



# Leadership Summit 2025

## Thriving Youth, Thriving Leaders

April 11-13, 2025  
A virtual event



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## Overview

### What is the Leadership Summit?

4-H Canada’s Leadership Summit is an opportunity for 4-H volunteer leaders, professionals, and the 4-H Canada Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) to come together and showcase the communities they are building, share innovative program ideas, and hear from experts on emerging topics.

In 2025, Leadership Summit is going online with a fully virtual event from April 11-13, 2025. All sessions will be hosted on the Zoom platform.

The 2025 Leadership Summit theme is, **“Thriving Youth, Thriving Leaders”**

For over 110 years, 4-H has been one of the most well-respected youth-serving organizations in Canada, delivering world-class positive youth development programming in the areas relevant to today’s youth. To maintain our commitment to excellence and align with industry best practices, we strive to ensure that volunteers and staff are supported with the tools they need to thrive in today’s changing world.

These new tools and strategic opportunities help ensure programming remains relevant and impactful for youth in a fun, safe, and inclusive environment. Through the 4-H motto, “Learn To Do By Doing,” volunteer leaders will learn how to effectively use and maintain these strategies in their provinces, regions, and communities.

The registration cost for Leadership Summit 2025 is \$250, and \$50 for Pre-Summit. Please see detailed information below on what is included with these costs.



## What's in it for me?

We hope you'll return home from the Leadership Summit feeling:

- Empowered with new knowledge and resources;
- Encouraged by the work being done by 4-H across the country;
- Inspired with renewed enthusiasm and energy to bring back to your club and your members.
- Valued, as we celebrate volunteer achievements;
- Connected, as we share successes and challenges, and you expand your network within the 4-H movement;
- Supported, as we share new resources and bring in experts to engage you in thinking about new approaches and best practices in positive youth development; and
- Equipped with new tools, skills, and ideas to take back to your club and share with your youth members.

## What topics will be covered?

The program will be designed to include a focus on three areas. Workshops and keynote speakers will be carefully chosen for their expertise, experience and insights in areas important to youth development, the 4-H movement and volunteer leader development.

### 1. Program Excellence

Here, workshops will be connected to the four [Leadership Development Pillars](#) which may act as themes.



**Sustainable Agriculture  
& Food Security**



**The Environment  
& Healthy Living**



**Science &  
Technology**



**Community Engagement  
& Communications**

Additional workshop themes may include: program evaluation, project success stories from clubs and 4-H Canada, and provincial sharing.

### 2. Leadership Excellence

Workshop theme possibilities may include youth-adult partnerships, Positive Youth Development, leadership styles, building communities, community engagement, club operations (finances, retention, and succession), and issues impacting youth.

### 3. Professional Development

Workshop theme possibilities may include sponsorships and partnerships, brand and communications, risk management, emerging models, and growing 4-H.

## What does the schedule look like?

The following table provides a high-level overview of the virtual events. All schedule information is subject to change, and more details will be available on the 4-H Canada website and in the Guidebook app as they become available.

Leadership Summit 2025 includes an optional “Pre-summit” focused on 4-H fundamentals. Delegates attending the Pre-summit will receive additional resources to support their roles as club leaders.

Date	Time	Session(s)
Fri. Apr. 11	12-1:30pm ET	Pre-Summit Session 1 - “Fun ways to build connection and foster belonging”
	2:30 - 4pm ET	Pre-Summit Session 2 - “Spotting Youth Sparks and Firing Them Up for Action”
	7:30-9:30pm ET	Summit Opening Session and Keynote Speaker
Sat. Apr. 12	9:15-9:45am ET	Hosted networking session #1
	10-11:30am ET	Workshop Session #1 (3 choices)
	1-2:30pm ET	Workshop Session #2 (3 choices)
	4-5:30pm ET	Workshop Session #3 (3 choices)
	5:45 - 6:15pm	Hosted networking session #2
Sun. Apr. 13	9:15-9:45am ET	Hosted networking session #3
	10-11:30am ET	Provincial Sharing (4 rounds of 15 min)
	1-3pm ET	Closing session and Keynote Speaker

## Guidebook

Once again, we will be using the Guidebook app as our event app. Registered delegates will be sent a link with an invitation to create a profile on the Guidebook platform. This will provide access to items such as schedule, links to Summit sessions, resources, speaker bios, recordings and more. The Guidebook app is accessible through both mobile and desktop applications. Using the app, delegates will be able to create a personal schedule, connect with other delegates, receive Summit communications during the event, complete session evaluations, and participate in fun and engaging Summit activities.

If you have questions about programming or scheduling, please contact the 4-H Canada team at [program@4-h-canada.ca](mailto:program@4-h-canada.ca)

For up-to-date information about Leadership Summit, visit <https://4-h-canada.ca/programs/youth-programs-conferences/leadership-summit>.

## How to Attend

Leadership Summit is open to 4-H volunteer leaders, 4-H professional staff and members of executives from across Canada who are in good standing per their provincial association. Registration is completed and payment is made to 4-H Canada directly. If your provincial association is covering a portion of your registration cost, please contact your provincial association for information on their reimbursement process.

Complete your registration by **April 8, 2025** here: [https://apply.4-h-canada.ca/prog/4-h\\_canada\\_leadership\\_summit](https://apply.4-h-canada.ca/prog/4-h_canada_leadership_summit)

**Please note** that once registration is submitted, 4-H Canada will confirm good standing with the applicable provincial association. Registration is not confirmed until you receive a “Good Standing Confirmed” email from 4-H Canada. Should any issues arise in confirming good standing, the registration fee paid will be refunded.

### What’s included in the registration fee?

Registration includes:

#### Pre-summit (\$50)

- 4 hours of learning
- Access to Pre-Summit session recordings
- Access to all Pre-Summit session materials

#### Leadership Summit (\$250)

- 10 hours of learning
- 2 keynote speakers
- 9 workshops in three blocks
- Provincial Sharing
- Networking sessions
- Access to all recordings and AI-generated transcripts after the event
- Access to all session materials

## Apply to be a Presenter

We are looking for proposals from 4-H leaders and professional staff who would like to share their experience and expertise with the other Leadership Summit participants. We will also be reaching out directly to external experts in a variety of fields. Presenter submissions must be received by Tuesday February 11, 2025. Applicants will receive a response by Friday February 21, 2025.

### What topics will be covered at Leadership Summit?

This year’s theme is *Thriving Youth, Thriving Leaders*. The program will be designed to include a focus on three areas.



### 1. Program Excellence

Possible topics in this area may include: 4-H Canada's Leadership Development Pillars (Communication & Community Engagement, Science & Technology, Environment & Healthy Living, and Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security), program evaluation, project success stories from clubs and 4-H Canada, and provincial sharing.

### 2. Leadership Excellence

Possible themes in this area may include youth-adult partnerships, Positive Youth Development, leadership styles, building communities, community engagement, club operations (finances, retention, and succession), and issues impacting youth.

### 3. Professional Development

Possible themes in this area may include: sponsorship and partnerships, governance, brand and communications, risk management, emerging models, and growing 4-H.

## How will the presentations be selected?

All submissions will be reviewed by our 4-H Canada Leadership Summit program team. The selection criteria will include:

- Quality and clarity of the proposal - practical application, topic relevance to 4-H, and connection to Leadership Summit theme.
- Workshop approach - engaging, participatory and interactive, offers discussion time, or a 'Learn To Do By Doing' opportunity.
- Whether it addresses a unique or emerging issue, need, or approach.
- Whether it presents a model or practice that can be replicated within 4-H and/or a Positive Youth Development approach.

## What should applicants and presenters expect?

- All applicants will be notified about the outcome of the review process by February 21, 2025.
- Workshops will be held on Saturday April 12 for 90 minutes each, three blocks of time: 10-11:30am ET, 1-2:30pm ET and 4-5:30pm ET.
- Workshops should be between 75 and 90 minutes in length, including time for Q&A.
- All presentations will be recorded and available to delegates through the event app. Presenters should be prepared for this as well as to make any relevant materials (resources, supports, etc.) available to be shared with participants in advance.
- All sessions will be hosted on the Zoom platform. Please specify any additional technological needs (i.e. breakout rooms, collaborative whiteboard, etc.) and material needs in your submission.
- Each presenter will be given access to the digital event app (Guidebook). 4-H Canada staff will upload presenter headshots and bio information, as well as presentation materials, to this platform.

## Deadline for submission

Please complete the Call for Presenters at <https://forms.office.com/r/k9mamkmQYj>

## Proposal submission questions?

Please contact the 4-H Canada team at [program@4-h-canada.ca](mailto:program@4-h-canada.ca)