



Activity report

The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

April 2018–March 2019

A note about the content of this report

This report presents the highlights of the Lieutenant Governor's public engagements from April 2018 to March 2019. 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 2018–March 2019)*

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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



The Lieutenant Governor attends A Conversation with the Crown: Sustainable Democracy at Ryerson University, January 2019.

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



Annual reports are valuable documents of accountability. The people of Ontario deserve to know what I am up to and how public money is spent. Equally important in my view is that such reports offer Ontarians an opportunity to see the province that I get to see on a daily basis.

Amid changing and often uncertain times, the people of Ontario are doing great things. I know because I have seen it. Over 716 public engagements during the past year, I have witnessed a renewed sense of civic health and pride in communities all across our province.

Driven by the hope of a better future, Ontarians are developing new ways to relate to each other, and many are pushing against the tide of isolationism and insular thinking that has swept up many more around the world.

We are building a more just and resilient society designed to meet head on the unknown challenges of the years to come. We are succeeding, making the most of the resources with which we have been blessed, and the tools we have created for ourselves: the arts, innovations in science and technology, and new methods of thinking about intractable problems.

Ontarians have been resolute in upholding the values of inclusion, generosity, and the desire to help others. So too have we embraced, as global citizens, the opportunity and obligation of engaging with people and places beyond our borders.

There is, however, much more to be done, and I look forward to our continuing to proudly join forces in the year ahead.

Elizabeth Dowdeswell

Her Honour



The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell took office 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 reads
The Queen's Commonwealth
Day message during a service
at Yorkminster Park Baptist
Church in Toronto, March 2019.*

Areas of focus



*Exhibition curator Bruce Mau and Bisi Williams join Her Honour at the opening of *Awakening* in the Lieutenant Governor's Suite, May 2018.*

Successive Lieutenant Governors have chosen personal themes or priorities while in office, focusing time and attention on relevant, cross-cutting issues rising above politics. Upon taking office, Ms. Dowdeswell decided that, instead of immediately declaring a theme or area of focus, she would begin her mandate by engaging with Ontarians and seeking to learn what resonated with them.

In the time since, she has emphasized the imperative of fostering resilience in a time of rapid and often disorienting change. While many Ontarians may not necessarily use the word "sustainability", Ms. Dowdeswell has noted that the concept nonetheless describes the desire many Ontarians have for a world in which prosperity is fairly shared, people feel included and live with dignity, and the environment thrives under our mutual care.

Ms. Dowdeswell is currently focused on drawing attention to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development while sharing made-in-Ontario success stories of sustainability. In doing so, she has challenged Ontarians to think deeply about their role not merely as residents of a province within Canada, but also as global citizens with as much to learn from people and places beyond our borders as they have to contribute.

Sustainability

As a former Executive Director of UN Environment (1992–98), Ms. Dowdeswell continued to draw attention to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a framework for encouraging people to think globally while acting locally. She often highlighted the many connections that Ontarians have with the UN and other important international non-governmental organizations.

In May 2018, Her Honour launched *Awakening*, an art exhibition curated by Canadian-born, Chicago-based designer Bruce Mau. Featuring contemporary Canadian works belonging to the Canada Council Art Bank, the exhibition confronts the urgency of sustaining life on Earth for all generations to come. A companion publication presents the artwork alongside essays touching upon each of the Sustainable Development Goals, written by esteemed international thought leaders. For a two-week period beginning in March 2019, *Awakening* was shown at the UN Headquarters in New York City. It is anticipated that the exhibition will be displayed at UN offices in Europe in 2019.

Over several months, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a series of salons, informal networking sessions aimed at building new relationships between civil society leaders and practitioners in diverse fields. Each salon brought together a multitude of perspectives to consider links between the Sustainable Development Goals and topical issues, including:

- Indigenous architecture and placemaking (May 2018)
- Water management and the Great Lakes (September 2018)
- Urban architecture (October 2018)
- Textile waste recycling (January 2019)
- Manufacturing and the circular economy (February 2019)
- Financial services (February 2019)

The salons will continue throughout the year and build on earlier activities related to spreading awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals. Previous salons have covered topics ranging from Canadian identity, women in STEM, and design thinking.

In April 2018, the Lieutenant Governor addressed Generation SDG, a summit hosted by the Waterloo Global Science Initiative, a joint initiative between the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics and the University of Waterloo. The event brought together an eclectic group of experts and practitioners to consider the resources, planning strategies, and accountability structures Canada will need in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Ms. Dowdeswell returned to Waterloo in March 2019 to address the Global Solutions Conference, a symposium considering the role of municipalities and universities in advancing the sustainability agenda.

Ms. Dowdeswell emphasized the importance of linking sustainability and education of all kinds, from curriculum development to classroom learning to informal education provided in places such as museums and galleries. She considered these themes during an address to the State of Education for Sustainable Development Gala (hosted by Learning for a Sustainable Future with support from 3M Canada, June 2018), while delivering the inaugural Dr. David V. J. Bell Lecture (an initiative of Learning for a Sustainable Future, September 2018), and in giving a keynote lecture as part of the Sustainability Leaders Series hosted by the Master of Science in Sustainability Management program at the University of Toronto Mississauga (October 2018).

Throughout the year, the Lieutenant Governor supported *Our Sustainable Future* as honorary patron. This sustainability-focused arts education project—a collaboration between the Aga Khan Museum, Learning for a Sustainable Future, and the Fredric Roberts Photography Workshops—was an opportunity for high school students in the GTA to learn photography skills with a view to artfully documenting ways in which the Sustainable Development Goals relate to their own communities. With backdrops including Flemingdon Park and Thorncliche Park, the resulting works captured real ways in which participants and their neighbours are building bridges between the local and the global. Her Honour addressed the launch of the project in August 2018, and hosted an unveiling in the Lieutenant Governor's Suite in January 2019.



United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

Her Honour congratulates participants of the Our Sustainable Future project, January 2019.



Inclusive economic prosperity

Ontarians 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 century. Yet not all have fairly benefitted from access to prosperity, notably Indigenous and racialized people, women, and many people employed in traditional economic sectors. During visits to communities throughout the province over the year, the Lieutenant Governor held roundtables focusing on social and economic concerns. In reflecting on these discussions, Her Honour has noted two recurring questions: "Are we keeping pace with the world?" and "What is the future of dignified work in this province?"



Her Honour poses with Helle Bank Jorgensen, then president of the Global Compact Network Canada and convenor of the Canadian SDG Business Forum in Toronto, September 2018.

Important to answering such questions is the concept of inclusive prosperity, which recognizes that resources are not fairly distributed, that economic uncertainty has a social cost, and that the road to prosperity depends on one's lived experience, community, and region. Her Honour has encouraged Ontarians to consider the sources of future prosperity and the ways in which as many people as possible might have a chance to meaningfully participate in economic and social spheres.

Ms. Dowdeswell regularly spoke of the importance of inclusivity in considering economic issues. For example, in September 2018, she delivered a keynote during the Canadian SDG Business Forum (an initiative of the Global Compact Network Canada) in Toronto, emphasizing the unique role of business in building sustainability while noting the imperatives of multi-stakeholder dialogue, new partnerships, and innovation of all kinds.

Also in September, Ms. Dowdeswell attended a panel discussion, hosted by the UN Association in Canada, bringing together renowned Canadian women business leaders to consider their role in contributing to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly goals 5 (gender equality) and 8 (decent work and economic growth).

In November, she addressed the Canadian Business Frontiers Conference in Toronto as its honorary patron. This one-day conference, hosted by the Ivey Business School at Western University, explored implications of social and technological disruption on business as well as ways of preparing future business leaders to constructively address existential change.

In Toronto in March 2019, Her Honour addressed the Canadian SheEO Summit, an opportunity for women from across the country to come together to celebrate businesses founded and led by visionary women while challenging entrenched economic models through the promotion of positive disruption and radical inclusion.

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 air, water, land, and biodiversity; and innovation. She challenged Ontarians to consider the economic effects of an ailing environment and encouraged long-standing institutions to actively engage Indigenous people and underrepresented communities when taking environmentally related decisions.

In Ajax in June 2018, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the annual conference of the Great Lakes and St Lawrence Cities Initiative, emphasizing the unique role of municipal governments in fostering inclusive and productive dialogue on issues of water quality. Also in June, she toured the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve, which was designated as Canada's 12th biosphere reserve by UNESCO in 2002, and redesignated in 2007. At the Queen's University Biological Station in Kingston in September, Ms. Dowdeswell addressed the Waterlution Water Innovation Lab, a week-long training event for young leaders bringing together experts and mentors in workshops linking water and systems-

thinking. In her remarks, she encouraged participants to seek out Indigenous and marginalized voices in considering environmental issues.

In November, Her Honour addressed the Latornell Conservation Symposium, a multi-day gathering of environmental practitioners and policy makers in Alliston, where she made a point of sharing success stories related to the Great Lakes drawn from conversations with Ontarians.

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.

Throughout the year, the Lieutenant Governor lent support to *Anthropocene: The Human Epoch*, a multidisciplinary body of work from world-renowned artistic collaborators Nicholas de Pencier, Edward Burtynsky, and Jennifer Baichwal. The project viscerally depicts humanity's significant impact on the Earth's geology and ecosystems and is a call for all to embrace the sustainability agenda.

In March 2019, Her Honour visited the Green Living Show in Toronto, where she commended exhibitors and attendees for their dedication to mainstreaming sustainability.

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 October 2018, the Lieutenant Governor delivered a keynote during a meeting of the Muskoka Probus Club in Huntsville, noting the value of engaging semi-retired and retired people in conversations about resilience and sustainability.

Also in October, Her Honour addressed the 25th anniversary celebration of the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame, recognizing and commanding generations of inductees for their personal excellence and devotion to advocating a fully accessible society that values people of all abilities.

In December, the Lieutenant Governor visited Toronto's Regent Park neighbourhood, currently undergoing a years-long revitalization project. In meeting with residents, developers, and local officials, Her Honour considered the importance of place and the role of the built environment in fostering social and cultural cohesion.



Her Honour receives a warm reception during a visit to the Muskoka Probus Club, October 2018.

Ontario in the world

The Lieutenant Governor has noted that many Ontarians view engagement with people and places beyond our borders as both an opportunity and an obligation, and therefore regularly undertook engagements shining light on Ontarians working, studying, and living abroad.

In April 2018, Her Honour took part in an expert table dinner hosted by Peter Boehm, then Personal Representative of the Prime Minister to the 44th G7 Summit in Charlevoix, Québec. In June, Her Honour hosted United Nations Ambassadors from 10 countries during their official visit to Canada.

Also in June, Her Honour addressed the opening of the 109th Rotary International Convention, held in Toronto, during which she introduced keynote speaker Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal.

In November, Her Honour addressed the opening ceremony of the 7th Parliament of the World's Religions, a week-long interfaith gathering of heads of government, religious and spiritual leaders, and community members with its origins dating to 1893. In her remarks, she emphasized the unique role of faith communities in fostering sustainability. In December, she hosted a reception in recognition of the many Ontarians who volunteered during the parliament.

Working visit to Switzerland and Italy

In May 2018, the Lieutenant Governor conducted a working visit to Switzerland and Italy, undertaking 18 engagements over five days. While in Geneva, she held meetings with the Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as with representatives of the World Meteorological Organization, Médecins Sans Frontières, and the SDG Lab at the UN Office at Geneva. In addition, Her Honour hosted a roundtable focusing on the Sustainable Development Goals in partnership with the Canadian mission.



Her Honour poses with the UNCEDED team in Venice, May 2018.

In addition to events related to the Biennale, the Lieutenant Governor held meetings with Canadian diplomatic officials and participated in a discussion with students about architecture and sustainability.

Working visit to New York

In March 2019, the Lieutenant Governor conducted a working visit to New York to coincide with the launch of *Awakening* at UN Headquarters. She shone a light on the contributions of Ontarians working in the United States during 12 engagements over three days, including the opening of the new chancery building for the Canadian Consulate General and Canada's Permanent Mission to the United Nations, a roundtable on sustainability hosted by the Consul General, and meetings with Canadian officials.

Her Honour also explored cultural ties between Canada and the United States during a group discussion at Columbia University, visited the studio of Ontario-born artist Alex Chowaniec, and attended a performance of *Sgaawaay K'uuna (Edge of the Knife)*, a cinematographic portrait of the Kwakwa'wakw people of northern Vancouver Island and an official selection of the Toronto International Film Festival.

Virtual connections

Recognizing both the growth of online communities and Ontario's leadership in developing modern communications technology, the Lieutenant Governor took interest in the way people across the world use the internet to connect and share stories. For example, in January 2019, Her Honour witnessed an exchange between students in Metipso, Kenya, and at the Kikendaasogamin Elementary School at the Chippewas of Nawash First Nation on the Bruce Peninsula. The exchange was part of the Metipso Portal, a two-way virtual cultural bridge founded in 2017 by Ontario resident Joel Richardson and long-time friend Mathew Birir in Metipso. Built in the style of a traditional mud hut, the portal allows the whole community access to new skills, talents, and friends while participating in online lessons and word exchanges.

The Lieutenant Governor then took part in the opening of the Canada Pavilion at the 2018 Venice Architectural Biennale, the world's foremost exhibition of contemporary architecture, to which she had been invited as honorary patron of UNCEDED: *Voices of the Land*, Canada's entry in the Biennale. Led by renowned architect Douglas Cardinal, this ground-breaking project takes inspiration from the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and offers the international community a new understanding of the enduring laws, customs, and traditions of First Peoples. Earlier in May, the Lieutenant Governor penned an opinion piece in the *Toronto Star* encouraging readers to learn more about UNCEDED. Her engagement with the project has continued following its return to Canada.

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 first session of the 42nd Parliament of Ontario, July 2019.

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.

Facts and figures

The Lieutenant Governor routinely reviews and formally approves parliamentary and government decisions. For example, during the 2018 calendar year, Her Honour assented to 32 bills and approved 1,511 orders-in-council (including 316 regulations). This is in addition to numerous other documents including public appointment commissions, letters patent under the *Public Lands Act* and the *Mining Act*, papers tabled by ministers in the Legislative Assembly, and writs of election.

On May 8, 2018, the Lieutenant Governor dissolved the Legislature on the advice of Premier Kathleen Wynne, who subsequently advised Her Honour that a general election take place on June 7.

On June 8, Ms. Wynne advised the Lieutenant Governor of her intention to resign. The Lieutenant Governor then commissioned Doug Ford to form Her Majesty's Government in Ontario. On June 24, upon accepting Ms. Wynne's formal resignation as Premier, Her Honour presided over the swearing-in of Mr. Ford as the 26th Premier of Ontario, and the swearing-in of members of the Executive Council of Ontario.

On July 12, the Lieutenant Governor read the Speech from the Throne opening the first session of the 42nd Parliament of Ontario.

Administrator

If 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. By order of the Governor-General in Council, the Chief Justice of Ontario and other judges of the courts of Ontario, in order of seniority, are empowered to act as Administrator as needed.

Bringing people together



Indigenous peoples

The Lieutenant Governor makes a point to engage frequently with representatives of Indigenous communities, ensure Indigenous representation at events wherever possible, and create opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to come together in dialogue. Throughout the year, the Lieutenant Governor visited First Nations territories, including the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (August 2018), Walpole Island First Nation (Bkejwanong territory, February 2019), and Aamjiwnaang First Nation (February 2019).

To mark the newly renamed National Indigenous Peoples Day in June 2018, the Lieutenant Governor took part in the Indigenous Arts Festival, a collaboration between the City of Toronto and the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation held at Fort York.

In July, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the opening of the Aaniin Community Centre and Library in Markham. Taking its name from the Ojibway word for “welcome”, the building features an Indigenous library collection and murals by Anishinaabe artists and local high school students interpreting the Seven Grandfather Teachings. Her Honour donated a copy of the *Awakening* exhibition catalogue to the library. The community centre and library was unveiled following a partnership accord and cultural collaboration agreement between the City of Markham and Eabametoong First Nation.

In August, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the opening of *Reclaiming of Shingwauk Hall*, an exhibition in Sault Ste Marie. The exhibition tells of the experiences of Indigenous young people who attended the former Shingwauk Indian Residential School, which occupied the present site of Algoma University. This survivor-driven initiative is the first phase of an effort to develop an Indian Residential Schools Interpretation Centre in Northern Ontario.

In October, Her Honour hosted a screening of the premiere episode of *First Contact*, a television program documenting six Canadians as they confront their own stereotypical opinions about

The Lieutenant Governor poses with representatives of the Indigenous community at Humber College, November 2018.



Her Honour takes part in a traditional round dance during an event celebrating the unveiling of Indigenous cultural markers at Humber College's Etobicoke Campus, November 2018.

Indigenous people during a 28-day exploration of Indigenous communities. The screening was followed by a roundtable focusing on reconciliation.

In November, Her Honour addressed the unveiling of a series of Indigenous cultural markers at Humber College's Etobicoke campus in Toronto. Part of architect Ryan Gorrie's participation in the *UNCEDED* exhibition at the Venice Architectural Biennale, the cultural markers are sculptural pieces meant to situate the campus within the context of Indigenous history in Canada.

and confidence in reading among young people. In 2018, more than 2,200 students attended camps in 23 remote communities in Northern Ontario.

In March 2019, Her Honour hosted a special performance of selections from *Shanawdithit*, a contemporary theatrical production by Tapestry Opera inspired by a Beothuk woman of the same name who lived during the early 19th century and who is believed to be the last of her people. The work's musical pieces combined with a series of mini-lectures to explore the reclaiming of Indigenous identities.

Women and girls

The Lieutenant Governor frequently conducts 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 has emphasized the importance of engaging people of all genders in addressing the challenges, and exploring the opportunities, brought by a complex and interdependent world.

In April 2018, the Lieutenant Governor received Dubravka Simonovic, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against women, its causes and consequences, during her official visit to Canada. In March 2019, the Lieutenant Governor visited the Anova women's shelter in London, where she met with clients and team members.

Throughout the year, the Lieutenant Governor continued to shine a light on women's excellence and the imperative of gender equity, particularly in the wake of stories of women who have been abused and silenced, and as women continue to be marginalized in all aspects of civic life.

In April, Her Honour delivered opening remarks during The Art of Leadership for Women, a day-long symposium in Toronto bringing together world leaders, business icons, bestselling authors, academics, and others to share personal stories and insights about the many contemporary challenges confronting women in business. In May, Her Honour took part in the Women's Forum Canada, a conference held in Toronto in advance of the G7 Summit focusing on ideas such as the role of the private sector in fostering inclusive growth, scaling investment in women-led businesses, urban planning as an accelerator of climate action, and the social implications of technological change.

Also in May, the Lieutenant Governor addressed a luncheon for the University Women's Club of Toronto, the first such club established in Canada. In her remarks, Her Honour commended club members for their efforts to build more inclusive and resilient communities. In October, Ms. Dowdeswell delivered a keynote during United Church Women Togetherness Day in Aurora, noting the role of women of faith in advancing social progress.



In October, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the Bridging The Gap to Her Forum, a conference held in Waterloo for emerging young women leaders to debate and co-create action plans for solving socio-economic challenges. The event encourages mentors and policy makers to work together with marginalized and underrepresented youth during thematic group sessions specifically aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals.

To mark the International Day of Women and Girls in Science in February 2019, Her Honour addressed a gathering of science professionals and students at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, emphasizing the importance of supporting women working within scientific and cultural institutions.

In Cambridge in March, Her Honour addressed Best Practices in Gender Diversity, a targeted strategy session aimed at achieving workforce gender parity attended by HR leaders from Canada's top-performing companies in terms of gender diversity.

Young people

Her Honour regularly encouraged youth volunteerism and community service. To this end, she presided at presentation ceremonies of the The Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award in June and November 2018, and of the Ontario Community Newspapers Association Junior Citizen Award in March 2019.

In addition, Her Honour acted as the reviewing officer for the centennial parade of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets at Queen's Park in September 2018, also marking the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Canadian sea cadet movement and the Navy League of Canada.

As a former educator, Ms. Dowdeswell understands the importance of an educational system that keeps pace with an ever-changing and interconnected world. In January 2019, she took part in celebrations marking the 25th anniversary of The Learning Partnership, a Canadian charity that brings together educators, business, and governments to deliver experiential programs aimed at boosting entrepreneurial thinking and social-emotional learning.

In April 2018, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a reception for Grade 5 students from Aldergrove Public School in Markham, whose artwork is featured in *How the World Really Works: Savings, Investments, and Retirement*, a book published to foster financial literacy among young people.

In May, Her Honour addressed the 50th annual Ontario Student Classics Conference at Brock University in St Catharines, encouraging high-school-aged participants to embrace enduring questions left by the great literary and philosophical works of Ancient Greece and Rome.

Also in May, Her Honour welcomed participants of Boys of Excellence, a program offering a safe and supportive environment for young men from Toronto's Rexdale community to express themselves and develop essential life skills.

In June, Her Honour addressed a celebration held by Family and Children's Services of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington for young people in care graduating from primary, secondary, and postsecondary schools. Her Honour encouraged graduates, family members, caregivers, and centre staff to share their inspiring stories as all Ontarians seek to build a more just and sustainable world.

In November, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the 20th anniversary gala of the New Haven Learning Centre, a treatment and education centre in Toronto for young people with autism. The gala was an opportunity to pay tribute to New Haven's network of supporters while celebrating the achievements of students and their families.



Her Honour and recipients of the Ontario Junior Citizen Award, March 2019.

Also in November, Her Honour addressed the 9th International Consultation on Child Helplines, a gathering of experts representing a global network of 181 child helplines in 147 countries working to use technology to better protect children while fostering inclusion.

Her Honour met with each intake of the Legislative Page Program at Queen's Park. In March 2019, Ms. Dowdeswell met with participants of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario Model Parliament. Throughout the year, she met legislative interns from the Parliament of Canada, the National Assembly of Québec, and the Legislative Assemblies of Ontario and Manitoba.

Democracy, governance, and citizenship

The Lieutenant Governor plays an important role in fostering a strong civic community, spreading awareness of our democratic inheritance, and encouraging good citizenship. At engagements throughout the year, Her Honour called upon people to consider how they can leave their own positive impact while strengthening democracy.

In May 2018, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a luncheon for delegates of the International Ombudsman Institute's 40th anniversary meeting, during which she praised participants' focus on inclusion amid growing scepticism, cynicism, and distrust of long-standing institutions.

Also in May, Her Honour addressed a graduation ceremony of the Ontario Public Service Leadership Program, a training opportunity for aspiring managers and senior executives within the public sector.

In May in Toronto, Ms. Dowdeswell attended the 20th presentation of the Donner Prize, celebrating excellence in Canadian public policy writing. Also in May, Her Honour hosted a reception marking the launch of *The Canadian Kingdom: 150 Years of Constitutional Monarchy*, an edited volume published by Dundurn.

In June, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a reception for members of the General Election Visitors Program, during which she encouraged representatives of electoral authorities from across Canada and from a dozen other countries to consider new ways to foster civic literacy and engagement.

In July, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a luncheon marking the annual conference of the Canadian Association of the Sergeants-at-Arms. The luncheon was attended by sergeants-at-arms from the Senate, House of Commons, and provincial and territorial legislative assemblies.

In September, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the Opening of the Courts, a ceremony marking the beginning of the legal year, at the Toronto Court House.

Also in September, Her Honour attended 6 Degrees, a global forum hosted by the Institute for Canadian Citizenship exploring inclusion and citizenship in the 21st century, where she addressed a reception marking the 16th LaFontaine-Baldwin Lecture, delivered by digital thinking leader Sue Gardner.

The Lieutenant Governor noted the enduring value of public and political service during a reception she hosted to mark the annual meeting of the Ontario Association of Former Parliamentarians in October. In November, Her Honour addressed the 35th annual awards dinner of the Churchill Society for the Advancement of Parliamentary Democracy, noting the vital contributions of women role models as democratic traditions are passed from one generation to the next.

In November, the Lieutenant Governor considered Canada's role in fostering productive international relations and governance while addressing Is the UN Still Relevant?, a public debate hosted by the School of Public and International Affairs at Glendon College in collaboration with the Toronto branch of the Canadian International Council.

In February 2019, Ms. Dowdeswell took part in A Conversation with the Crown: Sustainable Democracy, a public discussion at Ryerson University with former Lieutenant Governor David Onley, moderated by journalist Martin Regg Cohn, focusing on the constitutional and community aspects of the Crown's role.

Higher education

During the course of community visits around the province, the Lieutenant Governor made a point of including representatives of colleges and universities and engaging with students whenever possible.

In September 2018, Her Honour conducted a working visit to the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, during which she took part in a roundtable with women undergraduate and graduate students in STEM fields, as well as in a campus walking tour and discussion with Indigenous students, faculty, and staff members.

In October, Her Honour addressed the installation of Dominic Barton as Chancellor of the University of Waterloo.

In February 2019, the Lieutenant Governor addressed Our Community, Our Choice, the inaugural conference of the Indigenous Advanced Education and Skills Council, a new, independent organization empowered to accredit Indigenous Institutes in Ontario. Attended by student delegates from each of Ontario's Indigenous Institutes (postsecondary institutions governed and operated by Indigenous communities), the conference was an opportunity to chart the future of Indigenous education in the province.

Science, technology, health, 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 often took part in events supporting Ontario's leading role in promoting knowledge-based economies. She also made a point to visit businesses and meet with business leaders in their own communities, including the Xerox Research Centre of Canada in Mississauga and 3M Canada in Milton.

In May 2018, the Lieutenant Governor took part in the SingularityU Summit in Niagara-on-the-Lake, an executive training program focused on harnessing exponential technologies in pursuit of resilience on a global scale.

In June, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the opening of the Idea Exchange, a digital library and innovation hub within the Old Post Office building in Cambridge. The space includes a 3D printing maker space, a STEM discovery lab, and creative studios. In her remarks, Ms. Dowdeswell noted the importance of fostering wonder and the pursuit of knowledge at the local level.

Also in June, Her Honour visited the newly renovated Casey House, Canada's first and only stand-alone hospital for people with HIV/AIDS, marking its 30th anniversary and status as honoured group in the 2018 Toronto Pride Parade. In December, she addressed an event marking the launch of the McEwen Stem Cell Institute with the University Health Network in Toronto.

Throughout the year, the Lieutenant Governor continued to lend support to nonprofit organization Let's Talk Science and its Canada 2067 Learning Roadmap, an initiative 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, she addressed a conference hosted by Let's Talk Science and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO exploring equity, inclusion, and the future of STEM learning.

In October, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the presentation of the Ernest C. Manning Innovation Awards in Toronto, paying tribute to champions of innovation and noting the value of innovating not merely for its own sake, but for the betterment of humanity. Also in October, she addressed the presentation of the Canada Gairdner Awards for biomedical research.

In Toronto in January 2019, Her Honour addressed the presentation of the John Charles Polanyi Prizes, given annually to up to five postdoctoral researchers in physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine,

literature, and economic science. In her remarks, she noted the important role of scientists and critical thinkers in fostering informed public policy debate.

Also in January, the Lieutenant Governor granted patronage to the Ontario Science Centre's 50th anniversary celebrations and addressed the official launch of the museum's anniversary year.

In Toronto in February, Her Honour addressed Big Data Day, the culmination of a national competition organized by the STEM Fellowship in which high school students propose solutions to global challenges through creative data analysis. In her remarks, she emphasized the increasing importance of digital citizenship for public discourse.

In March, Her Honour hosted a reception to celebrate five years of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholars program, during which students representing universities in Ontario and several Commonwealth countries came together to showcase work supported by the scholarship program.

Arts and culture

The Lieutenant Governor recognizes the potential within the arts to foster social cohesion and promote shared cultural understanding. To this end, Her Honour interacted with heritage, arts, and cultural organizations while travelling throughout Ontario, noting their unique ability to unite community members from all walks of life.

Fashion and textiles

Recognizing the broad, cross-cultural appeal of art and clothing, the Lieutenant Governor sought to engage established and emerging figures within the fashion and textiles industries in dialogue about ways for the sector to advance the sustainability agenda.



Her Honour poses with students at Seneca College during a symposium linking the fashion industry and the Sustainable Development Goals, March 2019.

and textile waste and recycling.

In March 2019, Her Honour addressed the opening of a multi-day symposium at Seneca College focusing on opportunities within the fashion industry to foster resilience in furtherance of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Museums and cultural institutions

Throughout the year, Ms. Dowdeswell lent support to museums and cultural institutions across Ontario, including the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto, the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto, the National Arts Centre in Ottawa, the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto (of which she is honorary patron), and others.

In September 2018, the Lieutenant Governor took part in the opening of the new Museum of Contemporary Art Toronto Canada.

In October, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the opening of *David Milne: Modern Painting* at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection in Kleinburg. In her remarks, Her Honour noted the exhibition's great success over the previous year at the Dulwich Picture Gallery in London, where she had also addressed celebrations marking the influential Canadian artist's lifetime of work.

In November, Her Honour addressed festivities marking the 50th anniversary of the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives, noting the institution's success in fostering a sense of civic community.

Also in November, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the opening of the Artscape Daniels Launchpad, a collaborative space in Toronto's Regent Park neighbourhood intended as a new hub for emerging and established artists, designers, and creators.

Support for the written word

In October 2018, 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 celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Booker Prize for Fiction. In November, she attended the Writers' Trust Gala and the presentation of the Scotiabank Giller Prize, both in Toronto.

Also in October, Her Honour addressed the Taste Canada Awards Gala in Toronto, honouring celebrated cookbook authors and food writers.

In November, Her Honour hosted an event marking the launch of *Man of the Trees: Richard St. Barbe Baker, the First Global Conservationist*, a biography by Paul Hanley with a foreword by The Prince of Wales and an introduction by Jane Goodall.

The Lieutenant Governor attended several additional book launches, including:

- *Garment of Destiny: A Surgeon's Global Quest for Identity and the Ties that Bind*, the memoir of Toronto-based transplant surgeon, scientist, bioethicist, and global health expert Abdallah Daar (October 2018)
- *Empty Planet: The Shock of Global Population Decline*, by Toronto-based pollster Darrel Bricker and political writer John Ibbitson (February 2019)
- The second edition of *Managing Without Growth: Slower by Design, Not Disaster*, by Toronto-based economist Peter Victor (February 2019)

Performing arts and film

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 Toronto Jewish Film Festival, Toronto Summer Music Festival, the Toronto International Film Festival, the Stratford Festival, and the Shaw Festival.

In April 2018, she addressed a concert in Toronto held to mark the work of the Glenn Gould Prize jury, emphasizing the prize's contribution to Canada's role in recognizing global musical excellence. In February 2019, she attended the presentation of the Glenn Gould Prize to celebrated American vocalist Jessye Norman.

In May 2018, Her Honour attended a concert marking the 40th anniversary of the Toronto Children's Chorus. In September, she helped mark the 40th anniversary season of the Toronto-based Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra. In October, she attended 10th anniversary celebrations of Koerner Hall, a concert venue at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto.

Also in October, Ms. Dowdeswell addressed an event celebrating the finalists of the 2018 Siminovitch Prize in Theatre, Canada's premier award recognizing excellence among professional directors, playwrights, and designers.

The Lieutenant Governor hosted a screening of *Into the Arctic III*, a film documenting artist Cory Trépanier's work in the Canadian North, in October. In addressing guests, Her Honour noted the

importance of recording, both scientifically and artistically, humanity's impact on vulnerable ecological areas such as the Arctic.

In May 2018, the Lieutenant Governor addressed celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the Théâtre Français de Toronto.

Sports and recreation

Her Honour recognizes the important role of sports and outdoor activities in our culture. When addressing athletes and spectators throughout the year, Her Honour emphasized the ability of athletics to promote active lifestyles and foster social cohesion.

In April 2018, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a reception for olympic and paralympic athletes returning from the PyeongChang winter games. In May, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the opening ceremony of the Special Olympics Ontario Provincial School Championship in Peterborough, marking the 50th anniversary of the sporting organization.

In June, Her Honour addressed the 30th Toronto International Dragon Race Boat Festival. In

September, Her Honour participated in a Tall Ships day sail in the Thousands Islands hosted by Bytown Brigantine, a charitable organization that provides youth skill-building camps and sailing training. In July, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the opening ceremonies of the inaugural Masters Indigenous Games in Toronto. These games are a new opportunity for Indigenous adults 20 years and older to compete with peers in a variety of contemporary and traditional sporting activities, and were complemented by a powwow and cultural festival showcasing Indigenous artists, performers, storytellers, and vendors.

Also in July, Her Honour attended the 159th running of the Queen's Plate at Woodbine Racetrack in Toronto as guest of honour.

In February 2019, Her Honour attended the annual Lieutenant Governor's Games at Variety Village, an organization offering children with disabilities opportunities to engage in athletic and fitness activities. Also in February, Her Honour addressed the opening of the Durham Region 2019 Ontario Paraport Games in Whitby.



Her Honour poses with participants during the Lieutenant Governor's Games at Variety Village, February 2019.

Community celebrations and inclusion

In keeping with her focus on social cohesion, the Lieutenant Governor took care to shine a light on people and community organizations honouring excellence and achievement while fostering inclusion.

In April 2018, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the Harry Jerome Awards Gala, hosted by the Black Business and Professional Association in Mississauga, where she paid tribute to role models within the Black Canadian community.

In Toronto in June, Her Honour attended several events as part of the Luminato Festival, an annual celebration featuring commissioned works from a diverse group of artists representing dozens of countries. The festival highlights the indispensable role of the arts in supporting dialogue and inclusion.

In September, Her Honour addressed the unveiling of the new Franco-Ontarian Monument on the grounds of Queen's Park in Toronto, marking more than 400 years of French presence in the province.

In October, Her Honour addressed the MAX Gala, hosted by the Muslim Awards for Excellence.

In December, Her Honour took part in celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of the Canadian Walk of Fame in Toronto.

The Lieutenant Governor paid respects to victims of the Yonge Street van attack and the Danforth shooting tragedies during respective vigils in April and July 2018.

Volunteerism and philanthropy

Throughout the year, the Lieutenant Governor recognized the ideals of service and altruism demonstrated by volunteers members of the philanthropic community. In doing so, Her Honour made a point of highlighting the power of individual action.

Her Honour continued to lend support to the newly renamed Prince's Trust Canada in its efforts to provide entrepreneurship training for veterans and transitioning members of the Canadian Forces, help young people build confidence through employability programs, and support Indigenous communities in the revitalization of their languages.

In May 2018 in Mississauga, Her Honour addressed the 20th anniversary conference of Leaders in Volunteer Engagement, an organization dedicated to developing and sharing best practices with the volunteer sector so as to foster greater impact. In her remarks and during an open conversation with the audience, she emphasized the importance of considering the Sustainable Development Goals.

In November, at the invitation of Global Medic, a humanitarian organization providing emergency relief and supplies to people experiencing natural disasters and complex emergencies, Her Honour joined volunteers packing aid supplies destined for Syria. In January 2019, Her Honour hosted an awards and recognition ceremony for Global Medic volunteers in the Lieutenant Governor's Suite.

In December 2018, Her Honour addressed an award ceremony honouring long-standing volunteers of The Lifesaving Society (Ontario branch). Also in December, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a reception marking the Ontario Public Service's fundraising efforts in support of the United Way of Greater Toronto's annual holiday campaign.

Throughout the year, the Lieutenant Governor lent support to Tackle Hunger, an initiative jointly sponsored by the CFL and Purolator raising awareness of the needs of food banks in Canada. 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 December, she visited a soup kitchen in Scarborough run by the Toronto and Region Islamic Congregation. In February 2019, Her Honour addressed the 10th annual Recipe for Change dinner in support of FoodShare, a national organization dedicated to increasing food security. In March, she addressed the launch of the GTA Food Banks Spring Campaign, an unprecedented joint initiative of six food banks serving the Greater Toronto Area.



The Lieutenant Governor takes part in the unveiling of the Franco-Ontarian Monument at Queen's Park, September 2018.

Representing Ontarians



The Lieutenant Governor reviews the guard of honour during the rededication of Coronation Park in Toronto, November 2018.

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 12 official visits to municipalities, bringing the total number since the beginning of her mandate to 75:

- Halton Hills (April 2018)
- Innisfil (June 2018)
- Kawartha Lakes (July 2018)
- Newmarket (July 2018)
- Moosonee (August 2018)
- Timmins (August 2018)
- Caledon (February 2019)
- Sarnia (February 2019)
- Lakeshore (February 2019)
- Leamington (February 2019)
- Aurora (March 2019)
- Lasalle (March 2019)

Since the beginning of her mandate, Ms. Dowdeswell has conducted engagements in 104 municipalities across 114 of Ontario's 124 provincial ridings.

The Lieutenant Governor conducted an official visit to the Chippewas of Georgina First Nation in August 2018.

Also in August, Her Honour conducted a tour of communities in Northern Ontario, visiting Moose Cree First Nation, the municipalities of Moosonee and Timmins, and Esker Lakes Provincial Park. Ms. Dowdeswell met residents, local representatives, and Indigenous leaders during 17 engagements over four days. Highlights of the Northern Tour include a boat tour of James Bay and the bird sanctuary in Moosonee, a traditional meal at the Cree Cultural Interpretation Centre at Moose Cree First Nation, a group discussion on homelessness and healthcare in Timmins, and a roundtable at Northern College on applied research and the role of communities in developing education programming.

Hosting visitors

The Lieutenant Governor receives members of the Royal Family during their stays in Ontario, including The Princess Royal in June 2018.

The Lieutenant Governor also receives world leaders, acting as Ontario's official host and providing opportunities to learn about and appreciate Canadians and Ontarians. Her Honour welcomed the Crown Prince of Denmark, the president of Malta, the vice-president of Portugal, the prime ministers of Peru, and numerous ambassadors, high commissioners, and consuls general.

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, including members of the Canadian Forces and police, fire, and paramedic services.

Canadian Forces

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 Colonel John Graves Simcoe, first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada (now Ontario), who commanded the regiment during the American War of Independence.

In June 2018, Her Honour took part in a change of command ceremony for the 4th Canadian Division of the Canadian Army, held at Queen's Park in Toronto. In September, she took part in a change of command ceremony for The Queen's York Rangers at Fort York in Toronto.

In October, the Lieutenant Governor received the ceremonial first poppy in Ontario from the Royal Canadian Legion while visiting former service members and military families at the veterans centre of Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto.

In November, Her Honour participated in Remembrance Day commemorations in Toronto. To mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, she hosted a reception for members of the Canadian Forces, placed a wreath during a special ceremony at the Ontario Veterans' Memorial at Queen's Park, and recited *In Flanders Fields* as part of an armistice-themed concert of the Toronto Children's Chorus.

Also in November, the Lieutenant Governor addressed the rededication of Coronation Park in Toronto. First opened in 1937 to mark King George VI's Coronation, the park has since become a living war memorial honouring the service and sacrifice of Canada's military members. Her Honour also took part in events in Cobourg commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Armistice, including a public lecture by author Charlotte Gray and a performance of *Last Day, Last Hour: Canada's Great War on Trial*, a play by historian Hugh Brewster featuring local theatre company the Northumberland Players.

Her Honour lays a wreath on behalf of the people of Ontario during Remembrance Day ceremonies, November 2018.





The Lieutenant Governor greets veterans during the Warrior's Day Parade in Toronto, August 2018.

In July 2018, the Lieutenant Governor addressed a ceremony hosted in Brampton by the Korean Veterans Association of Canada marking the 65th anniversary of the cessation of hostilities of the Korean War.

In August, the Lieutenant Governor attended the 97th Warrior's Day parade in Toronto, marking the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. In September, she hosted the launch of *They Fought in Colour: A New Look at Canada's First World War Effort*, a book published by The Vimy Foundation and Dundurn containing newly colourized photos emblematic of the Great War and a series of essays speaking to the conflict's enduring legacy.

In October, Her Honour hosted the inaugural presentation of the Provincial Distinguished Service Medal of the Ontario Provincial

Committee of the Air Cadet League of Canada, paying tribute to long-time supporters of the cadet movement in Ontario

In November, Her Honour addressed the 10th anniversary gala of the True Patriot Love Foundation, an organization that supports veterans and their families.

First responders

The Lieutenant Governor presided at the Ontario police memorial service in May 2018. In September, Her Honour addressed the Ontario firefighters' memorial service.

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.

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, accompanied by the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, poses with recipients of the Ontario Senior Achievement Award, November 2018.

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.

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 2018.

Order of Ontario

Established in 1986, the Order of Ontario is the province's highest official honour and 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. The Lieutenant Governor is Chancellor of the Order of Ontario.

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 (April 2018)
- Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship (March 2019)

In November 2018, Her Honour presented the Ontario Senior Achievement Award.

Her Honour also presented the following awards created to honour the legacies of former Lieutenant Governors:

- Hilary M. Weston Scholarship (August 2018)
- David C. Onley Award for Leadership in Accessibility (December 2018)
- Lincoln M. Alexander Award (January 2019)

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 2018, 752 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.

In May 2018, the Lieutenant Governor hosted a reception and informal networking event for representatives of organizations to which she has granted patronage.

To date, Ms. Dowdeswell has granted patronage to 47 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 Niagara Military Institute
- 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)
- *UNCEDED: Voices of the Land*, an initiative of the Douglas Cardinal Foundation for Indigenous Waldorf Education (May–November 2018)
- Canadian Business Frontiers (November 2018)
- Ontario Science Centre 50th anniversary celebrations (2019)

Office operations



Her Honour greets students from St Mary Catholic School in Toronto during a visit to the Lieutenant Governor's Suite, February 2019.

The Lieutenant Governor's Suite

After the closure of Chorley Park in 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 routinely 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 2018. In addition to learning about the office's history, visitors were able to view changing art exhibitions. Approximately 11,500 people visited the suite on tours or during official functions.

New Year's Levee

Ms. Dowdeswell welcomed members of the public to the Lieutenant Governor's Suite on January 1, 2019, during the annual New Year's Levee. A long-standing tradition, the levee is a unique opportunity for the public to meet the Lieutenant Governor, learn about her role and responsibilities, and enjoy local entertainment.

Communications

Engaging Ontarians online

The Lieutenant Governor maintains an active social media presence 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 frequently 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 hundreds of signed messages of congratulations.

The Lieutenant Governor sent thousands of signed 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, and local emergency services and first responders, including St John Ambulance.

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: 2018–19

	Actuals
Salaries and wages	1,110,201
Employee benefits	165,919
Transportation and communications	41,225
Services	192,759
Supplies and equipment	93,131
Discretionary allowance	155,800
	\$1,759,035

Year ending March 31

All amounts rounded to the nearest \$1. Amounts may not add up precisely due to rounding.

Source: Public Accounts of Ontario. Ministry of Finance.

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): 2018–19

	Actuals
Travel and accommodation	2,477
Hospitality	71,475
Operational and administrative expenses	8,256
	\$82,208

Year ending March 31

All amounts rounded to the nearest \$1. Amounts may not add up precisely due to rounding.

Source: "Expenses incurred by the Lieutenant Governors in the exercise of their official duties." Department of Canadian Heritage.

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 2018 to March 2019.

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

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