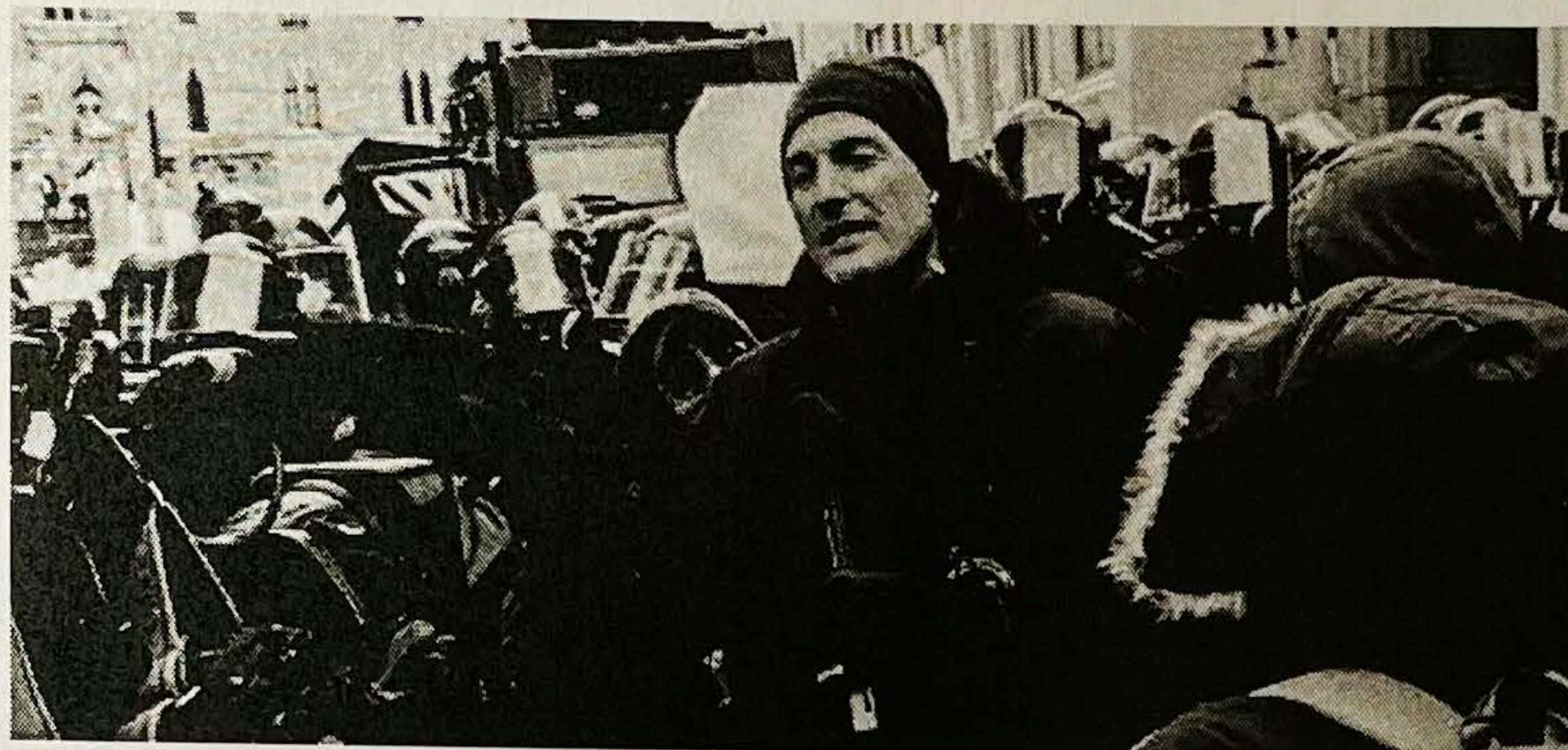




Mike Lapointe

Heard On The Hill

Veteran journalist Evan Solomon heading to NYC to join Eurasia Group, assume GZERO Media publisher role



Veteran political journalist Evan Solomon, pictured during his coverage of the 'Freedom Convoy' in downtown Ottawa in February 2022, will be heading to New York City to assume the role of publisher of the Eurasia Group's GZERO Media. Photograph courtesy of Twitter

Political journalist Evan Solomon is heading south of the border to take the helm of GZERO Media in New York City, in a move announced earlier this week.

Ian Bremmer, president and founder of Eurasia Group and GZERO Media, said in a statement: "with so much happening so quickly in the world, Evan's extensive background in digital media and global politics is uniquely relevant. His journalistic and editorial prowess coupled with his brand-building expertise will be an immense asset to Eurasia Group as GZERO Media continues to grow and deliver trusted, balanced coverage."

"Being part of the extraordinary CTV News teams as host of *Power Play* and *Question Period*, and on Bell Media radio stations, has been the honour of a lifetime," said Solomon, who will be the GZERO Media publisher and a member of the Eurasia Group's management committee. "No group of people take the responsibility of delivering trusted news to Canadians more seriously."

"Most importantly, I want to thank our audiences for your ongoing engagement, your trust, and your passion for the debates and stories that matter so much to this country," he said. "I'm thrilled that as I begin an exciting new chapter at Eurasia Group and GZERO Media in New York City, I will remain as a Special Correspondent to CTV News. It's a long road and a small world, so I know we will all stay closely connected."

Solomon also served as host of the iHeartRadio/Bell Media daily nationally syndicated radio program *The Evan Solomon Show*.

Gerald Butts, who served as the principal secretary to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau from 2015 to 2019, and is now the vice-chairman of Eurasia Group,

tweeted that he was "beyond excited to share this big news."

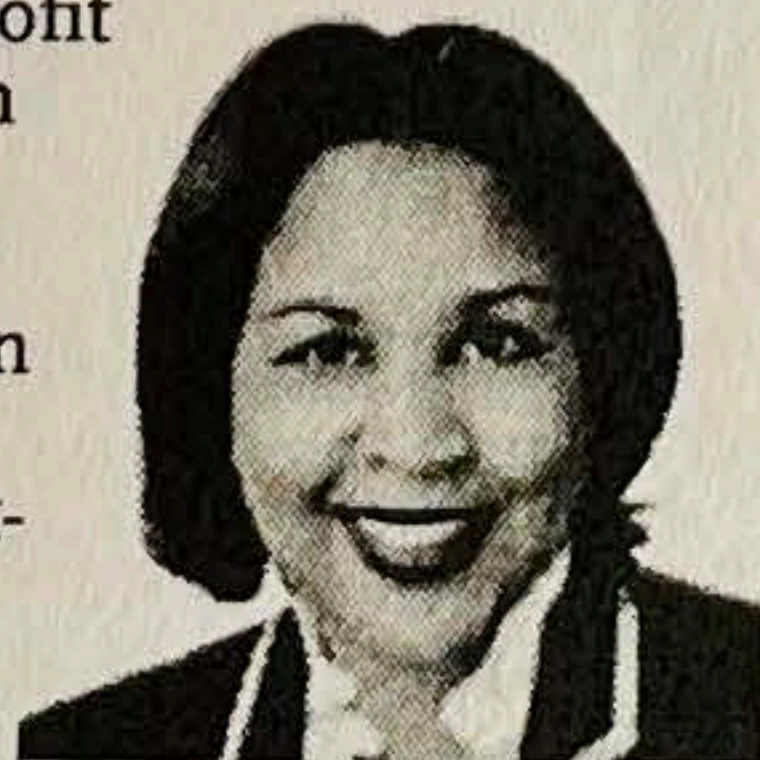
Solomon "is one of the smartest and best people anywhere," said Butts. "Thrilled to welcome him into the leadership of @gzeromedia and onto the senior team @EurasiaGroup."

"Big loss for @CTVNews & big get for @EurasiaGroup," tweeted *Globe and Mail's* Ottawa bureau chief Bob Fife. "@EvanLSolomon is one of the hardest working & smartest newshounds in the business. Plus a loyal friend and all-around nice guy. Congratulations."

Solomon's appointment will be effective on Oct. 17, and he will be based in Eurasia Group's New York City office. The company focuses on analysis of global political risk, including in developed and developing countries in every region of the world, specific economic sectors, and the "business and investment playing fields of the future."

Surveying Black Canadians who have run for public office

A non-profit organization that encourages Black people to run for public office is partnering with researchers from three universities on the first comprehensive study of why so few Black Canadians hold elected office.



Velma Morgan is the chair of Operation Black Vote Canada. Photograph courtesy of Twitter

Velma Morgan, chair of Operation Black Vote Canada (OBVC), and Erin Tolley, Canada Research Chair in gender, race, and inclusive politics, pointed out in an Oct. 3 press release that only 19 Black Canadians have ever been elected to Parliament, along with only a handful of mayors and no provincial premiers.

Tolley, an associate professor of political science at Carleton University, told *The Hill Times* the researchers intend to launch a survey in November for Black Canadians who have run for elected office at the school board, municipal, provincial, and federal levels over the past 20 years.

"One of the biggest challenges in this research is just identifying who the pool of respondents are," said Tolley, since there are no comprehensive lists of racialized candidates or Black candidates. She said OBVC has compiled lists of previous candidates, and the project currently has a list of approximately 250 people.

Tolley encouraged interested participants to sign up at blackcanadianpolitics.ca. "If they are a Black Canadian who has run for office and they'd be willing to share their experiences with us, we'd love to hear from them."

Connolly takes new Global role

Amanda Connolly is Global News' new managing editor for politics and breaking news, she announced on Oct. 3.

Connolly has been a national online political journalist operating out of Global's Hill bureau since 2017. Her new role is still based in Ottawa, she said.

"This team is doing incredible work and I am so excited for this new chance to shape and guide

the stories to come," she said in a tweet.

"These stories are ones deeply rooted in accountability for those who seek and hold power. Stories about the threats facing democracy, press freedom, human rights and equality. Stories amplifying voices too often silenced or ignored."

Prior to joining the Global team, Connolly three years with *iPolitics*, where her work on the Syrian refugee crisis won her the 2015 European Union-Canada Young Journalist Fellowship. Connolly has also previously reported for the CBC in Calgary.

David Baxter also had some news to share on Oct. 3, announcing that his role in the Ottawa bureau as a national news producer is now a permanent one, after filling the role on a freelance basis for the past year for *Global National* and *The West Block*.

Prior to moving to Ottawa, Baxter spent six years covering the Saskatchewan legislature, amongst other news, at *Global Regina*.

Former GG Adrienne Clarkson joins National Institute on Ageing advisory board



Former governor general Adrienne Clarkson, left, with former prime minister Paul Martin. *The Hill Times* file photograph

Former governor general Adrienne Clarkson has taken on the honorary chairmanship of the National Institute on Ageing, effective Oct. 1—the UN International Day of Older Persons.

The 26th governor general of Canada, 83, tweeted that she was delighted to take on the role, as

it is a "vital and urgent issues for Canada today." The institute is a think tank run out of Toronto Metropolitan University.

"The reason why I want to work with the National Institute on Ageing is that I want to make sure that people have as much opportunity, as they age, to do as much as they want to do, and that they're not held back because of not being able to access health care or not having enough resources," Clarkson said in a release.

The former broadcaster said she aims to bring to the role a focus on equity in aging, especially as it applies to women, immigrants and other marginalized groups, and to harness the untapped potential of older Canadians to contribute meaningfully to public life.

"I want to help us all rethink the way we look at aging, and the way we look at the years that are supposed to be 'non-productive' after retirement," she said.

Finalists for the Balsillie Prize announced

Finalists for the Balsillie Prize, an annual award honouring a book of nonfiction that advances and influences policy debates on a wide range of social, political, economic, or cultural topics relevant to Canadians have been announced, with the winner set to receive \$60,000 and finalists set to see \$5,000.

John Lorinc, author of *Dream States: Smart Cities, Technology, and the Pursuit of Urban Utopias*; Jean Marmoreo and Johanna Schneller, authors of *The Last Doctor: Lessons in Living from the Front Lines of Medical Assistance in Dying*; Kent Roach, author of *Canadian Policing: Why and How it Must Change*; Vaclav Smil, author of *How the World Really Works: The Science Behind How We Got Here and Where We're Going*; and Kim Stanton, author of *Reconciling Truths: Reimagining Public Inquiries in Canada* have all made the shortlist.

This year's prize's jury consisted of author and War Child Canada and War Child USA founder Samantha Nutt, Canada School of Public Service president Taki Sarantakis, and digital strategist and research consultant Scott Young.

"These books provide new and thoughtful ideas for a better future for all Canadians," said Jim Balsillie, former chair and co-CEO of Research In Motion (BlackBerry) in a statement. "My hope is the shortlist will inspire discussions and debate at home and in policy communities that ultimately contribute to the development of smart public policy for our country."

The shortlist was announced on Sept. 28, with the winner set to be announced Nov. 29.

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