About the Federation

The Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences promotes research, learning and an understanding of the contributions made by the humanities and the social sciences towards a free and democratic society. Established in 1940, with a membership now comprising 160+ universities, colleges and scholarly associations, the Federation represents a diverse community of 85,000 researchers and graduate students across Canada.

Federation Landmark Events

We organize
Canada’s largest academic gathering, the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, which brings together more than 8,000 participants each year.

We are active in policy outreach, where we help ensure that the humanities and social sciences have a voice in discussions about the future and the contributions of Canadian research and teaching.

We administer the Awards to Scholarly Publications Program, Canada’s only funding program exclusively for scholarly books.

We host a Big Thinking lecture series on Parliament Hill and on the road, bringing in leading researchers to offer fresh ideas to Canada’s parliamentarians and policy-makers and forming a critical link between publicly funded research and policy development.

From the President’s Desk

Interconnected. Interdependent. Interdisciplinary. These are concepts that permeate and increasingly define academics, research and the workplace. Canada’s post-secondary institutions are challenged at all levels to prepare graduates for a rapidly evolving marketplace and society. We support universities, students and faculty as they confront these challenges in diverse ways.

Ideas can... reach. By sharing ideas, we engage and influence new audiences. We have considerably improved our coverage of social science and humanities perspectives in the media, diversified and increased our blog content, and dramatically expanded our social media presence.

Ideas can... be relevant. Celebrating our 20th year of ensuring important research reaches legislators, we delivered another terrific season of Big Thinking on Parliament Hill as well as on the road, featuring lecturers who bring topical research to Ottawa’s policy community.

Ideas can... build relationships. As a not-for-profit, partnerships are central to our ability to host events and actively contribute to the evolution of Canadian policy debates. We have benefited from support from key partners such as the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, the Royal Society, and many others to deliver timely programs and research in support of innovation and democratic discussion throughout the year.

Forging ahead in 2015, we look forward to the launch of our new five-year strategic plan to consolidate and grow our efforts to advance the contributions of our diverse humanities and social science community to finding people-centred solutions in an increasingly interconnected world.

Antonia Maioni,
President, Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Cover image: Paul-Émile Borduas; Saint-Hilaire, Québec, 1905- Paris 1960; Composition 44; 1959; Oil on canvas 92x73 cm; The Montréal Museum of Fine Arts; In 2005, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Association of Volunteer Guides of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum dedicates this work to all Association members as a sign of its gratitude. Photo MMFA, Brian Merrett. See page 9 to learn why we chose this cover image.
Mission

The Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences promotes research, scholarship, creative activity and learning, and works to foster understanding of the contributions made by the humanities and the social sciences to Canada and the world.

2014 Board of Directors

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The Board

The Federation has an active and engaged Board of Directors that meets twice a year to align and advance its agenda. In 2015, the Board will finalize the 2016–2020 Strategic Plan.
2014 featured an array of *Big Thinking* speakers from across North America and Europe.

### Big Thinking... on the Hill

The Federation’s *Big Thinking* lecture series on Parliament Hill brings leading Canadian researchers in the social sciences and humanities together with members of Parliament, senators, public servants and policy-makers to spark dialogue about Canada’s most pressing policy issues. This year, the spotlight was on Canada’s relationships— with immigrants, with Québec, with Aboriginal peoples—and on the future of our cities and our health care.

#### Then and now

To mark the 20th anniversary of the series in 2014, the Federation invited several lecturers who had spoken 20 years ago to share their perspectives on how policy issues have—or have not—changed, and what we can learn going forward. They were joined by first-time *Big Thinking* lecturers, who addressed issues that have emerged since the series began.

In 2014, the Hill series was made possible through the sponsorship of The Honourable James Rajotte, Member of Parliament for Edmonton–Leduc, and the support of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.
Big Thinking... on the Road

In an effort to expand dialogues and widen the Federation’s reach, we took Big Thinking on the road on two occasions in 2014.

Big Thinking... at Congress

Each year, the Federation’s Big Thinking lectures are among the most anticipated and well-attended events at Congress. They are a focal point for interdisciplinary programming and offer a rare opportunity for high-profile researchers and public figures to present innovative ideas and outside-the-box analysis of the critical issues of our time.

Congress 2014 Big Thinking series sponsors:
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada
- Canadian Foundation for Innovation

Big Thinking events throughout the year were sponsored by:
- Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation
- Royal Society of Canada
- Research Matters
- Partnership Group for Sciences and Engineering
- Canadian Institute for Advanced Research
- Genome Canada

Big Thinking videos:
ideas-idees.ca/events/videos

#bigthinking
More than 8,000 attendees gathered over seven days at the beautiful Brock University campus in the heart of the Niagara region for Congress 2014.

The theme, “Borders without Boundaries” stemmed from the university’s proximity to the geopolitical border with the United States as well as from the need to think, work and create beyond traditional disciplinary, historical, cultural and social boundaries. It inspired an impressive array of international and interdisciplinary programming.

Congress was yet again our flagship event

Still unrivaled in scope and impact as an academic gathering, the 83rd annual Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences brought together faculty, researchers, policy-makers and practitioners to share findings, refine ideas, and build partnerships that will help shape the Canada of tomorrow.

Scope and scale

- 8,000+ attendees
- 200 interdisciplinary sessions
- 5,000+ papers
- 2,500 events
- 75 association conferences
- 11 book launches
- 70 exhibitors at Expo tradeshow
Generating headlines

More than 180 media hits at 85+ different outlets

Print media coverage from Globe and Mail, National Post, Le Devoir, Toronto Star and Maclean’s

More than 30 radio interviews on CBC and Radio-Canada

25 researchers profiled in the media, representing nine associations and 18 institutions

Over 50,000 unique visits to www.congress2014.ca

51 stories published to the Congress blog

8 Big Thinking videos published online

Over 9,000 #congressh tweets

Going above and beyond programming

28 host university-led “Congress Plus” events

18 international keynote speakers

18 Career Corner professional development workshops

8 Big Thinking lectures

Plus Film, theatre, music and art events all week, including a National Film Board evening

Community-level impact

$10 million estimated economic impact to the Niagara region

350 local volunteers

125 local hires

10,200 accommodation room nights

70+ on-campus receptions

60 beer kegs, 120 cases of local wine and 900 catering orders served
Policy Work

Policy, research and outreach are Federation priorities. We work on behalf of our 160 members to promote the value of research and learning in the humanities and social sciences with decision-makers and influencers.

Federal Budget

Each year, we make federal budget recommendations to the House of Commons Finance Committee. We discuss these with ministers, members of Parliament from all parties, and senior officials to advocate for core priorities, including funding for the humanities and social sciences.

We celebrate that Budget 2014 included our recommendation to make Mitacs internships available to the not-for-profit sector as well as to industry. There was also increased funding for the granting councils and the creation of the new $1.5 billion Canada First Research Excellence Fund. We will monitor the fund’s implementation, and have called for it to support outstanding research across all fields of knowledge to find people-centred solutions to society’s most pressing challenges.

Outreach

We maintain a high profile in the media on key policy issues that are relevant to our scholarly community. We have successfully placed articles, op-eds and letters in mainstream and specialised media in English and French on issues ranging from student mobility to gender equality and the changing nature of academic professional life.

Federation Board members and staff are active in policy discussions and events with members of Parliament as well as senators, senior decision-makers, and diverse policy stakeholders. We also made contributions by presenting and participating at a number of conferences and policy events across the country.

Open Access

The Federation increased the scope of its work and thinking on Open Access given the significant changes underway in knowledge creation and knowledge transmission in a digital world. We commissioned an environmental scan of this rapidly evolving policy terrain and launched a draft policy on Open Access and the Awards to Scholarly Publications Program (ASPP), at Congress 2014. The policy underwent significant consultation with diverse stakeholders and a final version was developed and submitted to the Board, with a view to launch in 2015. The project has provided important leadership in the discussion and promotion of Open Access with regards to the publication of scholarly books in Canada, widening the issue from one that had been more narrowly focussed on Open Access and journals.

Research Impact

In 2014, we released a major working paper that lays out a conceptual framework for capturing the diverse impacts and contributions of social sciences and humanities research to society. The paper, entitled The Impacts of Humanities and Social Science Research, provides details on the tools academics, decision-makers and the public can use to measure the impacts of this research—on scholarship, teaching, the economy, communities and policy. The paper is a living document and will be updated as our collective work on impact measurement grows. The project has already attracted national and international attention following its launch in the fall of 2014 at the Entretiens Jacques Cartier in Montréal and at the American Council of Learned Societies. Feedback and interest have been growing steadily thanks to presentations to a SSHRC Leaders meeting and to the Association pour la recherche au collégial.
Awards to Scholarly Publications Program

The Awards to Scholarly Publications Program (ASPP) enjoyed a successful 2014. Once again, an ASPP-funded book was recognized by the Governor General’s Literary Awards: Peter Feldstein won for his English translation of Paul-Émile Borduas: A Critical Biography by François-Marc Gagnon, published by McGill–Queen’s University Press. The painting Composition 44 on the cover of this Annual Report, is featured in this book.

A workshop at the Salon du livre de Montréal engaged French-language publishers, authors and translators. In 2015, the Federation will host a professional development webinar on the ASPP for members of the Association nationale des éditeurs du livre.

The ASPP is the Federation’s competitive funding program that supports the publication and translation of the best Canadian scholarly books in the humanities and social sciences. Each year, the Federation provides 180 Publication Grants of $8,000 and five Translation Grants of $12,000, contributing a total of $1.5 million annually to the dissemination of Canadian research. Funding for the ASPP, the longest running program at the Federation, is provided by SSHRC.

Looking ahead, the Federation will contribute to the evolution of Open Access in Canada through the ASPP and its policy to support scholarly books.

ASPP by the numbers

- Scholars on the Publications Committee: 165
- ASPP funded books on the Hill Times list of the 100 Best Books of 2014: 23
- Contribution to the dissemination of Canadian research: $1.5 million
- Books funded: 217

ASPP-funded book and Governor General’s Literary Award winner: Paul-Émile Borduas: A Critical Biography by François-Marc Gagnon, translated by Peter Feldstein
An enthusiastic crowd of scholars, publishers and community members attended the 2014 Canada Prizes awards ceremony at Glendon College on May 7. The Federation partnered with York University for this event, which featured a keynote address by Michael Adams, President of Environics and a member of the 2014 jury.

I believe that Canadian scholars—the old giants like Innis, Frye, and McLuhan and, in our own time, people like my co-jurors and the scholars being recognized today—have helped to build a Canadian conversation that is not based on loudly shouted, strongly held opinion but rather on facts, analysis, reflection and theories grounded in empirical evidence.

— Michael Adams, from his keynote address

Canada Prize in Humanities: Sandra Djwa, Journey With No Maps: A Life of P.K. Page (McGill–Queen’s University Press)


Canada Prize in the Social Sciences: David E. Smith, Across the Aisle: Opposition in Canadian Politics (University of Toronto Press)


Media Highlights 2014

2014 was a big year for attracting media attention, with over 200 stories in regional, national and international news outlets, including Globe and Mail, National Post, Le Devoir, Ottawa Citizen, Toronto Star, Maclean’s, CBC/Radio–Canada, The Hill Times, Embassy, University Affairs, Convene, and International Innovation.

- A BIG year
  - 180+ Congress media stories
  - 25 additional stories beyond Congress
  - 39 radio and television interviews
  - National and international news outlets

- Generating coverage of the BIG ISSUES
  - The enduring value of a BA
  - The need for interdisciplinary collaboration
  - Why humanities and social sciences matter to democracy
Summary of 2014 Financial Report

The Federation continued to focus on effective program delivery in 2014, ending the year in a strong financial position and forecasting a balanced budget for 2014.

Congress 2014 at Brock University was a great success, our revenue stream (from SSHRC and members) remained stable from 2013. The Federation’s investment income grew this year, due to growth in financial markets. Investment holdings are of the highest quality, to mitigate the Federation’s market risk.

Cost control efforts over the past few years have allowed the Federation to reset baseline spending, resulting in below-budget expenditure results.

The Federation is in a strong financial position to continue to support the reach, relevance and relationship goals it strives to achieve.

Audited financial statements are available online at: www.ideas-idees.ca/about/about-the-federation

Looking ahead

Through our media work, we have generated significant coverage and have informed thousands of citizens and policy-makers about important issues. In 2015, we will continue to reach out to new audiences through the media and add new online content on issues from research impact, to Open Access, to diversity and equity.

Thank You

We extend our sincere thanks to the many partners who have helped us in increasing our reach!
The Federation community: 2014 membership

The Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences promotes research, learning and an understanding of the contributions made by the humanities and the social sciences for a free and democratic society. Since 1940, with a membership now comprising 160+ universities, colleges and scholarly associations, the Federation represents a diverse community of 85,000 researchers and graduate students across Canada. The Federation organizes Canada’s largest academic gathering, the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, bringing together more than 8,000 participants each year.

Scholarly Associations

- Association canadienne d’études francophones du XIXe siècle
- Association des professeure.s de français des universités et collèges canadiens
- Association for Canadian and Quebec Literatures
- Association for Canadian Jewish Studies
- Association for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies in Canada
- Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English
- Bibliographical Society of Canada
- Canadian Anthropology Society
- Canadian Applied Literature Association
- Canadian Asian Studies Association
- Canadian Association for Commonweath Literature and Language Studies
- Canadian Association for Food Studies
- Canadian Association for Information Science
- Canadian Association for Irish Studies
- Canadian Association for Leisure Studies
- Canadian Association for Social Work Education
- Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation
- Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education
- Canadian Association for the Study of Book Culture
- Canadian Association for the Study of Discourse and Writing
- Canadian Association for the Study of International Development
- Canadian Association for Theatre Research
- Canadian Association for Translation Studies
- Canadian Association of African Studies
- Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics
- Canadian Association of Geographers
- Canadian Association of Hispanists
- Canadian Association of Learned Journals
- Canadian Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres
- Canadian Association of Slavists
- Canadian Association of University Teachers of German
- Canadian Cartographic Association
- Canadian Catholic Historical Association
- Canadian Communication Association
- Canadian Comparative Literature Association
- Canadian Disability Studies Association
- Canadian Economics Association
- Canadian Evangelical Theological Association
- Canadian Game Studies Association
- Canadian Historical Association
- Canadian Industrial Relations Association
- Canadian Jacques Maritain Association
- Canadian Law and Society Association
- Canadian Linguistic Association
- Canadian Philosophical Association
- Canadian Political Science Association
- Canadian Population Society
- Canadian Regional Science Association
- Canadian Society for Aesthetics
- Canadian Society for Digital Humanities
- Canadian Society for Italian Studies
- Canadian Society for Renaissance Studies
- Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Mathematics
- Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science
- Canadian Society for the History of Medicine
- Canadian Society for the Study of Education
- Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education
- Canadian Society for the Study of Names
- Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics
- Canadian Society for the Study of Religion
- Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric
- Canadian Society of Biblical Studies
- Canadian Society of Church History
- Canadian Society of Medievalists
- Canadian Society of Patristic Studies
- Canadian Sociological Association
- Canadian Theological Society
- Canadian University Music Society
- Classical Association of Canada
- Environmental Studies Association of Canada
- Film Studies Association of Canada
- Finno-Ugric Studies Association of Canada
- Folklore Studies Association of Canada
- Hungarian Studies Association of Canada
- Quebec Society for the Study of Religion
- Sexuality Studies Association
- Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture
- Society for Socialist Studies
- Universities Art Association of Canada
- Women’s and Gender Studies et Recherches Féministes

Institutions

- Acadia University
- Athabasca University
- Bishop’s University
- Brandon University
- Brock University
- Cape Breton University
- Carleton University
- Concordia University
- Concordia University College of Alberta
- Dalhousie University
- Dominican University College
- École nationale d’administration publique
- First Nations University of Canada
- Institut national de la recherche scientifique
- King’s University College at Western University
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- Lakehead University
- MacEwan University
- McGill University
- McMaster University
- Memorial University of Newfoundland
- Mount Allison University
- Mount Royal University
- Mount Saint Vincent University
- Nipissing University
- NSCAD University
- OCAD University
- Queen’s University
- Redeemer University College
- Royal Military College of Canada
- Royal Roads University
- Ryerson University
- Saint Mary’s University
- Saint Paul University
- Simon Fraser University
- St. Francis Xavier University
- St. Thomas More College
- St. Thomas University
- Thomas More Institute
- Thompson Rivers University
- Trent University
- Université de Moncton
- Université de Montréal
- Université de Saint-Boniface
- Université de Sherbrooke
- Université du Québec à Chicoutimi
- Université du Québec à Montréal
- Université du Québec à Rimouski
- Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières
- Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- Université du Québec en Outaouais
- Université Laval
- Université Sainte-Anne
- University of Alberta
- University of British Columbia
- University of Calgary
- University of Guelph
- University of King’s College
- University of Lethbridge
- University of Manitoba
- University of New Brunswick
- University of Northern British Columbia
- University of Ontario Institute of Technology
- University of Ottawa
- University of Prince Edward Island
- University of Regina
- University of Saskatchewan
- University of St. Michael’s College
- University of the Fraser Valley
- University of Toronto
- University of Victoria
- University of Waterloo
- University of Windsor
- University of Winnipeg
- Vancouver Island University
- Victoria University
- Western University
- Wilfrid Laurier University
- York University

Affiliates

- American Council of Learned Societies
- Association of Canadian Deans of Education
- Canadian Association of Research Libraries
- Canadian Institute for Military & Veteran Health Research
- Canadian Research Knowledge Network
- Frontier College

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