



Professional Development Conference 2024

Learning by Adventure

7-9 June | Ottawa,
2024 | Ontario

experiencescanada.ca/pd-conference/



Main Activities

- Workshops/talks on wide range of youth-relevant topics as well as details of planning a reciprocal Youth Exchange.
- A panel with our diverse Youth Advisory Council members about their Exchange experiences alongside a Q&A.
- Sessions led by veteran Group Organizers (GOs) about their experiences over the years including what to expect when traveling with 30 youth and fundraising.
- Inspirational keynote address from Olympian, activist, and respected speaker, Waneek Horn-Miller on Indigenous health and reconciliation.



Keynote Presenter:
**Waneek
Horn-Miller**

“It was such a great learning adventure and making new connections is always such a treat. I was honoured to be a small part of it and look forward to being a bigger part next time around.”

-2023 PD Participant

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Watch the PD Conference 2023 Video



**Exchanges Champion Organizer,
PD Conference 2023 Presenter
Stephanie MacKay
Grand Prairie, AB**

Expected Outcomes

- Get inspired, network, and share knowledge about topical youth issues with educators across Canada, from diverse backgrounds
- Learn how to best engage parents and navigate the paperwork to an amazing Exchange adventure for their kids
- Understand the 'A to Z' of an Exchange along with all the supporting, educational resources
- Connect and be mentored by experienced Exchange organizers
- Find your Exchange 'twin'!



Preliminary Agenda

FRIDAY, JUNE 7		
TIME	ACTIVITY	
5:30 - 7:30	Dinner	
7:30-8:00	Welcome	
8:00-9:30	Ice Breaker - Team Building (TBD)	
SATURDAY, JUNE 8		
TIME	ACTIVITY	
7:30 - 8:45	Breakfast	
9:00	Opening Ceremony	
9:15 - 10:15	Exchanges 101	Uniglobe: Dealing with Travel Disaster
10:15 - 10:30	Health Break	
10:30 - 12:00	Tales and Advice from our GO Champions: Experienced Exchange Group Organizers	
12:00 - 1:15	Lunch	
12:45 - 1:45	KEYNOTE - Waneek Horn-Miller	
2:15 - 3:00	Workshop: Build An Effective Exchange	
3:00 - 3:45	Speed Twinning: Find Your Exchange Twin	
4:00 - 5:00	Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Panel Session moderated by Jesse Card, Executive Director, Youth Ottawa	
5:00 - 6:30	Social - Happy Hour	
Dinner on your own - Venue is walking distance to O-Train Station to Downtown Ottawa		
SUNDAY, JUNE 9		
TIME	ACTIVITY	
8:00-9:30	Fundraising Strategies for your Exchange - with GO Champion Stephanie MacKay	
9:30-10:30	Marketing 101	
10:30 - 11:45	Exchange Success Stories	
11:45 - 11:55	Rapporteur	
12:00	Closing	

This is a draft agenda and is subject to change leading up to the conference.

Our Programs

Youth Forums: Our forums are inclusive, growth spaces for youth from a diversity of backgrounds and regions. Youth come together to collaborate and share on a range of topics including reconciliation, allyship, diversity, equity, inclusion, climate change, Indigenous Peoples and more. Please watch: [Youth Forums 2022 - Video](#)

In-Person Reciprocal Exchanges: Now in our 87th year, our keystone program continues to provide once-in-a-lifetime themed exchanges involving up to 5,000 youth ages 12-18. Please watch: [Experiences Canada In-Person Exchange](#)

Career Choices: Among the most visited pages on our website, our Career Choices program provides practical career focused resources to help youth with the steps and stages of securing employment during or post high school. These include resume building tools, modules, webinars, and career VLOGs.

Learning Resources: Our curated bilingual webinars, educational modules and lesson plans offer a wide range of topics (allyship, climate change, careers, financial literacy, etc.) and learning tools relevant to educators and youth for today's curriculum, as well as life outside of the classroom.





About

Our Mission is to offer transformational learning opportunities accessible to youth across Canada—creating fun, safe, memorable experiences that deepen their connection to their community and their country, enrich personal experiences, and build confidence and skills.

Experiences Canada - Overview

Experiences Canada is a national registered charity dedicated to providing Canadian youth lived experiences that will enhance their skills, confidence and understanding of Canada. We do this through reciprocal exchanges across the country, as well as a diversity of educational events, tools and learning resources on a range of themes including careers, and financial literacy.

Since our founding in 1936, more than 420,000 youth from all provinces and territories have participated in our bilingual programs and events. Our decades of work have produced countless, incredible success stories about how an experience like an exchange has not only changed a young person's life forever, but helped raise their confidence and appreciation for our great country, and the diversity of its people.

To inquire about the PD Conference please contact:
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We acknowledge the financial support
of the Government of Canada.

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