

**Report by Claudia Scholz, editor at Handelsblatt, about the Arthur F. Burns Fellowship 2022 at the Globe and Mail in Toronto**

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This summer of 2022 there was certainly no better place for a German political and business editor than the Canadian metropolis of Toronto. As a result of the energy crisis in Europe, Canada, as a raw material country, suddenly became the focus of German foreign policy. I traveled at the end of August

Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Vice Chancellor Robert Habeck together with business leaders

Toronto and met Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau here - and I was right in the middle of it.

It was a great opportunity for the Burns Fellowship to bring me to Toronto and my guest newspaper, The Globe and Mail, at this eventful time for German-Canadian relations. I worked there for the business department "Report on Business" (ROB), which is almost like a small multi-page business newspaper within the daily newspaper. At the same time I wrote several articles for my home newspaper Handelsblatt.

From the beginning, I was perceived as an equal reporter at the Globe and Mail and included in the reporting. The managing editors of ROB, Janet McFarland and Ryan MacDonald, with whom I exchanged the most, showed great interest in all topics concerning the Ukraine war and the consequences for Germany, energy supply and relations with Canada.

I therefore focused on those topics where I could offer particular added value in the eyes of my guest newspaper. It paid off: I was able to from the first week

continuously publish articles in The Globe and Mail, often alongside fellow reporters.

My contacts to German politicians, energy associations and companies have been useful

noticed - also because my guest newspaper itself only has two European correspondents, one in London and another in Rome, but none in Germany.

In the early days, I published an article with Parliamentary Correspondent Steven Chase about the Nord Stream 1 gas turbine that had been repaired in Canada and was shown to the public for the first time by Chancellor Scholz. My namesake Scholz and his journey

to Canada dominated my reporting in August. I was often asked with a wink if we were related. No, we are not.

My political colleagues at the Globe (as The Globe and Mail likes to abbreviate itself) wanted me to find out what Scholz was aiming for with his visit to Canada, whether he was looking for a way to get Canadian liquid gas to Germany in the short to medium term, who he was accompanied and why.

They explained to me: "In Canada, we like to try to investigate the political background of government actions in the media." My reporter colleague Emma Graney and I were able to find out, for example, that gas deliveries between Canada and Germany were no longer an issue.

A highlight during the Scholz and Trudeau meeting in Toronto was the business conference on the rooftop of The Globe and Mail with spectacular views over the city skyline and key representatives from Canadian and German business. Automakers Volkswagen and Mercedes signed agreements on future supplies of critical minerals. I was also able to take a photo with Justin Trudeau, a nice reminder. The politicians later flew on to Newfoundland, where they agreed on a hydrogen deal.

Most of the articles in my guest newspaper are written in a very informative way, with short sentences and the most important news at the beginning. This made it easier for me to write articles quickly and often on a daily basis. The so-called copy editors, who edit all texts after the content has been corrected by the

Editors still checking for readability and style helped me perfect my articles.

The Globe podcast team invited me to their new studio for an episode of the Decibel podcast, which comes out daily and has around 15,000 subscribers. I spoke to host Menaka Raman-Wilms about the Scholz visit, green hydrogen and German concerns about the coming winter without Russian gas. It was my first podcast appearance ever and also in English. So I was very excited, but it was also a good chance to try out this journalistic format. It helped that I was able to discuss everything with producer Kasia Mychajlowycz beforehand.

The colleagues at my host newspaper were helpful, open-minded and accommodating. The young and committed reporter Irene Galea asked me right at the beginning if I would like to work with her on a story about the planned cannabis legalization in Germany and what consequences this could have for Canadian and German companies.

Among others, I met the data journalist Mahima Sigh, who explained her daily work to me. With a small team of three, she finds the numbers for daily graphics, sometimes tracking projects for months. For example, she examined whether the billion-dollar corporation and provider of e-commerce software Shopify had lost or gained more customers since the corona pandemic.

I visited the major players in artificial intelligence (AI) in Toronto with tech reporter Josh O'Kane, a Burns alumni who spent his fellowship at Handelsblatt. We conducted an interview with the founders of the Vector Institute, whose advisor is the well-known AI researcher Geoffrey Hinton. We also caught up with the CEO of venture capital firm Radical Ventures, which has funded AI startups and helped popularize Toronto as an incubator.

Contact with the German-Canadian Industry and Trade Association proved to be particularly helpful. Chamber of Commerce and its CEO Yvonne Denz, who has a large network of German and Canadian companies and managers and was able to provide tips for contacts. She also arranged for me to meet the German Consul General Thomas Schultze, with whom I spoke about Canada's migration policy and living and working in the country.

I was amazed at how quickly Canadian ministries, associations and companies responded to press inquiries and how professionally they communicated. Even if they didn't provide all the answers right away, they at least got back to me on the same day with an individual acknowledgment of receipt, while many press departments in Germany usually didn't hear anything for days.

Even if the Globe newsroom was still fairly quiet in August due to the holiday season, significantly more colleagues came to the office than just a few months ago. The finance team from Report on Business in particular came by regularly, so that there were a few opportunities for short talks, lunch in the in-house kitchen or a beer together after work.

The fabulous view of Toronto's skyscrapers from my desk was another reason to come to the newsroom in person every day. But the great view is by no means guaranteed. New high-rise buildings were popping up everywhere, including right in front of the Globe building. Hammering, drilling, roadblocks accompanied me every day on my way to work, which I covered by bike. I really had no doubt that Toronto is the city with the most cranes in North America.

Toronto is Canada's New York, business-savvy, fast, vibrant, with a powerful financial district whose streets resemble Manhattan and wild entertainment districts. The city has too

their own Times Square with huge illuminated billboards, called Jonge Dundas Square. Most employees have relatively few vacation days but enjoy going out and spending their money on heavily taxed, expensive alcohol and expensive dining out.

Working for a Canadian daily newspaper in Toronto also means watching a baseball game with your co-workers at least once. I was invited to the stadium for a Blue Jays game by my team at ROB. Among the journalists at the Globe there are many Blue Jays fans, even if their success is inconsistent. However, they won this game and the atmosphere was excellent.

As Globe Editor-in-Chief David Walmsley told me, he encourages all reporters and editors to analyze the articles and how they perform with readers. The newspaper bought software called Sophi, which provides data on subscriptions, page views, reading times, social media and much more. It is intended to help generate more subscriptions, i.e. to win new paying readers for subscriptions - the most important currency for success at the Globe.

The Globe and Mail outsources key editorial work not directly related to article writing. The layout of the print pages is created by an external company, as is the online design of the articles. This is a completely different approach than is usual in German newspapers, where these areas are an integral part of daily editorial work and are also taken over by writing journalists.

In September I traveled to Ottawa for three days and visited the Capital Office of The Globe and Mail. With Office Manager Robert Fife I attended MPs meetings and discussions in the House of Commons. That's where I met the newly elected one Conservative opposition leader, Pierre Poilievre, with whom I was able to speak briefly. He appeared very confident of victory and hopes to be able to replace Trudeau as prime minister in the future.

During the visit to the capital, I was invited to the German Ambassador Sabine Sparwasser to celebrate German reunification. In the garden of the embassy residence, there was an opportunity to discuss Canada's relations with Germany and the current energy crisis with diplomats, managers and journalists.

On the weekends, I often took the ferry to the Toronto Islands to enjoy the island's view of the city backdrop. It was also worth taking a rental car to Niagara Falls, two hours from Toronto, and to the wine region around the small town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. There are even several German wineries that I was able to visit. The stories of the winemakers are also stories about Canada as a country of immigration and dreams of self-realization as entrepreneurs.

The friendliness of the Canadians was omnipresent, the greeting "How are you doing today?" sometimes seemed superficial, but superficial friendliness is better than none at all.

Toronto struck me as the positive version of a multicultural society, free of discrimination and religion, a sense of community that comes from a willingness to work and contribute. A large number of first-generation immigrants with a high willingness to perform have come to Toronto in recent years, especially from Asia. I thought to myself that if I had to or wanted to emigrate, Canada would be a good option. There would have been many other topics for me to fill a longer stay. I live and work in Toronto

really enjoyed it and made new friends. I will never forget the two months and am very grateful for this experience.

Texts for The Globe and Mail

AUGUST 3, 2022: German chancellor reveals Canadian-repaired turbine in bid to end standoff with Russia <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-german-chancellor-urges-russia-to-take-back-turbine-released-from/>

AUGUST 9, 2022: Germany debates lifting fracking ban as it confronts energy supply crisis <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-germany-debates-lifting-fracking-ban-as-it-confronts-energy-supply/>

AUGUST 13, 2022: Trudeau, Scholz to sign agreement exploring hydrogen fuel production in Canada for export to Germany <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-trudeau-scholz-to-sign-agreement-exploring-hydrogen-fuel-production-in/>

AUGUST 16, 2022: Canadian, German business groups call for stronger partnership on energy and minerals ahead of Scholz visit <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-germany-canada-energy-lng/>

AUGUST 18, 2022: Germany will not discuss rapid expansion of LNG exports during visit to Canada [Germany will not discuss rapid expansion of LNG exports during visit to Canada - The Globe and Mail](https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-germany-will-not-discuss-rapid-expansion-of-lng-exports-during-visit-to-canada/)

AUGUST 19, 2022: Nova Scotia LNG contract no longer a focal point for Germany's Uniper <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-lng-natural-gas-supply-germany-canada/>

AUGUST 22, 2022: Trudeau casts doubt on idea of shipping natural gas from East Coast to Germany <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-justin-trudeau-german-chancellor-olaf-scholz-energy/>

AUGUST 23, 2022: Nova Scotia's EverWind signs green ammonia deal with Germany's Uniper <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-nova-scotia-everwind-green-ammonia-uniper/>

AUGUST 31, 2022: Germany calls Russia's Nord Stream pipeline maintenance 'incomprehensible,' fears shutdown may continue <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-siemens-energy-turbine-germany-canada/>

SEPTEMBER 16, 2022: Germany seizes control of Russian-owned oil refineries <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/article-germany-seizes-control-of-russian-owned-oil-refineries/>

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022: Could Germany's impending cannabis legalization prop up Canada's flagging producers? <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-could-germanys-impending-cannabis-legalization-prop-up-canadas/>

SEPTEMBER 27, 2022: Anxiety rises in Germany as residents prepare for winter without Russian gas <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-germany-russia-gas-energy-crisis/>

Podcast The Decibel (Globe and Mail)

August 23, 2022 [Why Germany needs Canada's help with its energy - The Globe and Mail](https://www.theglobeandmail.com/podcast/article-why-germany-needs-canada-help-energy/)

Texts for Handelsblatt

08/10/2022 Canada shortlisted as possible location for new Tesla factory

<https://www.handelsblatt.com/politik/international/elektromobilitaet-kanada-als-possible-location-for-new-tesla-factory-in-the-engeren-wahl/28587196.html>

August 11, 2022 Energy partnership: Habeck is traveling to Canada with Scholz in August

<https://www.handelsblatt.com/politik/deutschland/alternativen-fuer-russian-gas-energy-partnership-habeck-reist-im-august-mit-scholz-nach-kanada/28594434.html>

08/17/2022 Why a fast energy deal between Germany and Canada is unrealistic

<https://www.handelsblatt.com/politik/deutschland/wasserstoff-und-fluessiggas-werum-ein-Schnelles-Energiegeschaefte-between-germany-und-kanada-is-unrealistic-/28602214.html>

August 22, 2022 Chancellor's trip: Oh, how beautiful Canada is

<https://www.handelsblatt.com/politik/deutschland/kanzlerreise-oh-wie-schoen-ist-kanada/28614856.html>

08/24/2022 Scholz and Trudeau sign agreement: From 2025 hydrogen is to come from Canada

[-canada-come/28621246.html](#)

08/23/2022 Eon and Uniper want to source green ammonia from Canada

<https://www.handelsblatt.com/unternehmen/energie/energiewende-eon-und-uniper-wollen-gruenes-ammoniak-aus-kanada-bezuege/28619990.html>

August 24, 2022 Plan worth billions: VW wants to invest in raw material mines in Canada

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09/27/2022 Canada's cannabis companies are hoping for the German market

<https://www.handelsblatt.com/politik/international/legalisierungs-kanadas-cannabis-unternehmen-Hoffnung-auf-den-deutschen-markt/28693900.html>

10/10/2022 Canada's economy is on a downward slide - economists expect recession despite energy [wealth](#) .html