



Fondation
Rideau Hall
Foundation



Igniting Our Shared Potential

**The Right Honourable David Johnston,
28th Governor General of Canada,
Chair of the RHF Board**

The Rideau Hall Foundation (RHF) is celebrating a milestone 10th anniversary this year. The foundation was born from the idea of building a smarter and more caring nation, of connecting people and ideas, and of shining a light on Canadian excellence.

We have made strides in all of these areas. We have forged connections with, between and among individuals, organizations and causes that share our belief in, and commitment to, the potential of Canada and Canadians.

But we can always do more. We can always be more. Looking ahead to the next 10 years and beyond, I am hopeful for the future. I am also certain that the RHF's work is more important now than ever.

As we emerge from the turmoil of the last two years, we have an opportunity to think about the role that we want to play as a nation and as individuals in the post-pandemic world; to re-evaluate our priorities and goals for the future.

My reflections have led to a reaffirmation of the central role that both empathy and trust play in our collective future. They form the foundation upon which we can continue to build. Because without trust and empathy, how can we truly connect? And it is these connections that are so vital, maybe even more so right now after two years of feeling so distant from each other and from our communities. I believe that it is these connections that help us turn empathy into action. To turn a feeling into something impactful. Something that has the ability to help and make a difference, whether big or small.

Our key pillars—learning, leadership, giving and innovation—are interconnected, and they have trust and empathy at their foundations. Learners, teachers and leaders are only as successful as the connections they form. Giving has, at its heart, building connections within and across communities. And I think we can only truly be innovative if we connect, break down silos and inspire.

Thank you to all of our partners and supporters who helped establish the Foundation 10 years ago. And thank you to those we continue to work with and

who are helping to make us stronger as we begin our next decade.

Let us look back and be proud of 10 years of making connections through the RHF, and look forward and be inspired to build a smarter and more caring nation.

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Innovation in Supporting Learning Initiatives

When the RHF launched Catapult Canada, we challenged ourselves to be as innovative as possible in our approach to nurturing partnerships. Over the past year, we've honed our philosophy to three key takeaways:

- **Invest early and deeply in measurement and evaluation:** We provide each funded project with supports to adequately measure and tell the story of the impact of their work and what they've learned along the way.
- **Prioritize relationships:** We offer every project we don't fund the opportunity to receive feedback about our decision and process, and to offer us feedback about their experience and where they may disagree with our understanding and assessment of their project. The goal is to better equip them for the next time they describe their project to the outside world, and for us to get better at understanding the diversity of approaches folks are using to eliminate barriers to learning.
- **Promote trust-based partnerships:** We committed to investing in not-for-profits at the same level as registered charities because we believe it is the right path to addressing some of the systemic inequities in our sector, particularly with respect to funding Indigenous and Black-led projects.



The Piruvik Preschool is a 2022 GGIA recipient, as well as the \$1 million winner of the Arctic Inspiration Prize in 2018. Their model allows children to learn at their own pace, providing them with a positive, evidence-based first experience with education that is culturally relevant, while also supporting language revitalization with the active use of Inuktitut.

Catapult Canada: Learning Reimagined

Catapult Canada is a national community-building initiative led by the Rideau Hall Foundation and focused on “Moving Learning Forward” by increasing equity of learning access for Canadian youth. We know how vital it is for all young Canadians to have every opportunity to succeed and to thrive; an underlying goal of the RHF and its commitment to learning equity and excellence. Catapult Canada provides grants, resources and mentorships, enhancing access to learning, training and career paths. Indigenous, Black and racialized youth from first-generation and low-income families, as well as those living in rural-remote locations will benefit most from Catapult. To date, and in partnership with with public and private sectors, we have invested \$9.5 million in 50 innovative youth-serving organizations that will reach more than 40,000 individuals. As

a single destination for everyone working toward the goal of educational equity for all learners, Catapult Canada is a well-placed resource for this unique moment in time. It's an environment that will foster innovation and collaboration, and a space that will amplify a diverse range of voices. The funding arm of Catapult, RHF's Access Innovation Fund, supports innovation in all aspects of learning: seeding new ideas and scaling what's working across the country to create adaptable knowledge for communities. The Fund also comprises a capacity-building element allowing its recipients to create measurable evaluation parameters – benefitting themselves and their sector. There has never been a better time to support every young person in Canada in achieving their learning and career goals as they build the skills they need to be full participants in their communities.

This year, the RHF is celebrating 10 years of working towards building a smarter, more caring Canada. Now is the time to think collectively about some of our most pressing challenges. We invite you to explore how the RHF is helping to address them.

Arctic Inspiration Prize: Celebrating 10 years of Impact

One of this country's best-kept innovation secrets is the story of Canada's North. The RHF is proud to be the managing partner of Canada's largest annual prize, the Arctic Inspiration Prize (AIP). Awarded to projects that tackle issues that are the most meaningful to northern communities, the AIP is owned and governed by the northern-led AIP Charitable Trust and is a community of Indigenous organizations, governments, industry, philanthropy, and many other partners from across the country. This year the AIP celebrated its 10th anniversary by awarding over \$3 million to eight remarkable teams across the North.

The \$1 million prize went to Ilagiitigut anngiangijaqatigiinnirq ilurqusivuttigut, which will bring together elders, addiction counsellors, hunters, scholars and community members to address the root causes of addiction through Inuit values and culture.

AIP category winners (up to \$500K):

- Fish Camp at Happy's Landing
- Hope House
- Indigenous Community Safety Partnership Program
- Supporting Wellbeing
- Tuktoyaktuk Community Climate Resiliency Project

Youth category winners (up to \$100K):

- Indigenous Youth River Guide Training
- Treaty Talks

For more, visit: arcticinspirationprize.ca

2022 Governor General's Innovation Awards Recipients

These awards recognize and celebrate exceptional and transformational innovations that create a positive impact in Canada and inspire the next generation of innovators.

CARBONCURE

Robert Niven, Jennifer Wagner, Dr. George Monkman, Dr. Dean Forgeron

CarbonCure is a global leader in CO2 removal technologies for concrete production – an essential climate solution for companies and countries to meet their net-zero targets.

LIPID NANOPARTICLES

Dr. Pieter R. Cullis, Dr. Michael J. Hope and Dr. Thomas D. Madden

This team's work produced the lipid nanoparticle (LNP) systems that are crucial to the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 mRNA vaccine, boost delivery of cancer drugs to tumours and allow RNA- and DNA-based drugs to be used therapeutically.

APPLYBOARD

Martin Basiri, Meti Basiri and Massi Basiri

ApplyBoard's artificial intelligence improves global access to education by matching international students to programs and institutions that fit their unique background and interests, while increasing visa approval and program acceptance rates.

PIRURVIK PRESCHOOL

Tessa Lochhead, Leah Kippomee, Jeeteeta Merkosak, Karen Nutarak

Nunavut's Pirurvik Preschool pioneered a transformational early childhood education (ECE) initiative that blends Inuit Qaujimaqatigiinniq (Inuit Ways), Inungnuinniq (traditional Inuit child-rearing) with Montessori methods.

BRAINBOX AI

Jean-Simon Venne, Sean Neely, Sam Ramadori

BrainBox AI uses artificial intelligence to optimize HVAC systems in real-time, reducing energy consumption and carbon footprint while enhancing air quality.

DESIRED SENSATION LEVEL (DSL)

Dr. Susan Scollie, Dr. Richard Seewald, Steve Beaulac, Dr. Sheila Moodie, Dr. Marlene Bagatto, Leonard Cornelisse and Shane Moodie

Developed at Western University's National Centre for Audiology, Desired Sensation Level (DSL) is the world's first software to provide children worldwide with greater accuracy in all stages of hearing aid prescription.

FOR FULL PROFILES: INNOVATION.GG.CA

Creating Spaces for Young Leaders

By Teresa Marques
President and CEO, Rideau Hall Foundation

Over the past 10 years, the Rideau Hall Foundation (RHF) has worked with a variety of partners to encourage youth leadership. From Catapult Canada, a program focused on providing equity of access to learning opportunities for young Canadians, to Ingenious+, a new national youth innovation challenge, we have sought out ways to invest in our youth. But now is not the time to rest on our successes.

After two years of disrupted learning and lost experiences, it is more vital than ever that we work with partners in all sectors to create leadership opportunities for all of our young people, including groups who have traditionally been left behind when it comes to programs focused on youth leadership. Specifically, youth with limited family income, those living in rural areas, Indigenous youth and youth from underrepresented groups.

The RHF's new tagline, "Igniting our shared potential", articulates that bold vision for our collective future. Now is the time to invest in all of our young people, to dismantle every barrier to full participation and to create multiple pathways to engagement and leadership.

“So many of our youth are already engaged in the global equality, climate change, and racial justice issues that matter the most to them. We have to meet them where they are, and we have to provide them with opportunities to deepen their engagement.”

In partnership with the Samara Centre for Democracy, the RHF studied the impact of the pandemic on youth democratic engagement. In *Learning Loss as Civic Loss: Addressing the Generational Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Youth Democratic Engagement*, we looked at the state of youth civic learning and engagement, as well as the potential impacts—for them and for our nation—going forward. And we looked at how we could address those impacts.

One important takeaway is that we have to rethink how we define leadership and provide more accessible pathways to participation. What if we move away from creating individual leaders and focus instead on removing barriers for youth to engage locally and in support of their communities? By shifting the spotlight away from individuals to networks, neighbourhoods, and the overall collective, we start to move away from a leadership model that focuses on and rewards personal achievement. This alone might encourage a wider, more representative set of young Canadians to participate as creative organizers, decision-makers, and active contributors in their local communities. Given the size, diversity, resources, strength of our industries and stability of our country, this approach stands to reinforce a uniquely “made in Canada” paradigm of leadership development that leverages Canada's many assets.

So many of our youth are already engaged in global equality, climate change, and racial justice issues that matter most to them: Faith Dickerson, who started Cuddles for Cancer; Vishal Vijay, who started EveryChildNow and raised over \$100,000 to help children living in extreme poverty; and of course, Autumn Peltier, clean water and Indigenous rights activist, just to name a very few. Let's meet these young people – and the countless others innovating and engaging across the country and around the world – where they are, on their own terms, and work to remove any barriers to the transformative impact they can achieve.

The Rideau Hall Foundation is a registered national charity that brings together ideas, people and resources to enhance the impact of the Office of the Governor General as a central institution of Canadian democracy. Working towards a better Canada, the RHF celebrates what is best about Canada while working with partners to meaningfully improve lives and foster the conditions for more Canadians to succeed and thrive.

Learn more at rhf-frh.ca

FOCUS ON FIVE ISSUES:

1. Making innovation a part of Canadians' everyday lives

Ensuring innovation is part of Canadians' everyday lives is the cornerstone to our country's growth and success. In making space for innovation, the Rideau Hall Foundation recognizes exceptional and transformative Canadian innovators, thought leaders, and achievements, inspiring the next generation of innovators.

2. Closing the gap in educational equity

While many young Canadians receive an education beyond high school, significant gaps persist in the post-secondary participation and attainment rates of many young people, including those with a lower family income, those living in rural areas, some ethnic minority groups, and Indigenous youth. The Rideau Hall Foundation is committed to helping create a more equitable Canada where everyone can chart their own path and reach their fullest potential.

3. Strengthening our democracy in a time of threat

Youth civic engagement, robust public service journalism and trust in our public institutions are some of the hallmarks of a thriving democracy. And in a time of increasing polarization, the Rideau Hall Foundation is committed to showing Canadians why these institutions are important.

4. Creating space for young leaders

Creating leadership opportunities for young Canadians requires a concerted effort from all sectors. Investing in young people, dismantling barriers, and creating pathways for them to succeed and become leaders is paramount to staving off feelings of apathy and complacency. This is how the Rideau Hall Foundation will ignite the shared potential of Canada's next generation.

5. Encouraging a more giving nation

Giving is learned behaviour, and it can come in all kinds of shapes and sizes. The Rideau Hall Foundation believes that we can all turn our empathy into action to build stronger and more connected communities. Through a variety of partnerships and programs, we look for ways to encourage giving as a collective value we can all nurture and grow.