



Activity report

The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

April 2017–March 2018

A note about the content of this report

This report presents the highlights of the Lieutenant Governor's public engagements from April 2017 to March 2018. For an authoritative listing of activities, consult the Lieutenant Governor's website at lgontario.ca.

*Activity report: The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell,
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario (April 2017–March 2018)*

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OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO
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Since 1937, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario has occupied a suite of offices and state rooms located in the northwest corner of the Legislative Building at Queen's Park in Toronto.

Foreword



As the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, I am pleased to present this summary of my public activities of the past year. During 775 engagements across Ontario and internationally, I have been fortunate that thousands of Ontarians have shared with me stories so revealing of our generosity and our desire to help others. They remind us of the obligations and opportunities of being global citizens, engaging with people and places beyond our borders, and of our responsibility to serve as guardians of the resources we have inherited.

The year 2017 marked the 150th anniversary of Confederation and provided myriad opportunities for all Canadians to engage in genuine dialogue about who we are, and wish to be, as a people. I am extraordinarily proud of the contributions that Ontarians have made, and it has been a privilege to recognize those bringing credit to our province: volunteers, who have given so much back to their own communities without any expectation of recognition or reward; scientists and innovators, who demonstrate excellence in solving some of our most intractable problems; visionaries in arts and culture, who creatively remind us of what makes a civilized society; public servants, who quietly and daily provide the services we take for granted; first responders, who keep us safe; members of the Canadian Armed Forces, whose devotion to duty gives evidence of Canada's commitment to justice and caring around the world; and all who have welcomed immigrants with open minds and open arms.

Last year we also made strides along the path of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, who have long been stewards of this land, and I know that in the years ahead we can continue to learn together and heal with respect. I hope that this report will provide insight into how Ontarians have risen to meet these and other challenges, and into how well equipped they are to address the unfinished business that remains.

E. Dowdeswell



The Lieutenant Governor delivering the Donald Gow Memorial Lecture at Queen's University, January 2018.

Above, left: Ms. Dowdeswell's coat of arms. (Register of Arms, Flags and Badges of Canada, Volume VI, page 621)

Her Honour



The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell was invested as Ontario's 29th Lieutenant Governor on September 23, 2014. Her eclectic public service career has spanned provincial, federal, and international borders, and has transcended disciplinary and sectoral lines.

Ms. Dowdeswell began her professional career as a teacher and university lecturer. After serving as the Deputy Minister of Culture and Youth for the Government of Saskatchewan, she held increasingly senior positions in the Canadian public service, most notably as head of the Atmospheric Environment Service. Throughout this period, she managed several public inquiries and royal commissions.

Her international negotiating experiences prefaced her election in 1992 as Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya. Upon returning to Canada in 1998, she established an international consulting practice and became the founding President and CEO of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization. Immediately prior to her appointment as Lieutenant Governor, Ms. Dowdeswell was the President and CEO of the Council of Canadian Academies. She has also served on numerous boards of corporate and non-profit organizations.

Ms. Dowdeswell was born in Northern Ireland and immigrated to rural Saskatchewan with her parents in 1947. She earned a Bachelor of Science in home economics and teaching certificate from the University of Saskatchewan (1966) and a Master of Science in behavioural sciences from Utah State University (1972). An Officer of the Order of Canada, Ms. Dowdeswell holds 11 honorary degrees.

The Lieutenant Governor posing during a visit to the Yayoi Kusama: Infinity Mirrors exhibition at the Art Gallery of Ontario, March 2018.

Areas of focus



The Lieutenant Governor took part in a bioblitz in Cambridge, joining residents as they catalogued local species, July 2017.

Successive Lieutenant Governors have established certain themes or priorities while in office, allowing them to focus time and attention on matters that are apolitical, timely, and relevant—and perhaps of personal interest or experience. Upon taking office, Ms. Dowdeswell indicated that rather than immediately declaring an overarching theme or area of focus, she would spend the beginning of her mandate engaging with Ontarians and seeking to learn what resonates with them.

Since taking office, Ms. Dowdeswell has challenged Ontarians to think deeply about their role not just as residents of a province within Canada, but also as global citizens with as much to learn from the world as they have to contribute.

In doing so, she has emphasized the imperative of fostering resilience in a time of unprecedented technological, demographic, and geopolitical change. Sustainability and its three interrelated components—inclusive economic prosperity, environmental stewardship, and social and cultural cohesion—can point the way to just and sustainable communities. After having taken part in hundreds of events over the past year, and thousands of conversations, Ms. Dowdeswell is heartened by Ontarians' concurrence. She is currently focused on drawing attention to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a framework for encouraging people to think globally while acting locally.

Ontario in the world

Her Honour regularly attended events paying tribute to Ontarians engaged in international dialogue and action. Throughout, it has become clear that many people in Ontario view engagement with those beyond our borders as both an opportunity and an obligation.

In June 2017, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a formal dinner to mark the 10th annual conference of the Southeastern United States–Canadian Provinces Alliance, a strategic partnership between six southeastern American states and seven Canadian provinces established to foster economic ties and encourage technological and scientific exchanges.

In September, Her Honour attended 6 Degrees, a global forum exploring inclusion and citizenship in the 21st century hosted by the Institute for Canadian Citizenship. Her Honour was a distinguished audience member at the 15th LaFontaine-Baldwin Lecture, delivered by political philosopher Michael Sandel. Also in September, Her Honour attended a public lecture by former American President Barack Obama hosted by think tank Canada 2020 in Toronto.

In November, Her Honour addressed an advisory board meeting of the Wilson Centre Canada Institute, an American organization chartered by the US Congress, praising its leading work in fostering awareness and knowledge of the deep economic and social ties that bind both countries.

Also in November, Her Honour hosted a reception marking the launch of *Canadian Defence at 150 and Beyond*, a publication of the NATO Association of Canada paying tribute to Canada's foundational role in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In December, Ms. Dowdeswell celebrated the launch of *Profiles in Humanitarian Courage*, a book published by the UN Association in Canada highlighting the contributions of successive winners of the Pearson Peace Medal. In her remarks, she stressed the possibilities brought by an Ontario that meaningfully engages with the world.

The Lieutenant Governor addressed the Shaping Global Summitry conference, held at the Munk School of Global Affairs within the University of Toronto in March 2018. In her remarks, she emphasized the imperative of transparency and inclusion in international governance.

Working visit to New York

In April 2017, the Lieutenant Governor conducted a working visit to New York, conducting 12 engagements over four days. Invited by WE, Her Honour addressed 6,000 young people during the inaugural WE Day in New York City. Ms. Dowdeswell also met Canadian officials at the United Nations to review the sustainability agenda in addition to touring local examples of sustainable urban planning.

Working visit to the United Kingdom

In February 2018, the Lieutenant Governor conducted a working visit to the United Kingdom, undertaking 42 events over nine days. During lectures at the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford, and Queen's University Belfast, as well as meetings at the University of Birmingham and University College London, Her Honour offered her perspective on Canada 150 as a case study in Ontario's role as a leader in seeking sustainability.

While in London, the Lieutenant Governor met with the Canadian High Commissioner, addressed a panel discussion on women in STEM at Canada House, and hosted a roundtable on Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate Action) in the company of Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Her Honour took part in events marking the launch of *David Milne: Modern Painting* at the Dulwich Picture Gallery in London, paying tribute to the many Canadians living in the United Kingdom whose contributions



The Lieutenant Governor hosted subnational heads of government and ministers during the Southeastern United States–Canadian Provinces Alliance held in Toronto, June 2017.

The Lieutenant Governor and Christiana Figueres took part in a roundtable on Sustainable Development Goal 13, Climate Action, at Canada House in London, February 2018.



enabled the work of the celebrated Canadian artist and member of the Group of Seven to be shown in Britain. Her Honour also met participants of Get Into, an initiative of The Prince's Trust that matches young at-risk students with employment opportunities so that they may learn valuable training and gain work experience.

Ms. Dowdeswell also visited Dumfries House, an 18th-century estate restored according to sustainability principles advocated by The Prince of Wales located in Ayrshire, Scotland. Further, Ms. Dowdeswell addressed the NI Science Festival in Belfast and attended a musical performance given by retired Canadian astronaut Col. Chris Hadfield.

Sustainability

The Lieutenant Governor continued to focus on sustainability as a priority, emphasizing the interconnectedness of inclusive economic prosperity, environmental stewardship, and social cohesion.

As a former Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, Her Honour regularly highlights the many connections that Ontarians have with the UN, engaging with people and organizations contributing to the adoption and attainment of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. A few notable examples appear in subsequent pages.



Her Honour took part in a roundtable during a visit to the Regional Centre of Expertise on Education in Sustainable Development in Peterborough, September 2017.

In September 2017 in Toronto, the Lieutenant Governor presided at the second annual Canadian Sustainable Development Goals Awards, presented by Global Compact Canada, an organization dedicated to building sustainability capacity within the private sector by facilitating dialogue, the sharing of best practices, and peer-to-peer learning.

Also in September, Her Honour participated in a roundtable focusing on sustainability in Peterborough, a Regional Centre of Expertise on Education in Sustainable Development designated by UNESCO.

In the presence of former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, in September, Her Honour addressed the opening of the WE Global Learning Centre, an innovation hub in Toronto that seeks to

engage young people in building their capacity as good global citizens.

In September and October in Toronto, Her Honour attended the inaugural Expo for Design, Innovation, and Technology in Toronto, a 10-day program conducted in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme presenting curated exhibits, immersive installations, a speakers series, and more, with the aim of demonstrating the potential of design thinking in the drive to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Inclusive economic prosperity

Ontarians and Canadians are fortunate to live in a comparatively prosperous country in which a vast majority of the population has seen rising standards of living over the past 150 years. Yet not all have benefitted from equal access to prosperity, notably Indigenous people, racialized persons, women, and many people employed in traditional economic sectors. During the past year, the Lieutenant Governor held roundtables focusing on social and economic concerns during visits to communities throughout the province. In reflecting on these discussions, Her Honour has noted two recurring questions: "Where will our future prosperity come from?" and "Are we keeping pace with the world?"

Important to answering these questions is the concept of inclusive prosperity, which understands that resources are not always fairly distributed in today's complex and changing world, and recognizes that economic uncertainty has a social cost and that the road to prosperity may be different depending on one's lived experience, community, or region. Her Honour has encouraged Ontarians to consider the sources of future prosperity and the ways in which as many people as possible have a chance to meaningfully participate in economic and social spheres with dignity.

The Lieutenant Governor regularly spoke of the importance of inclusivity in considering economic issues. For example, in October 2017, she hosted a working dinner for representatives of the Global Alliance for Banking Values, an organization dedicated to integrating sustainability within the financial services sector. In March 2018, Ms. Dowdeswell met with business leaders in advance of the Ivey Business School's Canadian Business Frontiers Conference examining the disruptive impacts of how businesses adopt new technologies.

Environmental stewardship

Many Ontarians have demonstrated concern for Ontario's natural landscape, expressing a desire to do what they can in their own communities and beyond to act as stewards of the environment. Her Honour emphasized the importance of interdisciplinary and systemic approaches to addressing environmental pressures and challenges, noting the many dimensions of environmental stewardship: responding to climate change; conserving and protecting of air, water, land, and biodiversity; and innovation. She challenged Ontarians to consider the economic effects of an ailing environment and encouraged people and institutions to actively engage Indigenous people and other underrepresented communities when taking environmentally related decisions.

In April 2017, Her Honour recognized winners of the Lieutenant Governor's Climate Change Essay Challenge. In collaboration with the Centre for International Governance Innovation in Waterloo, this contest invited Grade 12 students from across Ontario to tell their story of how Canada will have contributed to stopping climate change by 2067. Nearly 150 submissions were considered by a judging panel made up of journalists, teachers, and environmental research fellows. Three winners received a scholarship and winning essays were published by online magazine *OpenCanada*.



Her Honour posing with winners of the Lieutenant Governor's Climate Change Essay Challenge and representatives from the Centre for International Governance Innovation, April 2017.

In June, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the Canadian Water Summit in Toronto, emphasizing the importance of cross-cultural and inclusive dialogue in strengthening the cultural importance of the Great Lakes in Ontario and Canada. In July, Her Honour took part in a bioblitz hosted by the Canadian Wildlife Federation in Cambridge, an opportunity for people of all ages to become citizen scientists while cataloguing local species.

In September, Her Honour addressed the 2017 AquaHacking Summit: United for Lake Erie, held in Toronto, noting the important bilateral relationship between the United States and Canada in stewarding the Great Lakes and shared environmental resources.

In October, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a North American regional consultation in advance of the United Nations Environment Assembly. Attended by representatives of UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, and civil society organizations, the event was an opportunity to share insights that might inform a multidimensional regional strategy for addressing pollution.

Also in October, Her Honour returned to social enterprise Clearwater Farms in Georgina to mark the opening of The Prince's Lane, the estate's new, green entrance named in honour of The Prince of Wales to mark the 150th anniversary of Confederation. In November, Her Honour addressed an event marking the second anniversary of the Highway of Heroes Tree Campaign in Toronto, a project that aims to plant 117,000 trees along Highway 401 as a tribute to Canada's war dead. At both events, Her Honour noted in her remarks how the natural environment can bring people together in times good and bad.

Also in November, Her Honour shone a light on ongoing initiatives to foster sustainability within the agricultural sector during a visit to the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. While at the fair, Her Honour addressed the Greenbelt Fund Local Food Symposium, showing support for efforts to increase awareness of local food and placing such efforts within the context of the Sustainable

Development Goals. Four months later in March 2018, she hosted a reception in honour of winners of the Friends of the Greenbelt Award.

In November 2017, the Lieutenant Governor addressed 30th anniversary celebrations of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and presented the Scientific Leadership Award as part of the 2017 Ozone Awards of the UN Ozone Secretariat.



The Lieutenant Governor presented the Scientific Leadership Award as part of the 2017 Ozone Awards of the UN Ozone Secretariat, December 2017.

In December, Her Honour recognized winners of Forest Ontario's TreeBee and Envirothon student competitions, encouraging them and other young people to continue learning about nature and environmental stewardship.

In January 2018, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the launch of *Morphology*, an exhibition at the Lakeview Water Treatment Plant in Mississauga capturing constructed coastal wetlands through the work of local photographers. In her remarks, she noted the cultural importance of the Great lakes and the capacity of art to foster a sense of responsibility towards the environment.

Also in January, Her Honour addressed the annual gala celebration of the Pembina Institute, an organization providing policy research, leadership, and education on climate change, energy issues, green economics, energy efficiency and conservation, renewable energy, and environmental governance. In her remarks, she noted the importance of holistic and systemic thinking and inclusive policymaking to achieving an environmentally sustainable future in Canada.

Social and cultural cohesion

Truly successful communities are greater than the sum of their parts. In short, this is what is meant by social cohesion. How are we to be secure in our identities and at home in our communities? How do we articulate and work to achieve collective aspirations? To what extent are we able to embrace diversity as a strength and work to ensure that everyone has a meaningful opportunity to contribute? Throughout many engagements, the Lieutenant Governor has encouraged Ontarians to reflect on these questions.

In April 2017, Her Honour addressed the annual awards ceremony of the Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies at the University of Toronto, recognizing four Indigenous individuals who throughout their remarkable careers have worked to advance understanding of sexual diversity in Ontario.

In September, the Lieutenant Governor shone a light of the work of the Schizophrenia Society of Ontario during a reception honouring its members and supporters. In her remarks, Ms. Dowdeswell emphasized the importance of building support network and in sharing one another's stories. In January 2018, she attended an expert panel discussion on the future of mental health in Canada moderated by the Hon. Michael Wilson at the University of Toronto.

In February 2018, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the 50th annual Ontario Prayer Breakfast in Toronto. In March, Her Honour addressed the 54th annual Police Communion Breakfast for police services across the GTA. In March, Her Honour attended a luncheon held in anticipation of the 2018 Parliament of the World's Religions, to be held in Toronto in November 2018.

- **Welcoming refugees**

Building on earlier experiences of welcoming refugees arriving in Canada, the Lieutenant Governor sought to increase awareness of the challenges facing new Canadians. In April 2017, Her Honour addressed a welcoming ceremony hosted by the York Regional Police for Syrian families having recently settled in York Region.

In December, Her Honour addressed the second VR Empathy Series showcase at the House of VR in Toronto. Through virtual reality films allowing viewers to see resettlement camps through the eyes

of refugees, the series explores the power of emerging technologies to foster empathy and prompt social action.

In March 2018, Her Honour addressed a graduation and awards ceremony hosted by SAV Canada, a community organization offering settlement services and for new members of the Syrian community in Mississauga. Ms. Dowdeswell paid tribute to recent women graduates of a computer skills class and presided over the presentation of awards to volunteers.

- **Volunteerism and philanthropy**

The Lieutenant Governor regularly recognized the ideals of service and altruism demonstrated by volunteers and the generosity of members of the philanthropic community. In doing so, Her Honour made a point of highlighting the power of individual action in building more just, sustainable, and inclusive communities.

Her Honour continued to lend support to The Prince's Charities Canada in its efforts to promote The Prince of Wales's core interests in Canada, including increased opportunities for disadvantaged youth, education, responsible business, the built environment, regeneration of heritage, environmental sustainability, and support for veterans of the armed forces.

Throughout the year, the Lieutenant Governor lent support to Tackle Hunger, an initiative paying tribute to food banks jointly sponsored by the CFL and Purolator. In May 2018, she hosted a reception to recognize individuals and groups offering support to food banks and working to end hunger in Canada. In June 2017, Her Honour showed support for volunteers during a visit to the Daily Bread Food Bank in Toronto.

In November, Her Honour paid tribute to Toronto-based volunteers of the Needlework Guild of Canada. Over 125 years, guild members have donated more than 870,000 articles of clothing to Torontonians in need while fostering a sense of togetherness through the love of knitting.

Also in November, Her Honour addressed the annual gala dinner of the True Patriot Love Foundation, during which she paid tribute to the Hon. Hilary Weston and W. Galen Weston for their sustained record of support to military families.

In December, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a reception to mark the successful participation of the Ontario Public Service in the United Way of Greater Toronto's annual fundraiser.



Her Honour met volunteers during a visit to the Toronto chapter of the Needlework Guild of Canada, November 2017.

150th anniversary of Confederation



The Lieutenant Governor joined Canada 150 celebrations at Queen Elizabeth Public School in Perth, June 2017.

Canada 150-themed events

The Lieutenant Governor took part in hundreds of community events paying tribute to the 150th anniversary of Confederation, beginning with New Year's Eve celebrations at Nathan Phillips Square in Toronto.

Eager to shine a light on the many engaging and inventive ways in which Ontarians were marking the sesquicentennial, the Lieutenant Governor penned a blog on her website (lgontario.ca/en/2017/12/31/notes-from-the-lieutenant-governor-canada-150) reflecting on the hundreds of events she attended across the province, ranging from sporting activities to theatrical performances, monument unveilings to award ceremonies, art exhibitions to science conferences.

Her Honour posing with expedition leader Geoff Green during send-off celebrations for the Canada C3 icebreaker, June 2017.

In February 2017, Her Honour launched *150 Stories*, an art exhibition displayed in the Lieutenant Governor's Suite and a book of new stories and images that speak to what it means to be Canadian in Ontario. Compiled to mark the 150th anniversary of Confederation, *150 Stories* invites viewers and readers to contemplate the many perspectives and voices that make Ontario Ontario. Throughout the year it proved to be a popular publication and remains available online at arts.lgontario.ca/canada150.



On June 28 at Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto, the Lieutenant Governor hosted *A Place to Stand: A Celebration of 150 Years of Ontario and Canada*. This gala concert was an opportunity for Ontarians to mark the sesquicentennial of Confederation while also honouring the newest members of the Order of Ontario and all who have joined this society of merit since its inaugural investiture 30 years before. A tribute to Canada in words, images,

and song, *A Place to Stand* was compiled by historian Hugh Brewster and narrated by him and actress Cynthia Dale. The event brought together the artistic talent of many notable Canadians, including composer Barbara Croall of Odawa First Nation with Highlands Opera Studio, astronaut and performer Col. Chris Hadfield with Dave Hadfield, singer Jackie Richardson, operatic tenor Richard Margison, singer Murray McLauchlan, vocalist Margo Timmins, female delusionist Miss Conception, the Elora Singers, the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, and the Canadian Children's Opera Company. Many attendees remarked that it was such an engaging way to learn history.

Throughout the year, the Lieutenant Governor lent her support to the Trans Canada Trail, a 20-year project spanning 24,000 kilometres and connecting communities across all provinces and territories. In recognizing the many volunteers and sponsors whose efforts went into the trail, Her Honour noted its ability to bring Canadians together in support of environmental stewardship.

In a similar spirit, Her Honour showed support for the Canada C3 expedition, an opportunity for a diverse group of 300 Canadians to travel from coast to coast to coast in an icebreaker and meet with scientists, artists, Indigenous Elders, immigrants, historians, young people, community leaders, and journalists while conducting scientific research, creating music and art, and developing a deeper understanding of our geography and culture; and the C150 Global Odyssey helicopter journey, which saw a father and son team from Ontario complete the first ever Canadian helicopter polar circumnavigation, stopping in every province and territory and in 14 countries around the Northern Hemisphere.

Royal tour

To mark the 150th anniversary of Confederation, Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall made a three-day tour of Canada, stopping in Nunavut, Ontario, and Québec in June and July 2017. On behalf of the people of Ontario, the Lieutenant Governor greeted Their Royal Highnesses upon their arrival in the province at CFB Trenton, where they viewed search and rescue demonstrations, met veterans and business representatives of The Prince's Charities Canada's Prince's Operation Entrepreneur program, and laid a wreath at the Afghanistan Repatriation Memorial. They also visited Wellington Farmers' Market, reflecting The Prince's interest in sustainable agriculture.

On July 1, in the presence of the Governor General and Their Royal Highnesses, the Lieutenant Governor attended the opening ceremony of Canada Day celebrations on Parliament Hill, joining tens of thousands of spectators despite the rainy weather. Her Honour also took part in the dedication of the Canadian History Hall at the Canadian Museum of History, the reopening of the National Arts Centre, and the inauguration of The Queen's Entrance at Rideau Hall, marking Her Majesty's Sapphire Jubilee.



The Lieutenant Governor at Canada Day celebrations on Parliament Hill, July 2017.



The Lieutenant Governor greeting The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall at CFB Trenton, June 2017.

Lieutenant Governor's Visionaries Prize

To mark the 150th anniversary of Confederation, Her Honour announced the launch of the Lieutenant Governor's Visionaries Prize in September 2016. Conducted in partnership with the Walrus Foundation, and supported by the Government of Ontario through its Ontario150 program, the Visionaries Prize was an opportunity for innovative and creative thinkers across Ontario to identify and present their solutions to the great challenges facing Ontarians and Canadians over the next 50 years.

Following the first phase of this initiative, in which Ontarians from across the province submitted 445 ideas in six categories, 36 finalists were chosen by a panel led by head judge Piya Chattopadhyay and six subject-matter experts to showcase their visions in front of audiences including policymakers, industry leaders, and members of the public. Audience members helped choose category winners through live voting at events around the province:



Her Honour posing with Lieutenant Governor's Visionary Prize category winners, October 2017.

- **Reconciliation**, Thunder Bay. Jessica Rumboldt: Addressing the over-representation of Indigenous female offenders in the Canadian correctional system.
- **Governance**, Kingston. James Mager: Modernizing democracy—Technology and the Ontario government.
- **Inclusive prosperity**, Windsor. Cierra Bray: Making entrepreneurship a mandatory class in Ontario.
- **Environmental stewardship**, Waterloo. Charu Jaiswal: Making Ontario a leader in energy storage
- **Social cohesion**, Brampton. Andrea Hossack: Supporting community health through intergenerational care for Ontario's children and elders.
- **Scientific and technological innovation**, Toronto. Carter Li: Fighting climate change with a community-based platform for electric-vehicle charging.

During a ceremony in the Lieutenant Governor's Suite in October, Her Honour recognized finalists and category winners, who each received a \$2,500 award and whose winning ideas appeared in a spread in the pages of *The Walrus* magazine.

The way forward

Throughout the Canada 150 year, the Lieutenant Governor noted two overarching themes across hundreds of events: the importance of place for Ontarians, as well as the remarkable stories of immigrants and the embrace of diversity. Yet alongside these points of pride, the people of Ontario recognize that there is still work to be done in building a more inclusive society. To that end, Her Honour encouraged Ontarians to consider how best to channel the energy generated by Canada 150 into building a better country and a brighter future.

Her Honour touched on these themes during events and in remarks as Canada 150 celebrations began to wind down and into the New Year. An incurable optimist, Ms. Dowdeswell regularly offered two observations for the way forward. First, in reference to the path of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, she has noted that a critical mass now seem to understand the imperative of redressing the shameful, damaging legacy of colonialism and cultural assimilation. Second, Ms. Dowdeswell has noted that Ontarians have intuitively embraced the concept of sustainability, even if they do not use the term itself.

Together, the reflections about milestones and successes identified during Canada 150, and the recognition of what still needs to be done to evolve into the society and country we wish to be, created myriad opportunities for dialogue. We are communities of generosity, compassion, and inclusion. We are a country that engages in the world. The year was an affirmation of hope, optimism, and resiliency based on a foundation of values that will surely sustain us in a time and world of change, challenge, and uncertainty.

Constitutional role



Representing the Crown

Canada is a constitutional monarchy with The Queen as Sovereign and head of state. In Ontario, the Lieutenant Governor is The Queen's representative while the Premier is the head of government. In Canada's system of parliamentary democracy, the head of state (commonly called the Crown) holds supreme power on behalf of the people and lends it to be exercised by the government of the day.

The Lieutenant Governor delivered the Speech from the Throne opening the third session of the 41st Parliament of Ontario, March 2018.

Responsible government

The foundation of Ontario's democracy is "responsible government", which simply means that:

- The Crown acts upon formal advice
- The Executive (government) is responsible to the Legislature for its advice

The government (Premier and Cabinet ministers) is formally appointed by the Lieutenant Governor and advises on the use of the Crown's authority according to law and is accountable to the elected Legislative Assembly for its decisions and actions while in office.

Provided the government enjoys the "confidence" of the Legislative Assembly, its advice is invariably accepted and legitimized by the Crown. If the government loses a confidence question raised in the Legislative Assembly, then it must either resign, making way for a new government to be appointed, or submit to the will of citizens in a general election.

The Lieutenant Governor holds regular meetings with the Premier, during which she has the right to be consulted, to encourage, and to warn on government matters. If either the Lieutenant Governor or the Premier is not available to meet, they may speak by phone. These meetings, as with all

communications between the Lieutenant Governor and the Government, remain confidential in order to promote an open and productive exchange of views.

Powers and responsibilities

In Ontario, the Lieutenant Governor exercises the powers of the Crown, which derive from the written constitution, constitutional convention (political rules of the constitution), and statute law. These powers are similar to those of The Queen and Governor General with regard to Parliament and the federal government.

The Lieutenant Governor:

- Ensures that Ontario always has a Premier who is able to command the confidence of the Legislative Assembly
- Appoints members of the Executive Council (Cabinet ministers) on the advice of the Premier
- Summons, prorogues, and dissolves the Legislature on the advice of the Premier
- Reads the Speech from the Throne at the beginning of a parliamentary session
- Grants Royal Assent, the final step of the legislative process, to bills passed by the Legislative Assembly
- Orders elections to the Legislative Assembly on the advice of Cabinet, in accordance with the *Election Act*
- Approves government business such as regulations and public appointments by signing Orders-in-Council on the advice of Cabinet

The Lieutenant Governor remains strictly nonpartisan in carrying out her constitutional duties. In doing so, the Lieutenant Governor ensures that the democratic will of Ontarians and their elected representatives is upheld and that the constitutional conventions of responsible government are respected.

In numbers

On March 19, 2018, the Lieutenant Governor opened the third session of the 41st Parliament of Ontario by reading the Speech from the Throne.

The Lieutenant Governor regularly reviews and signs papers formally approving government decisions. From April 1, 2016, to March 31, 2017:

- 57 bills received Royal Assent
- 1 by-election was authorized
- 2,460 Orders-in-Council (including 449 regulations) were signed into effect
- 473 letters patent were signed under the Public Lands Act and the Mining Act

Administrator

In the event that the Lieutenant Governor is absent, ill, or unable to act, the Administrator of the Government of Ontario may execute the office and functions of the Lieutenant Governor.

In December 2017, the Governor General-in-Council approved an order-in-council appointing the Chief Justice of Ontario and other judges of the courts of Ontario, in order of seniority, to act as Administrator.

Bringing people together



Indigenous peoples

The Lieutenant Governor regularly engaged with representatives of Indigenous communities, ensured Indigenous representation at events wherever possible, and took efforts to create opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to come together in dialogue.

The Crown-Indigenous relationship

In April 2017, the Lieutenant Governor attended the launch of *Canada by Treaty: Negotiating Histories*, an exhibition at the University of Toronto responding to the 150th anniversary of Confederation by explaining in accessible language the long history of treaty making. Her Honour hosted the exhibition in the Lieutenant Governor's Suite for two and a half weeks, coinciding with Canada Day, during which hundreds of visitors had a chance to learn about the enduring significance of these agreements between Indigenous peoples and the Crown and how and why they were essential to the foundation of modern Canada.

Throughout September and October, the Lieutenant Governor took part in events marking the dedication of the Chapel Royal at Massey College in Toronto. Also named Gi-Chi-Twaa Gimaa Kwe Mississauga Anishinaabek AName Gamik (The Queen's Anishinaabek sacred place), this multifaith space is the third Chapel Royal in Canada, an honour granted by Her Majesty The Queen to foster reconciliation. In November, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the induction of the Rev. Rosalyn Elm as Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of Six Nations and installation as Chaplain of Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks in Brantford. Ms. Elm is the first female Anglican priest in the Diocese of Huron and the first Indigenous woman to take charge of a Chapel Royal in Canada.

In the presence of the Governor General, Her Honour congratulated Hannah Morningstar from Whitefish Lake First Nation, Ontario's finalist in the Imagine a Canada program, June 2017.

Reconciliation

In June, the Lieutenant Governor participated in an awards ceremony and discussion with finalists in Imagine a Canada, a competition conducted in partnership with the Governor General in which young people were invited to share their vision of Canada through the lens of reconciliation.

In Brantford in November, Her Honour addressed From Truth to Reconciliation: Redefining Archaeology in Ontario, the annual symposium of the Ontario Archaeological Society. In her remarks, Ms. Dowdeswell emphasized the importance of embracing traditional knowledge. Also in November, she addressed the annual Fellows Dinner of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, paying tribute to the organization's efforts in fostering reconciliation through its work in developing the Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada, a four-volume publication produced in partnership with the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, the Métis Nation, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, and Indspire.

Community visits

In August, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation's Three Fires Homecoming Pow Wow, commemorating the 170th anniversary of the First Nation's move to the New Credit and celebrating the community's connections to the land. In September, Her Honour participated in the inaugural Celebration of Nations, a community celebration of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis performing and visual arts in St Catharines.

During a visit to Thorold in October, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the inauguration of the First Nations Peace Monument, paying tribute to First Peoples who bravely served the Crown during the War of 1812.

Women and girls

*The Lieutenant Governor
and former first Lady of the
United States Michelle Obama*

The Lieutenant Governor regularly conducted engagements underscoring the endless potential of women and girls to make meaningful contributions to social and economic life in Ontario and elsewhere. In doing so, Her Honour emphasized the importance of engaging half of the population in addressing the challenges and exploring the opportunities brought by a complex and interdependent world.



In April, Her Honour hosted a lunch for participants of A Remarkable Assembly, a day-long conference bringing together 107 young women representing each of Ontario's electoral districts. The event was organized by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to mark the 100th anniversary of voting rights for many women in Ontario.

In May, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a working lunch in honour of a visiting members of the Women's Leadership Board at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, during which attendees shared insights on cross-border challenges.

In November 2017, Her Honour hosted a working dinner for women STEM professionals associated with the Perimeter Institute of Theoretical Physics in Waterloo. During the evening, Her Honour recognized attendees' accomplishments and encouraged them to act as role models to young people.

Also in November, the Lieutenant Governor attended a lecture by former American First Lady Michelle Obama at the Economic Club of Canada in Toronto focusing on economic opportunities for women and girls. In December, Her Honour hosted members of the Canada–United States Council for Advancement of Women

Entrepreneurs and Business Leaders for a roundtable emphasizing the importance of fostering opportunities for young women to get involved in STEM fields.

In January 2018, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the premiere of emerging playwright Alice Abracen's work *Omission*, paying tribute to the Alumnae Theatre, the longest running theatre company in the Toronto, and the oldest women-run theatre company in North America.

Unfinished Business

It was not lost on the Lieutenant Governor that International Women's Day in 2017 coincided with significant anniversaries in Canadian history, notably the sesquicentennial of Confederation and the centennial of the vote having been granted to many women in Ontario. Recognizing an opportunity to reflect on the specific role that women have played in the achievement of these and other milestones, and to also shine a light on the unfinished business that remains, Her Honour sought to actively seek out ways to inspire partnerships and collective action to empower women to bring their knowledge, perspectives, and leadership to every field of human endeavour. To this end, Ms. Dowdeswell involved herself in engagements throughout the year relating specifically to women and girls.

In April, motivational speaker and champion of ethics in leadership Dr. Betsy McGregor joined the Lieutenant Governor in convening "Trailblazers and Pathmakers", a day-long gathering of 100 women students, professionals, leaders, and activists from all walks of life. All present contributed to meaningful conversations about the challenges and opportunities facing women in Ontario, fostering new cross-generational and interdisciplinary relationships.

On Persons Day in October 2017, Her Honour addressed 50th anniversary celebrations of the Zonta Club of Niagara Falls, a voluntary association that aims to advance the status of women worldwide.

To mark International Women's Day in March 2018, the Lieutenant Governor delivered an address to a special meeting of the Rotary Club of Etobicoke. In her remarks, Her Honour encouraged Ontarians to share and listen to the remarkable stories of women in Ontario and to follow their examples in building a society that is inclusive and resilient.

Throughout 2017 and 2018, the Lieutenant Governor participated in a number of events in support of Changing the Game, Changing the Conversation, a Canada 150 initiative of Coaches Ontario in which mentors hundreds of new female coaches in all sports across the province. Throughout, Her Honour emphasized the importance of role models and of fostering solidarity and a sense of mutual support among women.



Her Honour posing with participants and organizers of Changing the Game, Changing the Conversation, June 2017.

Higher education

During the course of community visits around the province, the Lieutenant Governor has made a point of including representatives of colleges and universities and engaging with students wherever possible. In May 2017, she addressed the opening ceremonies of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, held at Ryerson University.

In addition to events taking place at public colleges and universities around Ontario, Her Honour paid an official visit to Carleton University in December, during which she took special interest in meeting with students and faculty involved in areas of study integrating environmental, economic, and social concerns.

In January, Ms. Dowdeswell delivered the 2018 Donald Gow Memorial Lecture at the Queen's University School of Policy Studies, offering her perspective on lessons to be drawn from commemorations marking the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

Science, technology, and innovation

The Lieutenant Governor recognizes the importance of scientific exploration and the encouragement of innovation, frequently noting that societies are most successful in addressing shared challenges when they are able to combine conventional wisdom with new modes of thinking. Her Honour regularly took part in events supporting Ontario's leading role in promoting knowledge-based economies. At the invitation of then Governor General the Rt. Hon. David Johnston, Her Honour was a regular contributor to Enhancing Global Recognition for Canadian Research Excellence, an initiative aimed at boosting Canada's research profile on the global stage.

Throughout 2017 and 2018, the Lieutenant Governor lent support to nonprofit organization Let's Talk Science and its initiative Canada 2067, aimed at motivating young people to develop science, technology, engineering, and math skills and motivating educational institutions and business

communities to commit to supporting STEM learning. In November 2017, Her Honour addressed the Canada 2067 Regional Youth Summit in Toronto, urging participants to never to lose sight of the thrill of discovery and of the drive to explore and shape the future. In September, Her Honour presided at the opening of a new STEM-focused building at the Bishop Strachan School in Toronto.

In May, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Science Centres, emphasizing the importance of scientific literacy and highlighting the 150th anniversary of Confederation as an opportunity to recognize the role of science throughout history in addressing societal challenges.

In October, Her Honour addressed the Provincial Emergency Management Conference in Toronto. Organized by the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Ontario, this two-day event offered more than 300 delegates from federal, provincial, and municipal governments, first responders, and representatives from the private and nonprofit sectors an opportunity to share information and best practices in responding to climate change and in fostering resilience. Also in October, Ms. Dowdeswell attended the opening of the inaugural SingularityU Canada Summit in Toronto, exploring how technologies like artificial intelligence, nanotechnology, and digital medicine will impact the ways of living and working.

In Toronto in November, Her Honour addressed the presentation of the 30th John Charles Polanyi Prizes, given annually to up to five postdoctoral researchers in physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature, and economic science. Also in November, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the presentation of the 36th Ernest C. Manning Innovation Awards in Toronto, paying tribute to champions of innovation and encouraging all to innovate not for its own sake, but for the betterment of humanity.

In January 2018, the Lieutenant Governor attended the launch of UPPlift, an urban pilot project in Toronto bringing innovation to the built environment through a virtual technology accelerator.

Arts and culture

The Lieutenant Governor recognizes the capacity of the arts to foster social cohesion and promote a shared cultural understanding. To this end, Her Honour regularly interacted with heritage, arts, and cultural organizations while travelling throughout Ontario, noting the contributions of cultural institutions in bringing people together. Her Honour regularly received incoming heads of significant cultural institutions in Ontario, and paid tribute to outgoing CEO of the National Arts Centre, Peter Herrndorf. Ms. Dowdeswell also regularly viewed exhibitions across Ontario, including at the Peel Art Gallery Museum and Archives, Textile Museum of Canada.



Her Honour posing with participants of the Canada Youth STEM Conference, May 2017.

In March 2018, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the opening of *The World of the Fatimids* exhibition at the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto in the presence of Prince Ayn. In her remarks, she praised the museum for its commitment to pluralism and in recalling the wisdom of ages past in fostering dialogue and social inclusion.

In addition to viewing opera, ballet, symphony, theatre, and film productions in the GTA whenever possible throughout the year, Ms. Dowdeswell attended several performances as part of the Shaw Festival and the Stratford Festival, including *The Breathing Hole* by Colleen Murphy, a play exploring Canadian history through the eyes of a polar bear and showcasing Inuit culture and actors. In May 2017, Her Honour presided at the presentation of the Pauline McGibbon Award, which recognizes emerging members of Ontario's theatre community. During the Luminato Festival in June, Her Honour attended the world premiere of *Bearing*, a dance-opera by Michael Greyeyes and Yvette Nolan. In July, Her Honour attended the opening of the Elora Festival. Also in July, as part of the Stratford Summer Music Festival, Her Honour addressed an advance performance of *Edges of Canada*, the national concert tour of the National Youth Orchestra and the National Youth Choir.

In April, the Lieutenant Governor attended screening at Silverthorn Collegiate Institute in Toronto as part of the REEL CANADA film festival. In August, Her Honour attended several events as part of the Toronto International Film Festival. In October, she attended a screening in Toronto during the imagineNATIVE Film & Media Arts Festival. In Toronto in November, Ms. Dowdeswell addressed a screening of *The Breadwinner*, a critically acclaimed film based on the children's book of the same name written by Ontario writer Deborah Ellis. In March 2018, she attended the 2018 Canadian Screen Awards in Toronto.



Her Honour viewing artifacts during a visit to the Aga Khan Museum, July 2017.

In September 2017, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the inaugural Canadian Craft Biennial, held at the Art Gallery of Burlington.

In December, Her Honour addressed the 50th anniversary of the Toronto delegation of the Accademia Italiana della Cucina, commending its members for their longstanding support of culinary arts as a means of fostering cultural exchange.

Support for the written word

In May, Her Honour welcomed author and publisher Doug Gibson to the Lieutenant Governor's Suite to mark the launch a new artistic production paying tribute to Canadian fiction writers.

In October, Her Honour paid tribute to writers and lovers of the written word during several events taking place as part of the International Festival of Authors in Toronto, including a benefit gala in support of freedom of expression advocacy organization PEN Canada. Also in October in Toronto, the Lieutenant Governor paid tribute to the important work of journalists during the annual gala of international media development charity Journalists for Human Rights. In November, Ms. Dowdeswell honoured excellence in local journalism during the annual presentation of the National Ethnic Press and Media Council of Canada Awards in Toronto.

In January 2018, Her Honour paid tribute to the *Walrus* magazine during its 15th anniversary gala in Toronto.

Young people

Her Honour regularly encouraged youth volunteerism and community service. To this end, she presided at the presentation of the following awards:

- The Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award (May and September 2017)
- 4-H Ontario Award of Achievement (November 2017)
- Ontario Community Newspapers Association Junior Citizen Award (March 2018)

As a former educator, Ms. Dowdeswell has a unique understanding of the importance of an educational system that keeps pace with an ever more changing and interconnected world. To this end, in May 2017, Her Honour attended the annual gala of Peacebuilders, a nonprofit organization that facilitates restorative justice programs for young people in Toronto. Also in May, she hosted a reception to mark the 30th anniversary of Prime Mentors of Canada, a program based at the Ontario Institute for Studies and Education that fosters mentoring relationships between retirees and young people in low-income communities.

In April, Her Honour welcomed members of the anti-bullying club at Pierre Laporte Public School in Toronto for a tour of the Lieutenant Governor's Suite. To mark Jewish Heritage Month in May, Her Honour joined students at John Polanyi Collegiate Institute in Toronto to view *Anne Frank—A history for today*, a travelling expedition on loan from the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. Also in May, she joined students at Winona Drive Public School in Toronto in welcoming young Quebecers participating in the Experiences Canada exchange program. To mark Canada Learning Code Week in June, Her Honour joined students from Zion Heights Middle School at the House of VR in Toronto to learn the basics of coding and virtual reality. Throughout the year, Her Honour paid visits to students, including at Queen Elizabeth Public School in Perth (June 2017) and Queen Victoria Public School in Windsor (September 2017).



Her Honour posing in a 360° photo with participants and organizers of a coding event at the House of VR in Toronto, June 2017.

In June, Her Honour participated in a video-link conversation with students at Fort Frances High School as part of Connected North, a program connecting schools in remote Northern communities to experts, content partners, and educational venues like galleries and museums. In November, Her Honour participated in a video conference with students at Lakefield College School as part of day of activities focused on empowering young women.

During a visit to the United Way of Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington in January 2018, the Lieutenant Governor joined staff, clients, young people, and local representatives for a roundtable focusing on the community's efforts to eradicate youth homelessness. Her Honour also visited the One Roof Kingston Youth Services Hub, a joint effort of the United Way and local business, which enables young people to offer a selection of social services in a single location "under one roof".

Her Honour met with each intake of the Legislative Page Program at Queen's Park. In February 2018, Ms. Dowdeswell met with participants of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario Model Parliament. Also

in February, she addressed the General Assembly of Martingrove Collegiate Institute's Model United Nations in Toronto.

In April, Her Honour addressed the Toronto District School Board's Parents as Partners conference. In March 2018, Her Honour hosted a presentation ceremony of the biennial CITYKIDS Inclusion Award, which recognizes exemplary inclusionary practices within early learning and care programs in Toronto.

Community celebrations

The Lieutenant Governor routinely promotes the ideals of multiculturalism and inclusion by taking part in a multitude of community events. For example, Her Honour addressed the launch of Black History Month in Ontario and the 40th anniversary of the Ontario Black History Society (January 2018) and a Sinhala and Tamil New Year celebration hosted by the Sri Lanka Association of Toronto (April 2017). In July, Her Honour addressed a barbeque held by members of the South Asian community in Mississauga.

Her Honour celebrated important community anniversaries, including the 100th anniversary of the Sharon Temple in East Gwillimbury (June 2017), the 140th anniversary of St Patrick Roman Catholic Church in Hamilton (July 2017), and the 200th anniversary of Simcoe Street United Church in Oshawa (October 2017).

In April, the Lieutenant Governor paid tribute to role models within the Franco-Ontarian community by hosting the annual investiture of the Ordre de la Pléiade de l'Association des parlementaires de langue française. In May, Her Honour visited the Alliance française de Toronto where she met participants of Les escales de l'histoire, a cross-country French-language dictation competition and Canada 150 signature initiative organized by the Paul Gérin-Lajoie Foundation and the Ligue national d'improvisation.

Sports and recreation

Her Honour recognizes the important role of sports and outdoor activities in our culture. When addressing athletes and spectators, Her Honour emphasized the capacity of athletics in promoting active lifestyles and in fostering social cohesion.

During National Volunteer Week in April, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a reception to celebrate the contributions of volunteers in advance of the Toronto 2017 Invictus Games. In September, Her Honour attended the games' opening ceremonies, numerous sporting events, an accessibility innovation showcase affiliated with the games, and the closing ceremonies.

Throughout July, the Lieutenant Governor took part in sporting and cultural events as part of the North American Indigenous Games in Toronto. In addition to attending the opening ceremonies, Her Honour presented medals at several sporting events. Also in July, Her Honour took part in The Queen's Baton Relay, greeting the baton during its stop in Hamilton in advance of the Commonwealth Games taking place in Australia's Gold Coast in April 2018.

In February, Her Honour attended sporting events during the Ontario Winter Games in Orillia. Also in February, Her Honour attended the annual Lieutenant Governor's Games at Variety Village, an organization offering recreational opportunities for children of varying abilities through the promotion of athletics and fitness.

Her Honour attended professional sporting events throughout the year, including a Toronto Blue Jays baseball game, where she threw out the first pitch (July 2017). In November 2017, Her Honour took part in events surrounding the Grey Cup Festival as its Honorary Chair, including the CFL's Tackle Hunger campaign and the 105th Grey Cup championship game. In March 2018, she attended the Canadian Women's Hockey League finals and presentation of the Clarkson Cup in Toronto.

In July 2017, Her Honour attended the 158th running of the Queen's Plate at Woodbine Racetrack as guest of honour.

Representing Ontarians



The Lieutenant Governor represented Ontarians during the dedication of a memorial at HMCS Prevost in London, Ontario, marking the Royal Canadian Navy's role in the Battle of the Atlantic during the Second World War, April 2017.

Official visits to communities

The Lieutenant Governor continued on a program of official visits to municipalities across Ontario. By visiting Ontarians in their own communities, Her Honour is able to get a better sense of the varied aspirations and concerns of residents, while at the same time learning about local initiatives in which they take pride. Official visits involve courtesy calls with mayors and local representatives, and have frequently included roundtables with residents, members of civil society, and community groups on topics having to do with economic, environmental, and social sustainability. Official visits often entail a civic reception and take place in conjunction with significant local events.

Her Honour paid an additional 14 official visits to municipalities, bringing the total number since the beginning of her mandate to 61:

- Perth (June 2017)
- Owen Sound (June 2017)
- East Gwillimbury (June 2017)
- Greenstone (July 2017)
- Atikokan (July 2017)
- Richmond Hill (October 2017)
- Georgina (October 2017)
- St Thomas (October 2017)
- Norfolk County (November 2017)
- Kincardine (January 2018)
- Clarington (January 2018)
- Ajax (February 2018)
- Pickering (March 2018)
- Milton (March 2018)

Since the beginning of her mandate, Ms. Dowdeswell has conducted engagements in 91 municipalities.

In July 2017, Her Honour conducted a tour of Northern Ontario communities, visiting Webequie First Nation, the municipalities of Greenstone and Atikokan, and Quetico Provincial Park. Ms. Dowdeswell met residents, local representatives, and Indigenous leaders during 20 engagements over three days.

During the Northern Tour, the Lieutenant Governor participated in three roundtables focusing on issues of local importance and on the role of civil society in fostering sustainability. Additional highlights include an interview with students of the Journalists for Human Rights' Indigenous Reporters Program in Webequie First Nation and visits to the Ontario Native Women's Association and the Geraldton Interpretive Centre. Her Honour joined Junior Canadian Rangers at Camp Loon, a summer program aimed at fostering leadership skills, and participated in a celebratory dinner to mark the campers' success. Ms. Dowdeswell made further visits to the Atikokan Centennial Museum and Canoe Canada Outfitters before participating in a series of events at Quetico Provincial Park, including a traditional welcoming ceremony led by the chief of Lac La Croix First Nation.

In January 2018, Her Honour hosted the Lieutenant Governor's New Year's Levee in Hamilton for the first time. In addition to offering members of the public a chance to meet Her Majesty's representative in Ontario, learn about the Lieutenant Governor's role and responsibilities, and enjoy local entertainment, the 2018 Levee was an opportunity to highlight how Hamilton's rich history and culture complement the city's dedication to sustainable development.

Hosting visitors

The Lieutenant Governor regularly receives members of the Royal Family during their stays in Ontario, including The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall (June and July 2017) and Prince Harry, now known as The Duke of Sussex (September 2017).

The Lieutenant Governor also welcomes world leaders, acting as Ontario's official host and providing opportunities to learn about and appreciate Canadians and Ontarians. Her Honour welcomed the King and Queen of the Belgians, the Governor General of Antigua and Barbuda, the presidents of Chile and Italy, the prime ministers of Ireland and St Lucia, and numerous ambassadors, high commissioners, and consuls general.

In October 2017, Her Honour hosted a reception marking the annual Chiefs of Protocol Conference, emphasizing the important role of diplomacy in upholding public trust and the dignity of institutions. In December, Her Honour addressed the 39th annual international conference of the Council of Government Ethics Laws, noting the imperatives of integrity, evidence-based decision-making, and the building of trust and confidence in institutions. Signs of the fragility of democracy reinforce the need for continued attention to the worthy aims of justice and good governance.

In February 2018, Her Honour hosted the Rt. Hon. Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada, during Her Excellency's first official visit to Toronto upon taking office.

Milestone commemorations

See pages 8-10 for events related to the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

The Lieutenant Governor participated in a number of events marking significant national moments.

In September 2017, the Lieutenant Governor addressed commemorations marking the 225th anniversary of the first Parliament of Upper Canada, held in Niagara-on-the-Lake. In November, she addressed a student re-enactment of Canada's first Parliament hosted by the Mayor of Stratford.

Throughout 2017, Her Honour joined Canadians paying tribute to the service of Governor General David Johnston and Sharon Johnston. In October 2017, Her Honour attended the installation of Julie Payette as the 29th Governor General of Canada. In December, Ms. Dowdeswell paid tribute in Ottawa to retiring Chief Justice of Canada Beverley McLachlin.

Service to the Crown and Remembrance

The Lieutenant Governor regularly promotes volunteer and public service in communities across Ontario, and maintains strong links with those who serve their neighbours, such as members of the Canadian Forces and civilian police, fire, and paramedic services.

Since 2011, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario has served *ex officio* as Colonel of the Regiment of The Queen's York Rangers (1st American Regiment), a Primary Reserve unit in the Canadian Army. This honorary appointment recognizes the regiment's link to Col. John Graves Simcoe, first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada (now Ontario), who commanded the regiment during the American War of Independence.

In April 2017, the Lieutenant Governor marked the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Hill 70, which took place during the First World War in France, during events in Peterborough, Hamilton, and Toronto. Also in April, Her Honour addressed the dedication of a memorial at the HMCS Prevost in London marking the Royal Canadian Navy's role in the Battle of the Atlantic in the Second World War. In August, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the unveiling of a plaque at Toronto City Hall commemorating the Atlantic Charter, an policy statement made by the United Kingdom and the United States during the Second World War considered to be a key step to the establishment of the United Nations in 1945.

In August, the Lieutenant Governor joined the Blackdown Cadets for a sunset ceremony at CFB Borden. In September, in the presence of the Governor General, Her Honour attended the presentation of new Colours to the Royal Canadian Air Force during a ceremony in Toronto. In Toronto in September, the Lieutenant Governor addressed 75th anniversary celebrations of the Women's Canadian Royal Canadian Naval Service, paying tribute to women veterans of the Second World War.

In October, the Lieutenant Governor received the ceremonial first poppy in Ontario from the Royal Canadian Legion during a gathering at the veterans centre of Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto. In November, Her Honour marked Remembrance Day in Norfolk County, where she addressed a memorial service at the local cenotaph, placing a wreath on behalf of the people of Ontario, before meeting with veterans and community members during a reception at the Simcoe Armoury. Also in November, Her Honour honoured Korean War veterans during a tribute luncheon hosted by Unit 26 of the Korean Veterans Association of Canada in Hamilton.

During a visit to Kingston in January 2018, the Lieutenant Governor joined members of the Princess of Wales' Own Regiment in celebration of the unit's 163rd anniversary.

In April 2017, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the 20th annual awards gala of the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement, paying tribute to women police officers having demonstrated exceptional service, leadership, and achievement while in uniform and in the community. In October, Her Honour attended the annual Ontario Provincial Police Mess Dinner, where she delivered remarks in her capacity as an Honorary Commissioner of the OPP. During the dinner, she honoured newly commissioned OPP inspectors.

The Lieutenant Governor presided at the Ontario police memorial service in May. In October, Her Honour addressed the Ontario firefighters' memorial service.

In April, Her Honour attended the funeral of Canadian Army Sgt. Robert Dyerowicz in Kitchener. Throughout the year, Her Honour also represented the people of Ontario during the funerals and memorial services of prominent Ontarians. In August, she attended the funeral of philanthropist and Giller Prize founder Jack Rabinovitch. Ms. Dowdeswell attended the funeral of Arnold Chan, MP for Scarborough—Agincourt, in September. She attended the funeral of Senator Tobias Enverga, Jr. in November.

In October, Ms. Dowdeswell visited the newly opened National Holocaust Memorial in Ottawa.

Honouring Ontarians



As the Crown's representative, the Lieutenant Governor plays an important role in recognizing Ontarians through the honours system. Honours and awards strengthen the fabric of Ontario's communities and shape the aspirations of Ontarians. They are a way to formally and publicly acknowledge the excellence, achievements, and contributions of role models from all walks of life.

The Lieutenant Governor posing with recipients of national honours and family members following an award presentation recognizing champions of reconciliation, January 2018.

Order of Canada and national honours

The Lieutenant Governor may present national honours, including the Order of Canada, bravery decorations, the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers, and commemorative medals, on behalf of the Governor General.

During a private ceremony in Toronto in December 2017, Her Honour presented the insignia of a Member of the Order of Canada to Jay Switzer in recognition of his long service, integrity, and leadership to Canada's broadcasting community. Throughout the 150th anniversary year of Confederation, Her Honour attended numerous events paying tribute to those having been appointed to the Order of Canada since its establishment in 1967.

As the Vice Prior in Ontario of the Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem, the Lieutenant Governor presided at an investiture of the Order of St John in June 2017.

In October 2017, the Lieutenant Governor presented service bars to recipients of the Exemplary Service Medal during an awards ceremony organized by the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs. In January 2018, Her Honour hosted a ceremony during which she presented Meritorious Service Decorations and the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers to 15 individuals in recognition of their efforts in support of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

In the presence of the Governor General, the Lieutenant Governor addressed recipients of national honours during a presentation ceremony in Toronto in February 2018.

Order of Ontario

Established in 1986, the Order of Ontario is the province's highest official honour. It recognizes Ontarians of all backgrounds whose excellence in any field of endeavour has left a lasting legacy in the province and beyond. Through their contributions, members have shaped—and continue to shape—the Ontario's history and place in Canada.

In her capacity as Chancellor of the Order of Ontario, the Lieutenant Governor invested 26 new members during a special Canada 150 celebration in June 2017, and 20 new members in February 2018. As appointments to the order for life, Her Honour has invited each new member to meet with her so that she may learn about their contributions.

The insignia of the Order of Ontario consists of the royal crown and Ontario's shield of arms superimposed on a stylized trillium.



Ontario medals and awards

The Government of Ontario has established several official honours and awards, which are conferred by the Lieutenant Governor on the government's formal advice. In all cases, members of the public submit nominations to an honours advisory council, which provides the government with recommendations.

Her Honour presided at the presentation of the following medals:

- Ontario Medal for Young Volunteers (May 2017, 10 young people)
- Ontario Medal for Firefighter Bravery (November 2017, 6 firefighters)
- Ontario Medal for Police Bravery (November 2017, 7 police officers)
- Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship (January 2018, 19 honourees)

In November 2017, Her Honour presented the Ontario Senior Achievement Award to 15 seniors.

Her Honour also presented the following awards in recognition of former Lieutenant Governors:

- David C. Onley Award for Leadership in Accessibility (May 2017, 3 recipients, 8 champion organizations)
- Hilary M. Weston Scholarship (August 2017, 2 graduate-level social work students)
- James Bartleman Aboriginal Youth Creative Writing Award (December 2017, 6 Indigenous young people)
- Lincoln M. Alexander Award (February 2018, 3 young leaders in eliminating racial discrimination)

Lieutenant Governor's Awards

The Lieutenant Governor's Community Volunteer Award for Students pays tribute to students who not only exceed the number of volunteer service hours required to graduate, but also go above and beyond. Each year, one graduating student at each of Ontario's high schools receives the award, which includes a certificate and a commemorative pin. In 2017, 751 graduates were recognized.

Independent organizations have created awards in partnership with successive Lieutenant Governors to recognize achievements in fields of endeavour, including:

- Lieutenant Governor's Award for Design Excellence in Architecture (Ontario Association of Architects)
- Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Distinction in Public Administration (Institute of Public Administration of Canada in Ontario)
- Lieutenant Governor's Cup (sport horse breeding), (Royal Agricultural Winter Fair)
- Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Awards (Ontario Heritage Trust)
- Lieutenant Governor's Award for Marketing Excellence in Ontario (Economic Developers Council of Ontario)
- Lieutenant Governor's Distinguished Service Award (Royal Ontario Museum)
- Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Ontario Wines (Ontario Wine Awards)

Viceregal patronage

The Lieutenant Governor plays a key role in supporting outstanding contributions to civil society. To this end, the Lieutenant Governor from time to time grants viceregal patronage to organizations and initiatives, lending them vital support and recognition.

To date, Ms. Dowdeswell has granted patronage to 46 organizations:

- Aga Khan Museum
- Air Cadet League of Canada (Ontario Provincial Committee)
- Army Cadet League of Canada (Ontario)
- Artscape Foundation
- Canadian Centre for Ethics and Corporate Policy
- Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons
- Children's International Learning Centre
- CNIB (Ontario-Nunavut)
- Commissionaires Great Lakes
- Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall
- DAREarts
- The Duke of Edinburgh's Awards (Ontario)
- Friends of HMCS Haida
- Haven Toronto (formerly The Good Neighbours' Club)
- Health Arts Society of Ontario
- IISD Experimental Lakes Area
- IODE (Ontario)
- Last Post Fund (Ontario)
- Learning for a Sustainable Future
- Let's Talk Science
- The Lifesaving Society
- Magna Carta Canada
- Monarchist League of Canada
- Mon Sheong Foundation
- Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations
- Ontario Historical Society
- Ontario Society of Artists
- Pathways to Education Canada
- Provincial Council of Women of Ontario
- Quarter Century Club
- Royal Canadian Humane Association
- Royal Canadian Institute for the Advancement of Science
- Royal Canadian Legion (Ontario Command)
- Royal Canadian Military Institute
- Royal Canadian Sea Cadets/ Navy League Cadets
- Royal Commonwealth Society
- Royal Ontario Museum
- Schizophrenia Society of Ontario
- Scouts Canada
- Textile Museum of Canada
- Toronto Children's Chorus
- Travellers' Aid Society
- Variety Village
- Warriors' Day Parade Council
- Waterlution: A Water Learning Experience
- Women's Musical Club of Toronto

Ms. Dowdeswell has granted patronage to the following special initiatives:

- Wounded Warriors Canada Highway of Heroes Bike Ride (August 2016)
- Greatness: The Great Lakes Project (launched in October 2016, ongoing)
- The Toronto School: Then, Now, Next (October 2016)
- Pollution Probe Gala (November 2016)
- 104th Grey Cup Festival (November 2016)

Office operations



Her Honour welcomed the Rt. Hon. Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada, to the Lieutenant Governor's Suite, February 2018.

The Lieutenant Governor's Suite

After the closure of Chorley Park 1937, Lieutenant Governors of Ontario have operated out of offices and state rooms in the northwest wing of the Legislative Building at Queen's Park, located in downtown Toronto. The Lieutenant Governor's Suite is a working office and also serves as the setting for official functions and hospitality.

Tours

The Lieutenant Governor's Suite was regularly opened to visitors as part of tours of the Legislative Building at Queen's Park. Members of the public were welcomed during Doors Open Toronto in May 2017, and again during an open house on Canada Day. In addition to learning about the office's history, viewers were able to view the changing art exhibitions. Approximately 11,000 people visited the suite on tours or during official functions.

Communications

Engaging Ontarians online

The Lieutenant Governor maintains an active social media presence, regularly documenting her activity program. The office operates official accounts on Facebook, Flickr, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.

Public explanation of Her Honour’s responsibilities continues to form an important part of the office’s online outreach. To this end, the Lieutenant Governor’s website is routinely updated to include current and accessible information relating to the Her Honour’s role and activities.

Correspondence

The Lieutenant Governor showed her support for charities and community organizations celebrating significant anniversaries, hosting conferences and galas, and organizing cultural and sporting events by sending 170 signed messages of congratulations.

The Lieutenant Governor signed 5,295 congratulatory greetings to Ontarians celebrating birthdays (90 years and over) and to couples celebrating anniversaries (50 years and over).

Serving the Lieutenant Governor

Led by Chief of Staff Anthony Hylton, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor comprises a team of 11 staff members.

In addition, a corps of more than 50 aides-de-camp and volunteers serve the Lieutenant Governor by contributing thousands of hours of service each year. Aides-de-camp are current or retired uniformed service members who accompany and assist Her Honour during events. The position of aide-de-camp is honorary and those appointed serve at pleasure. In Ontario, aides-de-camp are selected from the three branches of the Canadian Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Ontario Provincial Police, regional and municipal police services, St John Ambulance, and local emergency services and first responders.



Finances

Provincial funds

The Government of Ontario provides the principal means of financial support for the Lieutenant Governor's activity program.

Public Accounts of Ontario: 2016–17

	Actuals
Salaries and wages	1,123,136
Employee benefits	130,350
Transportation and communications	43,658
Services	233,162
Supplies and equipment	61,089
Discretionary allowance	155,800
	<u>\$1,738,195</u>

Year ending March 31

Source: Public Accounts of Ontario. Ministry of Finance. <http://www.ontario.ca/page/public-accounts-ontario>

Federal funds

The Lieutenant Governor receives a salary from the Government of Canada, the amount of which is determined by Parliament. The Department of Canadian Heritage provides the Lieutenant Governor with funds for the purpose of defraying operating expenses not covered by the provincial government.

Lieutenant Governors' Annual Grant (Department of Canadian Heritage): 2016–17

	Actuals
Travel and accommodation	11,044
Hospitality	58,675
Operational and administrative expenses	12,782
	<u>\$82,501</u>

Year ending March 31

All amounts rounded to the nearest \$1

Source: "Expenses incurred by the Lieutenant Governors in the exercise of their official duties." Department of Canadian Heritage.
<http://canada.pch.gc.ca/eng/1455301281166>

The Hon. Elizabeth Dowdeswell took office in September 2014 as the 29th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. This report presents the highlights of her public engagements from April 2017 to March 2018.

An electronic copy of this report is available online at lgontario.ca.

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