

# Next Steps, Together



## 2023-2025 Strategic Plan



Welcome

*The RSC offices are located on the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin nation. From coast to coast to coast, we are grateful to acknowledge the ancestral and unceded territory of the Inuit and First Nation and Métis peoples and the dozens of languages and cultures that enrich what many call Turtle Island.*

A photograph of a stage set. On the left, a screen displays the word "Bienvenue" in a serif font. To the right, a large black and white graphic is visible, featuring stylized human figures and a large eye. The stage is lit with red light, and a red curtain hangs in the background.

Bienvenue

*The objects and purposes of the RSC are: 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.*





In a time of widespread scientific and technological change, demographic transformation, political reconfiguration, and cultural diversification, how can leading thinkers come together to help make a better future?

When this question was posed in the industrializing and urbanizing 1870s, a concerned group of highly respected Canadians under the leadership of the Governor General began imagining a collective effort to help society benefit from enhanced knowledge of the past and present.



From the outset, the RSC sought to create “a working body, not a purely honorary institution” to give life to its mandate, at home and around the world through specific initiatives to advance Canada.





In order to establish the foundation for multiple initiatives, the RSC elects Fellows and Members while also making awards to highlight specific exceptional achievements.

There are currently 2558 RSC Fellows.

The RSC College recognizes individuals who have begun demonstrating leading scholarly, research or artistic excellence within 15 years of having completed their post-doctoral program or its equivalent. Members of the College are elected for a period of seven years.

There are currently 401 Members of the College.

The RSC administers over 20 prestigious awards, most of which honor those at various career stages in recognition of outstanding achievement.





Guided by its enduring mission and led by the Board of Directors and Council, the RSC has made important advancements in recent years by pursuing inclusive excellence for societal benefit. These advancements have also created new opportunities that can now be seized.

With an engaged membership base, strong foundations in governance, a steadfast community of Institutional Members, and strong strategic partnerships, it is now time to take next steps, together, in three key priority areas for the period 2023-2025.



# Inclusive Excellence

Since 1882, building a broad research community through the recognition of excellence has been the core mission of the RSC. Five years ago, the RSC launched a multi-year initiative to advance inclusive excellence across disciplines, across generations and across knowledge systems, including a focus on understanding the RSC's historical role in colonization and next steps in reconciliation. The RSC now has an opportunity to take next steps toward leading the world in advancing inclusive excellence. In the 21st century, this requires a focus on reconciliation and the need for diverse perspectives in research.

This priority also includes the need for broader communications, deepened engagement with public institutions, and robust regional activities in order to strengthen ties with communities the RSC serves.

## **Next Steps in this priority area include:**

1. Guided by Council, implementing outcomes of the Report of the Committee on Membership including the 12 recommendations of the RSC Working Group on Knowledge Systems.
2. Building out the At-Risk and Displaced Academics and Artists programme, which will recognize and support researchers displaced to Canada who have made outstanding intellectual accomplishments in the arts, humanities, social sciences, or sciences.
3. Hosting in-person and virtual gatherings throughout Canada in coordination with partners and regional hubs that emphasize inclusivity in all aspects of their design.





Inaugural  
 Winners of  
 the Justice  
 Rosalie  
 Silberman  
 Abella Prize

# Independent Expertise

Early in 2020, the RSC launched a major initiative to mobilize independent expertise to support Canada's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, over 700 Canadians, 200 publications, 30 peer-reviewed Policy Briefings, 250,000 report downloads, and the world's only partnership between a national academy and a national newspaper have contributed knowledge and advice domestically and internationally. The impact of the RSC during the COVID-19 pandemic has vividly demonstrated the RSC's role as a rallying point for independent expertise and its capacity to flourish in partnership. In the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, for example, the provision of independent expertise from the RSC community – across disciplines and across generations – contributed to a near-doubling of the readership of *The Globe and Mail*, from 7 million unique visits a month to 14 million. A *Globe/RSC* series of virtual town halls on COVID-19 vaccines attracted over 10,000 Canadians.

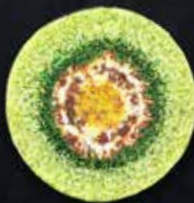


**Correctional Services During and Beyond COVID-19**  
January 2021



An RSC Policy Briefing

**Engaging Creatives: Art in the Pandemic**  
February 2021



A Virtual Exhibition and Venuepage

**COVID-19 and Indigenous Health and Wellness:  
Our Strength is in our Stories**  
December 2020



An RSC Collection of Stories

**Next steps in this priority area include:**

1. Applying learnings from the RSC Task Force on COVID-19 in building out the RSC Task Force on One Health and focused initiatives on urgent themes.
2. Pursuing strategic engagement toward anchoring the provision of independent expertise as a critical element of liberal democracy in Canada.
3. Enhancing partnerships with The Globe and Mail, Canadian Science Publishing, Acfas, Let's Talk Science, and others to ensure Canadians of all ages have open access to the latest insights and evidence.
4. Continuing to enrich mentoring networks, both across generations and research fields, for mutual enrichment.

**Strengthening A One Health Approach  
to Emerging Zoonoses**  
June 2022



An RSC Policy Briefing

**Time to be Counted:  
COVID-19 and Intellectual and  
Developmental Disabilities**  
June 2021



An RSC Policy Briefing

**Children and Schools During COVID-19  
and Beyond: Engagement and Connection  
Through Opportunity**  
August 2021



An RSC Policy Briefing

**Easing the Disruption of COVID-19:  
Supporting the Mental Health of the  
People of Canada**  
October 2020



An RSC Policy Briefing



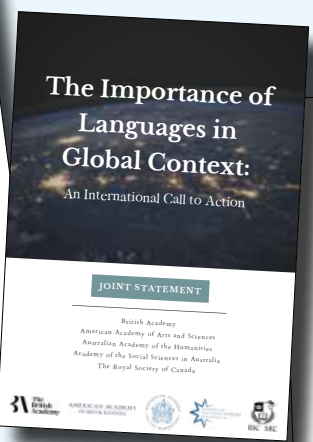
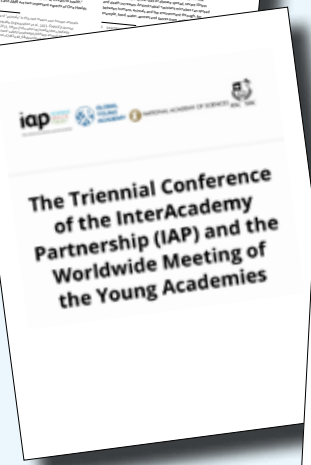


# I E

## International Engagement



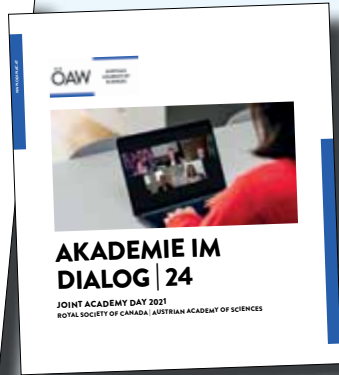
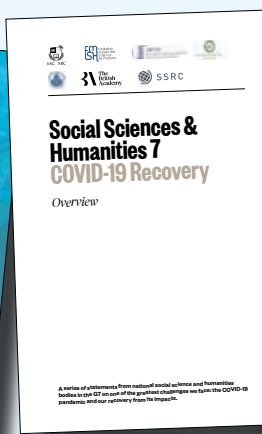
The RSC has a long history of collaboration with Academies around the world and is the international face of scholarship and research in Canada in important international fora such as the G7 and G20, as well as in the InterAcademy Panel and the InterAmerican Network of Academies of Science. Its membership – across disciplines, across generations – uniquely positions the RSC to bring Canadian perspectives to global issues, and to convene global expertise on urgent issues.



The RSC's continued focus across disciplines and across generations in international engagement culminated in the first global research summit convening Academies of Social Sciences and Humanities, Academies of Science and "Young" Academies.

**Next steps in this priority area include:**

1. Deepening the links with Academies across disciplines and across generations around the world, as well as with la Francophonie.
2. In partnership with Institutional Members and other partners, hosting regular international research summits that convene expertise from across disciplines and across generations and highlight Canadian contributions to a better future for all.
3. With a view to advancing reconciliation, continue to partner closely with learned societies in Australia and New Zealand, and with Academies from across disciplines and across generations around the world.



In developing annual Action Plans to specify next steps for each objective, the RSC will benefit from continued engagement within and beyond the RSC. We invite input at any time.

We look forward to reporting on the results of our efforts and to learning from them as we continue pursuing our overall strategic objectives.







2008 Taiwanese People's Democracy Party student democracy protests in China  
Le mouvement de Tian'anmen dégage les manifestations pro-démocratiques en Chine

2008 US committee grants civil rights of children around the world  
Une commission de l'ONU appuie les droits des enfants du monde

2008 Created in Taiwan, Svalbard, resolved into minor territories  
Le traité de Svalbard (Svalbard) résout les territoires mineurs

2008 UN committee protects rights of persons with disabilities  
Une commission de l'ONU appuie les droits des personnes handicapées

2008 UN committee protects rights of migrant workers and their families  
Une commission de l'ONU protège les droits des travailleurs migrants et leur famille

2008 The Netherlands becomes first country to legalize same-sex marriage  
Les Pays-Bas deviennent le premier pays à légaliser le mariage homosexuel

2008 International Criminal Court is established by the Rome Statute  
Un tribunal pénal international est établi par le Statut de Rome

2008 Students protest globally for environmental and social reforms  
Des étudiants manifestent partout pour des réformes éducatives et sociales

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 Human Rights Council replaces UN Commission on Human Rights  
Le Conseil des droits de l'homme remplace la Commission des droits de l'homme

2008 Rights of Muslim youth are protected in World People's Conference  
Les droits des jeunes musulmans sont protégés à la Conférence mondiale

2008 UN committee grants people from informal settlements  
Une commission de l'ONU protège les gens vivant dans les bidonvilles

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe

2008 UNHCR reports: more than 10 million and spread across Middle East  
Le HCR rapporte: plus de dix millions de réfugiés dans le monde arabe



RSC SRC

**The Royal Society of Canada**

Walter House  
282 Somerset Street West  
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0J6  
[www.rsc-src.ca](http://www.rsc-src.ca)  
613-991-6990

**La Société royale du Canada**

Maison Walter  
282, rue Somerset ouest  
Ottawa (Ontario) K2P 0J6  
[www.rsc-src.ca](http://www.rsc-src.ca)  
613-991-6990