

The 2026 Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference



Canada Needs **Bold Leadership**. This Conference Builds It.

In a time of global uncertainty, Canada needs bold, thoughtful leaders ready to shape a better future.

The Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference (GGCLC) brings together 240 emerging leaders from business, labour, government, and community for a two-week, cross-country journey. In small, cross-sector groups, participants visit communities, hear from citizens, and explore the real-life complexities facing Canadians today.

It's leadership in action - an immersive experience in dialogue, discovery, and decision-making that broadens your perspective, deepens your understanding, and inspires leadership with clarity and purpose.

Apply by September 30 and take your place among Canada's next generation of leaders:
www.leadershipcanada.ca

Key Features:



240 participants from every province and territory, representing Canada's diversity, potential, and future.



Cross-sector teams across business, labour, public service, non-profit, and more.



Experiential study tours to communities across Canada.



High-profile speakers and dynamic plenary sessions.

2026 Conference Format

May 22 – 24

Opening Plenary

Québec City, QC

May 25 – June 2

Study Tours

Across Canada

June 3 – 5

Closing Plenary

Ottawa, ON

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I learned so much from the people we met, and from my fellow travellers. I can't recommend it highly enough.

— Naheed Nenshi (2008), Former Mayor of Calgary



The Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference • La Conférence canadienne du Gouverneur général sur le leadership



Fondation
Rideau Hall
Foundation



Who Should Apply?

This Leadership Development Program is for you if:

- You are an emerging leader with a track record of impact, expected to ascend to a senior role in the next decade.
- You want to better understand Canada's current priorities, to increase your civic awareness and contribute to your country's future.
- You are willing to listen, engage in dialogue, challenge ideas, and grow.

What You'll Gain:

- **Deep Insights:** Visit communities across Canada. Learn from business, labour, Indigenous leaders, governments, NGOs, communities and more.
- **Unmatched Network:** Join a cross-sector cohort and a 40-year alumni community dedicated to creating and shaping change nationwide.
- **New Perspectives:** Build trust and gain a deeper understanding of national issues across regions, industries, communities, and cultures.
- **Real Impact:** Return with sharpened leadership skills, fresh thinking, expanded views and a renewed sense of purpose for Canada.

Costs and Commitment:

- All travel, meals, and accommodations during the Conference are covered.
- Participants only cover the cost of travel to Québec City and from Ottawa.
- Full-time participation for the full two weeks is mandatory.

Eligibility:

- Open to Canadian citizen and permanent residents
- Must be able to attend the full two-week Conference
- Endorsement by employer, organisation or someone that can attest to your leadership potential (if self-employed)



Applications Close September 30, 2025.



There is no other opportunity in Canada where emerging leaders get to test their skills, build their awareness... and meet other engaged individuals from across the country.

- Alissa Barton (2015),
Vice-President, Human Resources, Infrastructure Ontario



The GGCLC was a transformative experience that forever changed me. It will challenge you to your core. The GGCLC is something you must experience.

~ Gail Banister-Clarke (2017), Executive Member,
The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario

