverse, equitable, and just future for us all.

If you've previously attended our Canadian Unconference events, or if you're curious to meet and mingle with other community leaders & visionaries, positive deviants & creative collaborators, you should definitely join us in Calgary & Banff this October. All are welcome.

We're back!

Coworking Canada - October 10th-15th, 2023.

Can't wait to see you all again. *

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Ashley Proctor

Executive Director, Coworking Canada