



**Canadian
Mentoring
Summit**
Hosted by Mentor Canada

**Congrès
canadien
du mentorat**
Organisé par Mentor Canada

Program Agenda

November 3-4, 2026
Delta Hotel Ottawa City Centre
101 Lyon St N, Ottawa ON K1R 5T9



Monday, November 2, 2026

TIME	PROGRAM
3:00 - 7:00 PM	Early Registration / BBBS Ottawa Pop-Up Shop Open
4:30 - 6:30 PM	Summit Welcome Reception



Tuesday, November 3, 2026

TIME	PROGRAM
7:30 - 8:00 AM	Registration & Breakfast
8:00 - 9:45 AM	Opening Ceremony
10:00 - 11:10 AM Concurrent Sessions	Indigenous Mentorship in Action: Relational, Reciprocal, and Networked Approaches to Research Capacity Building • Dr. Robert Henry, Associate Professor, NEIHR NCC • Tara Erb, Research Manager, NEIHR NCC
	Staff Engagement in Mentoring Program Change/Enhancement Efforts • Renee Spencer, Professor, Boston University School of Social Work • Tom Keller, School of Social Work, Portland State University
	Strengthening Mentoring Relationships for Growth • Chris Atchison, President, BC Construction Association • Hemanth Nunna, Mentorship Advisor, BCCA - Integrating Newcomers • Joy Magnell, Provincial Program Manager, BCCA - Building Builders Mentorship Program
	All Brains Welcome: Neurodiversity & Mentoring • Renee Angelo-Mauk, Director of Operations & Training, MENTOR MD DC

*Program subject to change.

10:00 - 11:10 AM Concurrent Sessions	From Ideas to Implementation - A Trails Youth Initiatives case study on a youth mentoring experience • Brandon McKinley, Director of Youth Development, Trails Youth Initiatives • Erin McLean, Director of Alumni and Volunteer Engagement, Trails Youth Initiatives
	Sustaining Mentorship: Designing Programs That Support Mentor Well-Being and Retention • Dr. Cecilia Bukutu, Professor, Public Health, Concordia University of Edmonton
11:15 - 11:30 AM	Networking & Nutrition Break
11:30 - 12:40 PM Concurrent Sessions	From Good Intentions to Real Capacity: Training Mentors Who Make a Lasting Difference • Konrad Glogowski, Chair, Global Advisory Board, Teachers Without Borders
	Built by Design: What Seven Cohorts of Fellowship Circle Teach Us About Closing the Mentorship Gap for Racialized Women • Dr. Golnaz Golnaraghi, Founder & President, Accelerate Her Future • Natasha Sidi, Fellowship Circle Program Lead, Accelerate Her Future
	How Academos is leveraging technology to fill the mentoring gap for youth in Quebec • Catherine Légaré, Présidente-fondatrice / President-founder, Academos • Mathieu Halle, Managing Director, Academos
	Beyond the Match: What It Really Takes to Mentor Youth in Exceptional Circumstances • Laine Bourassa, Principal Consultant, Taylor Newberry Consulting
	Black Youth Wellbeing in Canada: Evidence from National Survey and Qualitative Interviews • Dr. Bukola Salami, Canada Research Chair in Black and Racialized Peoples Health, University of Calgary
	Mentoring: A Catalyst for Youth Employment in Canada • Blanche Monabeka, Project Lead, Mentor Canada • Sydney Piggott, Director of Strategic Partnerships & Initiatives, Mentor Canada
12:45 - 1:45 PM	Lunch & Exhibits

2:00 - 3:10 PM Concurrent Sessions	From Risk to Resilience: Building Educational Success for All • Alisha Wissanji, Founder and CEO, Foundation W. – School of the Greats
	Further, Faster, Together: Using Partnership Strategy to Scale Mentoring Impact • Chizoba Obidigbo-Egbo, Founder/ Lead partnership Strategist, Nkali
	Building 2SLGBTQIA+ Mentorship: Insights from Communities and Allies • Jennifer Petrela, Executive Director, Mentorat Québec
	Empowering Black Youth and Women Through Community-Led Models • Maame De-Heer, Executive Director, Power of Love Canada
	From Check-In to Connection: Building Scalable, Evidence-Based Mentoring with Technology • Dr. Jean Rhodes, Professor and co-Founder, UMass Boston and MentorPRO
	The Foundations of Mentoring: A National Orientation for Mentors • Ben Dantzer, Senior Manager, Quality Mentoring and Capacity-Building, Mentor Canada • Sarah Chan, Operations & Engagement Lead, Alberta Mentoring Partnership
3:15 - 3:30 PM	Networking Break
3:30 - 4:45 PM	Afternoon Plenary
6:00 - 8:00 PM	Delegate Reception / Réception des délégués Bier Mrkt (156 Sparks St, Ottawa ON)



Wednesday, November 4, 2026

TIME	PROGRAM
7:30 - 8:30 AM	Networking & Breakfast
8:00 - 9:45 AM	Morning Plenary / Plénière du matin
10:00 - 11:10 AM Concurrent Sessions	Leading the Future of Mentoring: An Interactive Workshop • Layla Harrison, Director, Sponsor & Volunteer Engagement, ACCES Employment

10:00 – 11:10 AM Concurrent Sessions	Evaluation of Cultural Humility Training Programs in the U.S. and Canada • Amy Anderson, Assistant Professor, University of North Texas • Bernadette Sanchez, Professor, University of Illinois Chicago
	Passer de l'évaluation des compétences à la reconnaissance des forces intérieures issues des savoirs des Premières Nations pour le mentorat. • Dominic Simard, Directeur, Falcopa consultants
	From Survival to Thriving: Rethinking Mentorship for Equitable Advancement • Thanuja Thananayagam, Founder, HRShift Consulting
	NBM Skills and the Pilot in Vancouver • Ali Cloth, Professor, University of British Columbia
	Learning Sideways: Mentorship and Skill Development • Morgan Gagnon, Director of Organizational Development, Provincial Employment Roundtable (PERT) • Chad Walcott, Director of Public Affairs, Provincial Employment Roundtable (PERT)
11:15 – 11:30 AM	Networking & Nutrition Break
11:30 – 12:40 PM Concurrent Sessions	Mentoring for Wellbeing: Growing Organizational Cultures of Mentoring • Benjamin Kutsyuruba, Professor, Educational Leadership, Policy, and School Law, Queen's University • Keith Walker, Professor, University of Saskatchewan
	Learning from Co-Researcher Participants in Community Settings Using Arts-Based Mentorship • Jiya Juneja, University of Lethbridge • Supriya Middha, Doctoral Research Assistant, University of Lethbridge • Toupey Luft, Associate Professor & Psychologist, University of Lethbridge
	Career mentoring moments make a difference for youth experiencing disability • Mary Beshai, Director, MentorAbility Canada, Canadian Association for Supported Employment • Richard Cockrem, National Hub Coordinator – MentorAbility Canada, Canadian Association for Supported Employment

11:30 – 12:40 PM Concurrent Sessions	Values and Mentoring • Colby Delorme, President, Imagination Consulting • Véronique Church-Duplessis, Senior Director, Research and Impact, Mentor Canada • Jayclyn Martin-Westell, Manager, Marketing and Communications, Mentor Canada
	Mentoring the AI Generation: Preparing Young People for a Future That Doesn't Exist Yet • Thomas Doyle, President / CEO / Change Advisor, PMI Ottawa Valley Outaouais / North American Advisor Group
12:45 – 1:30 PM	Lunch
1:45 – 2:55 PM Concurrent Sessions	Launching the Mentor-Rich Workplaces Toolkit: Turning Research into Action for Young People • Grace Gowdy, Senior Researcher, Education Northwest
	Reframing Career Mentorship for Young Women: Insights and Strategies for Building Agency and Access • Erika Keys, Program Manager, Girls E-Mentorship • Madeleine Ross, Program Evaluation and Research Lead, Girls E-Mentorship
	The Equitable Standards for Transitions to Adulthood for Youth in Care: A Canadian Lived Expert-Led Initiative • Melanie Doucet, Executive Director & Project Lead, National Council of Youth in Care Advocates (NCYICA)
	Powering Integration Through Mentorship: A Cross-Sector Approach • Hasmik Asmaryan, Director, Business, Employment, and Training Services (BETS), Calgary Catholic Immigration Society
	THRIVE: How mentoring can be intentionally embedded within youth employment and social enterprise • Susan Ingram, Executive Director, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ottawa
	From Programs to Pathways: Building Systems that Actually Support Young People • West Estiverne, Manager, Employer Counsellor, Britannia Woods Community Services
3:10 – 4:00 PM	Afternoon Plenary
4:00 – 4:30 PM	Closing Ceremonies