

PROGRAM SCHEDULE
for the 49th annual

NATIONAL STUDENT
COMMONWEALTH FORUM

OTTAWA, ONTARIO

April 28th - May 3rd, 2024



*“The Commonwealth makes
the world safe for diversity”
- Nelson Mandela*

Canada



Program details are subject to change

NSCF's Overall objective - Building Strong Relationships across Canada & The Commonwealth.

In order to realize one's full potential, relationships are key to our need for a sense of connection and belonging, along with our need to feel valued and respected by others.

Getting to know each other and learn about our shared interests and values is exciting and helps us unite and grow together.

The foundation of any relationship is based on trust, open communication, and mutual respect. These three factors are essential for all relationships to thrive, grow, and resolve conflicts that may arise. This is true among friends, colleagues, and The Commonwealth as we build consensus on a better way forward.

49th NSCF “Reflecting on our Heritage” PRE-EVENT ZOOM WORKSHOPS (Who are We) April 6 & 7, 2024

Saturday, April 6th – Who are we?

Reminders For today:

- This pre-event workshop will be *virtual*.
- As a pluralistic society, Canada respects multiple viewpoints in terms of cultural, ethnic, linguistic, religious and political diversity as a source of creativity, innovation and resilience.
- The purpose today is to get to know each other and explore our diversity and what we have in common.
- We will explore: Who we are, our diverse and inclusive society, how to build consensus on a better way forward, and our National Identity.
- Using a combination of presentations, focused reflection, and interactive polls/surveys.

WELCOME /INTRODUCTION

Acknowledgment of the unceded lands of the original Canadian inhabitants (as established in King George III's Proclamation of 1763).

Respect for Diversity/Inclusion
- a review of NSCF safety and security standards

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

- Home Group Breakouts

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THE MAKEUP OF OUR NATIONAL IDENTITY

Reflecting on Canada's Heritage:

- 1867 Constitution Act exploring the foundation of our democratic institutions, our shared values, and the rule of Law

How Canada's regional diversity (geography) has shaped socio/economic growth within our communities (Regional Team, Slide shows)

- How 150 Years of Immigration shapes who we are as Canadians (ethnic, linguistic, diversity)
 - Chief Statistician of Canada, Anil Arora

LUNCH BREAK

- Inclusion: 2 key acts that preserve our linguistic duality, and multicultural heritage

CANADA'S NATIONAL IDENTITY – “From Diversity to Unity”

- How the World Sees Us: “2nd Best Country in the World in 2023”

- What Are We Most Proud Of? (Survey & discussion)

Sunday, April 7th – Indigenous Reconciliation, the evolving relationship between the Crown and Indigenous Rights

Reminders For today:

- This pre-Forum workshop will be virtual.
- The Royal Proclamation of George III in 1763, recognized the Crown's sovereignty over the whole of North America, but it also recognized the rights of Indigenous peoples to their lands and established a process for the negotiation of treaties with them, and reconciling disputes.
- The purpose of this workshop is to understand the frameworks that define how we share the land; and the process for reconciliation of disputes.
- using a combination of presentations, focused reflection, and real-time polls/surveys.

Acknowledgment of the unceded lands of the original Canadian inhabitants

Principles respecting the Government of Canada's relationship with Indigenous peoples

-Aboriginal Title

New B.C. Treaties (Self-Government)

-Treaty Rights

Mi'kmaq (right to fish out of season)

-Duty to Consult on shared use

Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada

(Consensus-based co-governance)

– Justice Canada

Acknowledging wrongs of the past

-Indian Act encroachment on Aboriginal Rights

“21 Things You Didn't know about the Indian Act”

- Bob Joseph

LUNCH BREAK

Truth and Reconciliation Commission - UPDATE

Canadian Residential Schools an attempt at Cultural genocide –Senator Murray Sinclair, Chair

49th NSCF
“Shaping our Future”
Democracy in Action – Climate Change Policy Development
Ottawa In-Person Event. (Experiential learning)

Saturday April 27th – Out-of-Town Delegates arrive in Ottawa

Sunday, April 28th – Discussion On Pluralism

Reminders For today:

- Wear comfortable (running) shoes during the day and BRING WATER, HAT AND SUNSCREEN... or a jacket and an umbrella (check the weather beforehand)!

| Time | Location | Dress code |
|---------------------|--|------------|
| 9:00am until 4:00pm | Desmarais Building, 55 Laurier Avenue East, Room 1120 - University of Ottawa | Casual |

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|----------------|--|-----------------|
| 9:00-9:30 AM | Delegate Registration | |
| 9:30-9:45 AM | Acknowledgement that Ottawa is situated on un-ceded Anishinabe Algonquin territory - Claudette Commanda, Chancellor of University of Ottawa and an Algonquin Anishinabe | |
| 9:45-10:30 AM | Co-Chair remarks & Icebreakers <i>Provincial/Territorial Songs</i> | |
| 10:30-11:00 AM | Home Group Meetings & Cheers | |
| 11:00-12:15 PM | Commonwealth Trivia Game | |
| 12:15-1:00 PM | LUNCH (provided) | |
| 1:00-2:15 PM | Canada and The Commonwealth – Royal Commonwealth Society, Basil Crozier Commonwealth consensus, respects diversity and inclusion, working towards common purpose - Builds Trust and stronger relationships. | |
| 2:15-3:00 PM | NSCF: Action Planning | |
| 3:00-4:45 PM | Amazing Race (Historic Landmarks) | Downtown Ottawa |
| 4:45-5:30 PM | Global Centre for Pluralism, Secretary General – Meredith | 330 Sussex Dr |

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Preston McGhie
 - Engaging in dialogue with marginalized viewpoints and multiple perspectives.

Monday, April 29th – Introduction to Theme

Reminders for today:

- BRING PHOTO ID WITH YOU TO GET THROUGH SECURITY!
- Either wear business or heritage clothing all day or bring a change of clothes with you as you cannot go home before the Senate debate.

| Time | Location | Dress code |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 9:00am until 4:15pm | Desmarais Building, 55 Laurier Ave East, Room 1120 - University of Ottawa | Formal Business or Heritage Clothing |
| 5:00pm until 10:00pm | Senate of Canada: 2 Rideau Street | Formal Business or Heritage Clothing |

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| 9:00-9:05 AM | Acknowledgment: Ottawa is situated on un-ceded Anishinabe Algonquin territory. | DMS 1120 |
| 9:05-9:30 AM | Opening Address by The Governor General of Canada, Mary Simon | |
| 9:30-10:30 AM | Policy Development Workshop – Director General of International Organizations, Global Affairs Canada, Emi Furuya (Consulting stakeholders; Drafting CHGOM Resolutions; Negotiating/Building Consensus) | |
| 10:30-12:20 PM | Home Group Meetings (Resolutions Part I) - <i>Between Tours</i> | |
| 10:30 (35 min walk) | Group 1 Parliament Tour | Parliament Hill |
| 10:55 (35 min walk) | Group 2 Parliament Tour | |
| 11:00 (35 min walk) | Group 3 Parliament Tour | |
| 11:55, 12:00, 12:20 | Group tours end | |
| 12:30-1:15 PM | LUNCH (buy/ bring your own) | |
| 1:15-3:00 PM | Attend Question Period - MUST meet at Centennial Flame at 1:15pm sharp | |
| 3:00-3:30 PM | Travel from Parliament Hill to uOttawa | |
| 3:30-4:15 PM | Box Game (collaboration challenge) | |
| 4:15-5:00 PM | DINNER BREAK – you MUST stay downtown | Downtown |
| 5:00 PM SHARP | Group Pictures on Parliament Hill (don't be late!) | Parliament Hill |
| 5:30-6:30 PM | Senate Security Check-in | |
| 6:30-10:00 PM | Senate Debate –Delegates debate current Canadian Issues Host Senator Ratna Omidvar | Senate of Canada Building: 2 Rideau Street |

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Tuesday, April 30th – Networking: MPs, High Commissions, Global Affairs

Reminders for today:

- BRING PHOTO ID WITH YOU, TO GET THROUGH SECURITY!
- Do not be late for your HC meeting and have some questions prepared!
- You will be in formal business attire all day. It is suggested to bring a change of shoes for travelling between venues.

| Time | Location | Dress code |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 8:30 am until 1:00pm | Desmarais Building, 55 Laurier Ave East, Room 1120 - University of Ottawa | Formal Business or Heritage Attire |
| High Commissions Visits | Everywhere - Maps will be provided by PT | Formal Business or Heritage Attire |
| 5:00pm until 7:00pm | Courtyard, East Block - Parliament Hill | Formal Business or Heritage Attire |

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| | Acknowledgment: Ottawa is situated on un-ceded Anishinabe Algonquin territory. | |
| 8:30-8:40 AM | Protocol for Country Team visits to High Commissions | DMS 1120 |
| 8:40-9:40 AM | Climate Change – Canada’s Chief Negotiator, Michael Bonser IPCC goals; approach; and solutions to climate change | |
| 9:40-10:40AM | Sim Game (resolving an international incident - role playing, diverse perspectives) | |
| 10:40-11:00 AM | Travel to Parliament Hill / Security | |
| 11-12:00 PM | Multi-Party, MP Discussion on Climate Change | Parliament Hill |
| 12:00-1:00 PM | LUNCH (provided by PT) Photo Review/ Awards Ceremony of Amazing Race | |
| 1:00-1:15 PM | Home Group Meeting (Resolutions II) | DMS 1120 |
| 1:15-4:00 PM | High Commission and Global Affairs Desk Officer visits | Downtown |
| 1:15-4:00 PM | After scheduled visit to GAC or HC you have the opportunity work on resolutions with your Country partner | |

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| 4:30 PM | Arrive at Parliament Hill | Parliament Hill |
| 5-7:00 PM | MP BBQ on the Hill - Commonwealth Parliamentary Association - Canadian Branch | Courtyard, East Block, Parliament Hill |

Wednesday, May 1st – Preparation for CHOGM

Reminders for today:

- Make sure to come up with some Resolutions with your partner for the Resolution Session today.
- Note that we have a speaker right away. Don't be late so you are not rudely interrupting.

| Time | Location | Dress code |
|--------------|---|------------|
| All Day | Desmarais Building, 55 Laurier Ave East, Room 1130 - University of Ottawa | Casual |
| 2:15-6:00 pm | Museum or Rideau Hall (Ottawa) | Casual |

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| 8:30 AM | Acknowledgment: Ottawa is situated on un-ceded Anishinabe Algonquin territory. | DMS 1130 |
| 9:00-10:00 AM | Stakeholder Interests Panel (NGO, Industry)- David Suzuki Foundation One Nature; RealPart Canada (AgriSolar) | |
| 10:00-10:30 AM | CHOGM No No's | |
| 10:30-11:30 AM | Theme discussion & Resolutions Part III Finalize with Partners & Resolution Seconding | |
| 11:30-12:00 PM | Home Group Meeting | |
| 12:00-12:45 PM | LUNCH (provided by PT) - Delegates should talk to friends to see what museum they want to go to & finalize drafting of Resolutions that will be collected during Home Group | |
| 12:45-2:15 PM | CHOGM Overview / Simulation | |
| 2:15 PM | Depart for Tour of Rideau Hall or Museum Visit | |

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Thursday, May 2nd – Commonwealth Heads of Government Mtg

- Model CHOGM hosted by Global Affairs Canada.
- Country teams take on the roles of Head of State and Foreign Minister to represent their Commonwealth country's interests - in putting forward and building consensus on Commonwealth resolutions to build a better way forward for all.
- **Reminders for today:** It will take you extra time to get to the CHOGM location; plan your route carefully and make sure to leave early!

| Time | Location | Dress code |
|-----------|---|---|
| 9:00-4:30 | Global Affairs Canada: 111 Sussex Drive | Formal Business or Heritage Attire |
| 6:00-7:30 | British High Commissioner's Residence | Formal Business or Heritage Attire |

Acknowledgment: Ottawa is situated on un-ceded Anishinabe Algonquin territory.

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| 9:00 AM | Delegates arrive at Global Affairs for CHOGM | Global Affairs Canada 111 Sussex Dr. |
| 9:15-9:30 AM | Commonwealth Deputy Secretary General's Video Address to Delegates Commonwealth of Learning Video Address to Delegates | |
| 9:30-9:40 AM | CHOGM Opening Address | |
| 9:40-12:45 PM | 1st Plenary Session (first set of Resolutions) | |
| 12:45-1:45 PM | Lunch (bring your own, or buy in building cafeteria) | |
| 1:45-4:30 PM | 2nd Plenary Session (second set of Resolutions) | |
| 4:30-4:45 PM | CHOGM Closing Address | |
| 5:00-5:30 PM | Home group photos | |
| 6:00-7:30 PM | British High Commissioner's Reception – Susannah Goshko Commonwealth policy dialogue *Light refreshments and appetizers will be served | 240 Sussex Dr. |

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Friday, May 3rd – Putting the Week in Perspective

| Time | Location | Dress code |
|------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 9:00am – 1:00pm | Desmarais Building, 55 Laurier Avenue East, Room 1130 - University of Ottawa | Casual |
| 6:30pm – 11:00pm | Gala Dinner LAGO Bar and Grill, 1001 Queen Elizabeth Dr | Formal Business or Heritage Attire |

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| 9:00 AM | Acknowledgment: Ottawa is situated on un-ceded Anishinabe Algonquin territory. | DMS 1130 |
| 9:00-10:15 AM | Youth Community Engagement Opportunity Fair | |
| 10:15-10:30 | Duke of Edinburgh’s Awards – giving back to the community | |
| 10:30-11:15 AM | Canadian Heritage Evaluations | |
| 11:15-12:00 PM | Strengthening NSCF Relationships - Discussion | |
| 12:00-1:00 PM | LUNCH (provided by PT) | |
| 1:00 PM | Workshop on Youth Community Engagement - discussing next steps Speakers: Jeff Leiper: Ottawa City Councilor for Kitchissippi Ward and NSCF Alumni Leah Davidson of Sherbrooke, Quebec and Mesgna Mesgna of Winnipeg, Canada’s Commonwealth Youth Council delegates for 2022 Commonwealth Heads of Meetings (CHOGM) - | |
| CLOSING | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Next Steps: NSCF delegate Poll on top 3 topics for youth engagement followup. - Complete Delegate Exit Survey for Canadian Heritage | |
| 6:30 PM-12 AM | NSCF Gala Dinner/ Dance | LAGO |

Saturday, May 4th - Out-of-Town Delegates depart