



National Dialogue on Higher Education brings federal, provincial and education experts together for the first time in a generation

Historic collaboration of key national stakeholders

Ottawa (October 24) – Donald Fisher, President of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, today publicly launched the National Dialogue on Higher Education, a national gathering of researchers, policy-makers, educators and opinion leaders to be held November 27-29 at the Congress Centre in Ottawa.

“This pan-Canadian conference will place higher education more firmly on the public agenda,” said Dr. Fisher. “The list of contributing organizations is a testament to the importance of the issue and the imperative to discuss it publicly in such a forum. The Dialogue is indeed historic in its scope and in its openness to all who wish to participate.”

The Federation’s partners in the Dialogue include

- Canadian Council for Learning
- Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada
- Association of Community Colleges of Canada
- Canadian Association of University Teachers
- Association francophone pour le savoir
- Canadian Federation of Students
- Canadian Alliance of Student Associations
- Canadian Association for Graduate Studies
- Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council

Organizers have benefited from the advice of:

- Council of Ministers of Education of Canada
- Industry Canada
- Policy Research Initiative of the Privy Council Office
- Office of the National Science Advisor

On the program, the Dialogue will feature the latest Canadian and international research, new Statistics Canada data and the contributions of prominent scholars, federal and provincial deputy ministers, university and college presidents, and opinion leaders from business, labour, media and politics as speakers over the two days and evenings of the event.

Actual dialogue has already begun through an on-line discussion forum. It is open to anyone with a personal, professional or research interest in postsecondary education. Registered delegates are especially encouraged to engage conference speakers online (www.visionedu.ca) before meeting face-to-face in November.

The National Dialogue on Higher Education sets out to inform and facilitate policy development at all levels through research, shared experience and a stronger postsecondary education community in Canada. The Canadian Federation of the Social Sciences and Humanities represents 70 scholarly associations and 73 universities and colleges comprising more than 30,000 scholars, students and practitioners across Canada.