

# Canada's Governance Practical Seminar™

## Policy-Making, Structure and Operations of the Canadian Parliament and Government including a Comparative Analysis with Leading Democracies

Held in Ottawa-Gatineau on a Quarterly Basis

**Seminar Goals:** This practical program has been designed to help the participants understand the structure of public policy formulation, the decision-making processes, the financial management, the administrative issues, the geopolitical role of Canada and the interface between the Government of Canada and its various constituencies.

The growing complexity and demands for government services, the cultural diversity and Canada's vast resources: each of these factors has greatly increased the interest in and significance of the government's role in and beyond this country.

The seminar analyzes issues facing the federal government, the responsibilities of politicians and public servants, the role of central agencies and various departments. It provides an analytic framework to understand how the predominantly Canadian tradition of majority governments compares to that of France, the United Kingdom and the United States.

**The Faculty:** Led by **Ambassador Gabriel Lessard**, a career diplomat with experience as a senior executive in the Privy Council, Global Affairs and the private sector, the Faculty includes experts on reform and issue intelligence, among others.

**Who Should Attend:** This practical seminar is intended for managers at all levels, policy analysts, trade commissioners, foreign service attachés, foreign diplomats, parliamentary representatives, provincial and regional authorities, public-relations specialists and business executives who interact with the various levels of government.

### Workshop Outline

#### 1. The Canadian Political Governance

- Constitutional order
- Patriation of the Constitution and federalism
- Federal government and the provinces
- The distribution and organization of power

#### 2. The Policy-Making Network

- The role of the Executive and Parliament
- The government's legislative program
- Subordinate legislations: orders in council
- Cabinet documents and other papers

#### 3. The Federal-Cabinet Role

- The Prime Minister and Cabinet government
- Cabinet committees

#### 4. Policy-Making and the Central Agencies

- The role of central agencies
- The Prime Minister's Office
- The Privy Council Office (PCO)
- The PCO Secretariats including the Federal-Provincial-Territorial-Relations Secretariats
- The Treasury Board and the Dept. of Finance

#### 5. Policy-Making and the Public Service

- Organizational forms: departments, crown agencies, advisory boards and commissions
- Merit-based recruiting and promotions

#### 6. Government Performance

- Decision-making systems, productivity and equity
- Performance evaluation, both summative and formative
- Auditor General of Canada

#### 7. Policy and Financial Management

- Financial management and control
- Strategies for mobilizing funds and resources
- Parliament and finances; federalism and fiscal arrangements

#### 8. Issue Intelligence and Management

- Predicting emerging issues with issue-incubation tools
- Prioritizing and getting the issues on the political agenda
- Issue-execution intelligence, strategies and outcomes

#### 9. Selected Issues and Policies

- Economic policies (trade-policy case)
- Social justice and environmental policies
- Geopolitical issues, global affairs and international cooperation policies
- National-security and defence policies
- Principled resistance to government: A fragile safety valve

#### 10. Comparative Analysis

- Federal, provincial and municipal government machineries
- The United States, France and the United Kingdom

#### 11. Synthesis & Conclusion

- The Canadian journey towards building a great nation

**Tuition Fees and Registration:** Regular fees: \$1195; Government and diplomats: \$995; Fees for 3 or more participants: \$945 each. Fees include course materials and continental breakfasts plus hot and soft drinks during the pauses.

**How to Register:** Call the number below (Monday through Thursday, 9 AM - 4:30 PM EDT) and pay in advance by cheque or credit card.

**Cancellation Policy:** Participants registering as a group must send substitutes in lieu of cancelling. For other clients, cancellations are accepted if made at least 10 working days prior to the course, and are subject to a \$150 service charge per person. Full fees are payable by anyone who fails to attend or cancels less than 10 working days prior to the session. One substitution or transfer to a later course is accepted.



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