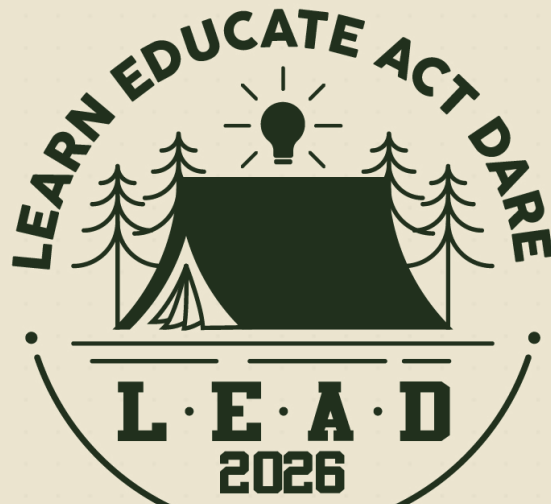


PRESENTED BY RLPA ♦ LEARN • EDUCATE • ACT • DARE



PROMO GUIDE

THE L · E · A · D · 2026 CONFERENCE

November 13–15, 2026

GULL LAKE CENTRE • LACOMBE COUNTY, ALBERTA





A Message From Your L.E.A.D. Chairs

GULL LAKE CENTRE · THIS FALL

Get ready for L.E.A.D. 2026! The L.E.A.D. Chairs are excited to welcome you back to Gull Lake Centre this fall. Nestled on the shores of beautiful Gull Lake, just minutes from Lacombe, this retreat provides the perfect setting to learn, connect, and grow — with comfortable accommodations, welcoming gathering spaces, and plenty of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors.

L.E.A.D. is more than a conference. It's an opportunity to challenge yourself, develop new skills, and build meaningful connections with student leaders from across the post-secondary community. Together, we'll explore new ideas, share experiences, and discover innovative ways to make a positive impact on our campuses and in our communities.

Whether you're returning with fresh insights or attending for the first time, come prepared to be inspired, contribute your voice, and embrace opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Pack your curiosity, bring your enthusiasm, and get ready to **Learn, Educate, Act, and Dare**. We can't wait to see you at the lake this fall!

Excited for what's to come,

— **Christine & Joshua**

YOUR L.E.A.D. CO-CHAIRS 2026



WHY YOU BELONG HERE

Why Attend L.E.A.D.?

TEN REASONS TO PACK YOUR BAG

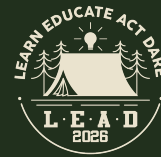


-  Meet new friends from across Canada who share your passions.
-  Give a presentation on something you're passionate about in Residence Life.
-  Compete in our case study competition — perfect if you're eyeing a career in campus housing.
-  Get inspired by a Residence Life keynote speaker.
-  Build a network of peers who live on campus to swap stories and problem-solve.
-  Connect with professional staff from institutions across Canada.
-  Have the ultimate cabin sleepover with fellow student leaders.
-  Participate in fun evening activities, from bonfires to karaoke.
-  Win fantastic prizes.
-  Take amazing photos and make memories for life.

SAVE YOUR SPOT

Registration

OPENS SEPT 28 · CLOSES NOV 3, 2026



STUDENT DELEGATE



\$200 CAD

PROFESSIONAL STAFF CHAPERONE



\$290 CAD



REGISTRATION OPENS
Mon, Sept 28, 2026



REGISTRATION CLOSES
Tue, Nov 3, 2026

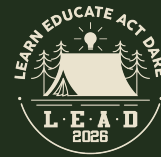
Registration closes Tuesday, November 3, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. MT. Fees cover conference costs, meals, snacks, and accommodation during the L.E.A.D. conference. Institutions are responsible for providing their own transportation and items for the swag swap.

Students must be registered by an RLPA member from their institution. Questions or extenuating circumstances? Contact us directly at lead@rlpa.ca.



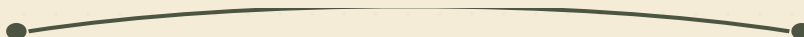
What's In Store

PART ONE · LEARN TOGETHER



Case Study

An amazing chance to collaborate with peers and learn from each other's unique approaches to the real topics we see in campus housing. You'll be split into groups with student staff from other institutions to collaborate, problem-solve, and work toward a solution. The case study, sign-up, assessment rubric, and timeline are all provided at the conference. Participation isn't mandatory, but it's highly encouraged for the full experience!



Round Tables

Break off into smaller groups to dig into the problems, themes, and ideas tied to your life as a leader in housing. Working as student staff can be unpredictable and challenging — so take full advantage of a community of folks in the same boat as you.



What's In Store

PART TWO · GET INSPIRED



Panel Session

Hear from a panel of Residence Life professionals on their experiences, journeys, and insider tips and tricks on leadership in the industry. Bring your questions — it's your chance to learn from several voices at once.



Swag Swap

One of our favourite L.E.A.D. traditions! Each student delegate brings up to **\$10 CAD** of school swag in a bag, then takes home swag from another institution as a fun memory of L.E.A.D. We ask institutions to cover the cost of swag for their delegates. Swag swap is for students — but stay tuned for an optional sweatshirt swap for professional staff looking for some swag too!



What's In Store

PART THREE · SHARE & PLAY



Presentations

One of the best parts of L.E.A.D. is our peer-led presentations — now including **Passive Programs!** Once registered, delegates can submit a proposal to the L.E.A.D. committee to deliver a Formal Presentation or a Passive Presentation. Topics can be passionate, personal, educational, and creative — but must relate to Residence Life in some way. Interested in presenting? Check out our presentation proposal guide!



Nightly Activities

Can't wait to meet new people? Us too! Outside of our structured content, we'll run nightly activities so you can have fun and make new pals. Past activities have included bonfires, karaoke, photo scavenger hunts and hikes!



EARN THEM ALL

Participation Patches

RIPPED FROM THE SCOUT HANDBOOK



This year, L.E.A.D. is embracing camp traditions with Participation Patches! Throughout the conference, attendees can earn patches for completing different tasks and challenges. Every patch earns you one entry into our final **Participation Incentive Prize Draw** — with a chance to win some seriously sweet prizes. Ready to dive in and make the most of L.E.A.D.? This one's for you.



PRESENTER



SOCIAL BUTTERFLY



CASE STUDY



TRAILBLAZER



NIGHT OWL



CAMP SPIRIT

✦ COLLECT ALL SIX — EVERY PATCH IS ANOTHER CHANCE AT THE PRIZE DRAW ✦

JOIN THE CREW

Want to Help Out?

WE'D LOVE YOUR HELPING HANDS



Professional Staff

Interested in joining our planning committee? Please reach out to lead@rlpa.ca directly — we'd be thrilled to have you.



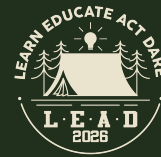
Student Staff

Once registration closes, we'll share information with all registered attendees on how to volunteer at the conference. We need helping hands to introduce presenters, hand out presentation evaluations, and facilitate round tables.



Conference FAQs

EVERYTHING YOU MIGHT BE WONDERING



✦ What is the dress code for L.E.A.D.?

School spirit meets cozy camp! We highly encourage everyone to wear their school swag and colours to keep the spirit up. Wear whatever makes you feel happy and confident — you're sleeping in cabins at a retreat centre, so sweatshirts, jeans, leggings, funky slippers, and Crocs are all totally welcome!

✦ What is the substance policy?

Gull Lake Centre is a substance-free camp. Please leave all alcohol and recreational drugs at home. Those who smoke or vape tobacco products must use designated smoking areas only.

✦ What do sleeping accommodations look like?

Everyone sleeps in cabins with up to ~10 others. We'll have both gender-free and gendered cabins available, and you can note your preference during registration. Each cabin has its own bathroom and electricity, and professional staff and student staff stay in separate cabins. Please remember to bring a sleeping bag and towel — these are NOT provided.

✦ What if I have dietary restrictions?

Please note any dietary needs during registration and Gull Lake Centre will be sure to accommodate you!

✦ Is there wifi and cell service?

Yes!

Have another question? Email us at lead@rlpa.ca