

# THE COLLEGE OF NEW SCHOLARS, ARTISTS AND SCIENTISTS

## *The Royal Society of Canada*

This document serves as an introduction to the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. More information can be found online at [www.rsc-src.ca](http://www.rsc-src.ca) and [www.rsc-src-college.ca](http://www.rsc-src-college.ca).

### WHAT IS THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA?

*The Royal Society of Canada: The Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences of Canada (RSC)* was established in 1882 as the senior Canadian collegium of distinguished scholars, artists and scientists. As Canada's senior National Academy, the RSC exists to **promote** Canadian research and scholarly accomplishment in both of Canada's official languages, to mentor young scholars and artists, to **recognize** academic and artistic excellence, and to **advise** governments, non-governmental organizations, and Canadians generally on matters of public interest.



While the specific activities of the RSC have changed over its 130 year history, the Society has remained true to its statutory mandate as reflected through the years in its vision and mission statements. Today the vision of the RSC is expressed as follows:

*"The RSC is the recognized pre-eminent body of independent scholars, researchers and creative people in Canada whose Fellows comprise a collegium that can provide intellectual leadership for the betterment of Canada and the world."*

The mission of the RSC is:

*"To serve Canada and Canadians by recognizing Canada's leading intellectuals, scholars, researchers and artists and by mobilizing them in open discussion and debate, to advance knowledge, encourage integrated interdisciplinary understandings and address issues that are critical to Canada and Canadians."*

### WHO ARE THE FELLOWS OF THE RSC?

The fellowship of the Society comprises distinguished men and women from all branches of learning who have made remarkable contributions in the arts, the humanities and sciences, as well as in Canadian public life. Today, the Society counts over 2000 Canadian Fellows. Most Fellows hold, or have held, positions in Canadian universities, although many are primarily affiliated with research institutes, government agencies, or private sector laboratories and think tanks.

Fellows are divided into one of three bilingual Academies embracing a broad range of scholarly disciplines and artistic fields.

Academy I is the Academy of the Arts and Humanities. There are three Divisions of Academy I: an Anglophone Division (I) - Humanities; a Francophone division (II) - Lettres et sciences humaines; and a bilingual Division for the Arts (III) - embracing architecture, creative writing, and the arts.

Academy II is the Academy of Social Sciences. There are two Divisions of Academy II: an Anglophone Division (I) - Social Sciences; and a Francophone Division (II) - Sciences sociales.

Academy III is the Academy of Science. There are four Divisions of Academy III: Applied Sciences and Engineering; Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences; Life Sciences; and Mathematical and Physical Sciences. Each Division of Academy III is comprised of both English-speaking and French-speaking Fellows.

### WHAT ARE INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS?

Institutional Members (IMs) are institutions, primarily universities, from across Canada that are devoted to research.

[A full list of IMs is available online.](#)





## WHAT IS THE COLLEGE? AND WHY?

Launched in 2014, the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists is Canada's first national system of multidisciplinary recognition for the emerging generation of Canadian intellectual leadership.



The mandate of the College is:

*“To gather scholars, artists and scientists at a highly productive stage of their careers into a single collegium where new advances in understanding will emerge from the interaction of diverse intellectual, cultural and social perspectives.”*

The mission of the College is:

*“To address issues or particular concern to new scholars, artists and scientists, for the advancement of understanding and the benefit of society, taking advantage of the interdisciplinary approaches fostered by the establishment of the College.”*

[More information about the College is available online.](#)

## WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE?

The Members of the College are Canadians and Permanent Residents who, at an early stage in their career, have demonstrated a high level of achievement. The criterion for election is excellence, which is understood to encompass the goals of diversity and inclusivity to which the RSC is committed, and membership is for seven years.

## FIVE FACTORS

The mission and mandate of the College derive from five main factors:

*First*, the generation of emerging scholars and artists has been especially active in exploring new epistemologies, new research domains, and deploying new media for communication of research results.

*Second*, the generation of emerging scholars and artists is exploring interdisciplinary research across established boundaries of scholarly communities through experimentation with new theoretical perspectives and methodological tools.

*Third*, the current demography of the Canadian research community reflects the fact that more than 60% of professors now on Canadian campuses were hired since the year 2000.

*Fourth*, the generation of emerging scholars has a much higher percentage of women, both in the natural sciences and in the social sciences and humanities.

*Fifth*, the generation of emerging scholars is more diverse than its predecessors, with a larger number of members from First Nations communities, from immigrant communities and from visible minorities.



*The inaugural cohort of the College, Québec, 2014*



## WHAT WILL MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE DO?

Members of the College will:

- attend the Celebration of Excellence and other Royal Society of Canada events;
- participate in and host College events;



- serve on the Council of the College and College and Society Committees;
- join College working groups;
- participate in the RSC's process of providing advice to government and the public;
- engage with regional programming, such as RSC Atlantic;
- mentor promising young scholars, artists, and scientists;
- connect with senior Fellows from across disciplines and across the country;
- nominate outstanding colleagues for membership in the College and for Society Awards; and,
- serve on the selection committees for College Membership as well as Society awards.



## COLLEGE COUNCIL

The College is governed by the College Council, which consists of a President; a Past President or President Elect; a Secretary, and several Members-at-Large. The President and Secretary of the College will sit as members of the Council of the Royal Society, and the President will also serve on the Society's Executive Committee.

The President of the College will be elected by the Members. When necessary, elections will be held in the spring/summer, and incumbents will assume their positions at the following Annual Business Meeting of the College. The President will serve a two-year term, preceded by a one-year term as President Elect and followed by another as Past President. The Council will be expected to participate in quarterly teleconference meetings as well as participate in meetings of RSC Council.

## NOMINATIONS

Scholars can be nominated to the College by Fellows of the Royal Society of Canada, current Members of the College, or Institutional Members of the RSC. The criterion for nomination shall be excellence, which is understood to encompass the goals of diversity and inclusivity to which the RSC is committed.

## WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE COLLEGE AND THE RSC?

The College will comprise a fourth entity (along with the current three academies) within the RSC. The College will not be divided into academies, and will instead stand as a single bilingual and multidisciplinary body.

## WHAT IS THE NATIONAL SECRETARIAT?

The National Secretariat serves as the administrative arm of the RSC, and operates from Walter House, at 282 Somerset Street West, in downtown Ottawa. Walter House is the *home* of the Fellowship and our hope is that all Members will find time to enjoy a tour.

Royal Society of Canada

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