



## **26<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**April 29 - May 1, 2022**

Downtown Calgary Marriott  
Calgary, Alberta  
110 9 Ave SE  
Calgary, AB T2G 5A6

## Friday, April 29

Time	Event	Speakers
3:00 – 4:00PM	<b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> Chaired by Candice Malcolm	
6:00PM	<b>Conference Registration Opens</b>	
6:00 – 8:00PM	<b>Cocktail Reception</b>	
6:45PM	<b>Opening Remarks by President</b> Introduction of new members	Civitas President; Founder and Editor-in- Chief of True North
7:00 – 8:00PM	<b>Debate</b> <i>Be it resolved: Canada has failed</i>	For: JJ McCullough - "The confederation project has failed. Canada needs some introspection and to come up with a new purpose"  Against: Ben Woodfinden - "Canada's foundation and institutions are strong. We need to revisit our founding principles, not throw them out and start again"  Moderated by Bill Robson

## Saturday, April 30

Time	Event	Speakers
8:00 – 9:00AM	<b>Books for Breakfast</b>	Jamil Jivani - <i>Why Young Men: Rage, Race and the Crisis of Identity</i>  Dr. Harley Sims - <i>The Freedom Convoy: How a Group of Canadian Truckers Changed the World</i>  Lindsay Shepherd - <i>Diversity and Exclusion: Confronting the Campus Free Speech Crisis</i>  Dr. Ian Gentles - <i>The New Model Army: Agent of Revolution</i>  Dr. Linda Blade - <i>Unsporting: How Trans Activism and Science Denial are Destroying Sport</i>  Dr. Brian Lee Crowley - <i>Gardeners vs. Designers: Understanding the Great Fault Line in Canadian Politics</i>

# Saturday, April 30

Time	Event	Speakers
9:00 – 10:00AM	<b>Panel #1:</b> How Canada Collapsed: The Abject Failure of our Institutions in the Covid Era  <small>*New format for panels - Host gives 5 minute intro, each panelist gives 5-10 minute opening pitch, panel discusses for 20 minutes, 15-20 minutes of Q&amp;A</small>	Host: Danielle Smith  John Carpay: <b><i>Fight For Your Freedoms or You Will Never Get Them Back</i></b>  Dr. Matt Strauss: <b><i>Canada's Healthcare Culture Sets Us up for Failure</i></b>  Dr. Shawn Whatley: <b><i>Now is the Time to Fundamentally Fix Our Healthcare System</i></b>
10:00 – 10:15AM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
10:15 – 11:00AM	<b>Civitas Talk #1</b> Why is Canada so Expensive?  <small>*New format for Civitas Talks - Presenter gives a 10 minute TED Talk-style presentation, tables deliberate for 10 minutes, then each table presents their response to the room</small>	Host: Gregory Thomas  Matthew Lau: <b><i>Government is the Problem</i></b>  Chris Spoke: <b><i>NIMBYism, Properly Understood, is our Greatest Political Problem</i></b>
11:00 – 12:00PM	<b>Panel #2:</b> Gender, Biology and the Woke Revolution	Host: Dr. Roy Eappen  Barbara Kay: <b><i>Marx, Misandry, Marriage, Misogyny: My 20 years in the gender wars</i></b>  Dr. Linda Blade: <b><i>Looming Fracas: Ideology Meets Reality in the Arena</i></b>  Shelley Crowley: <b><i>The Abolition of Women: We Will Not Go Quietly</i></b>
12:00 – 1:30PM	<b>Lunch</b>	
12:30 – 1:30PM	<b>Lunch Keynote</b>   <b>Closing Lunchtime Remarks</b>	Dr. Irvin Studin: <b><i>When Canada Becomes the Centre of the 21st Century World.</i></b> (Introduction by Candice Malcolm)  Michael Binnion: <b><i>Oil and Gas Can Lead the Way to Northern Prosperity</i></b>
1:30 – 1:45PM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	

# Saturday, April 30

Time	Event	Speakers
1:45 – 2:15PM	<b>Civitas Talk #2</b> Can conservatism and Conservatism co-exist?	Dr. Brian Lee Crowley (Introduction by Brianna Morris)
2:15 – 3:30PM	<b>Panel #3:</b> Indian Residential Schools and the Issue of “Unmarked Graves”	Host: Dr. Tom Flanagan  Dr. Rod Clifton: <i><b>My Life in Two Indian Residential Schools</b></i>  Dr. Hymie Rubenstein: <i><b>Were 150,000 Indigenous Children “Forced to Attend” an Indian Residential School?</b></i>  Dr. Frances Widdowson: <i><b>How Dangerous is it for Professors to Discuss Those Unmarked Graves?</b></i>
3:30 – 4:00PM	<b>Civitas Talk #3</b> What it’s Like to be Cancelled - Life After Cancel Culture	Çaylan Ford (Introduction by Lindsay Shepherd)
4:00 – 4:10PM	<b>Video presentation</b>	Dr. William Gairdner: <i><b>The Four Stages of Liberalism</b></i>
4:10 – 6:00PM	<b>Break</b>	
6:00 – 6:30PM	<b>Cocktail Reception</b>	
6:30 – 8:00PM	<b>Dinner and Evening Programme featuring Master of Ceremonies W. Brett Wilson</b>	<b>Roundtable Discussion on the State of the Media</b>  Host: Rachel Curran  Jamil Jivani: <i><b>Talk Radio and Marginalized Voices</b></i>  Candice Malcolm: <i><b>The Media, Culture and Bailouts</b></i>  Rupa Subramanya: <i><b>The Freedom Convoy</b></i>  Andrew Lawton: <i><b>Trudeau’s Censorship Laws</b></i>  Derek Fildebrandt: <i><b>Media Consolidation</b></i>
8:00 – 9:00PM	<b>Robson Family Musical</b>  As per Civitas tradition, please join the Robson Family for a post-dinner sing-a-long of all your favourite tunes!	

# Sunday, May 1

Time	Event	Speakers
7:15 – 8:00AM	<b>Civitas AGM</b> Chaired by Candice Malcolm	
8:00 – 9:00AM	<b>Philosophy for Breakfast</b>  <small>*Note: Much like our popular Books for Breakfast panel, each speaker gives a brief speech as to why you should read this philosopher, what he or she teaches, and why it's relevant today</small>	Host: Dr. Harley Sims  Dr. Miles Smit: <b><i>Saint Thomas Aquinas</i></b>  Dr. David Livingstone: <b><i>Plato</i></b>  MP Garnett Genuis: <b><i>Pope John Paul II</i></b>
9:00 – 10:00AM	<b>Panel #4:</b> Democratic Decay	Host: Andrew Lawton  Dr. Ian Brodie: <b><i>How our Fundamental Institutions Failed Us, and How to Fix It</i></b>  Dr. Mark Milke: <b><i>Memo to the Right, Stop Acting Like Leftists</i></b>  Rupa Subramanya: <b><i>The Frustrating Lack of Accountability in our System</i></b>
10:00 – 10:15AM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
10:15 – 11:15AM	<b>Panel #5:</b> How to make Canada the Most Pro-Family Country in the World	Host: Kaz Nejatian  Hamish Marshall: <b><i>Incentives Matter, Let's Incentivize Families</i></b>  Ginny Roth: <b><i>Being Pro-Family and Pro-Children are Key</i></b>  Dr. Rahim Mohamed: <b><i>Why We Need to Talk About Birth Rates</i></b>
11:15 – 11:45AM	<b>Civitas Talk #5</b> Reasons to Embrace Populism to Get Canada Back on Track	Preston Manning (Introduction by Aaron Gunn)
11:45AM	<b>Farewell and Thank you</b>	Candice Malcolm
12:00PM	<b>Civitas Conference Adjourned</b>	

# Speaker Biographies

**Candice Malcolm:** Civitas President; Founder and Editor-in-Chief of True North

**Bill Robson:** President and CEO of the C.D. Howe Institute

**JJ McCullough:** Canadian Youtuber and Global Opinions Contributing Columnist at the Washington Post

**Ben Woodfinden:** PhD candidate at McGill University, Contributor for the National Post and the Hub, Editor of 'The Dominion'

**Jamil Jivani:** Senior Fellow for Diversity and Empowerment at the MacDonald-Laurier Institute

**Dr. Harley Sims:** True North Senior Editor

**Lindsay Shepherd:** True North Journalism Fellow and Civitas Administrator

**Dr. Ian Gentles:** Professor of History and Global Studies at Tyndale University

**Dr. Linda Blade:** PhD Kinesiology, Sport Performance Coach, President of Athletics Alberta

**Dr. Brian Lee Crowley:** Managing Director of the Macdonald-Laurier Institute

**Danielle Smith:** Former Leader of Alberta's Official Opposition

**John Carpay:** Founder and President of the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms

**Dr. Matt Strauss:** Medical Officer of Health for Haldimand-Norfolk region

**Dr. Shawn Whatley:** Health Policy Fellow at Macdonald-Laurier Institute

**Gregory Thomas:** Managing Director of Services CJOC Inc.

**Matthew Lau:** Adjunct Scholar at the Fraser Institute, Fellow with Montreal Economic Institute

**Chris Spoke:** Founder of digital agency August, Real Estate Investor, and Contributor at The Hub

**Dr. Tom Flanagan:** Professor Emeritus of Political Science and Fellow, School of Public Policy, University of Calgary

**Dr. Rod Clifton:** Professor Emeritus at the University of Manitoba and Senior Fellow at the Frontier Centre

**Dr. Hymie Rubenstein:** Author and retired Professor of Anthropology at the University of Manitoba

**Dr. Frances Widdowson:** Author and former Professor of Economics at Mount Royal University

**Caylan Ford:** International Affairs Specialist, Writer, and Documentary Filmmaker

**Dr. William Gairdner:** Founder of Civitas, Bestselling author and two-time Olympic athlete

**W. Brett Wilson:** Investment banker, Businessman, Philanthropist and former Panelist on Dragons' Den

**Rachel Curran:** Public Policy Manager, Meta (Facebook)

**Rupa Subramanya:** Freelance Journalist and Columnist with the National Post

**Andrew Lawton:** True North Journalism Fellow and Host of The Andrew Lawton Show

**Derek Fildebrandt:** President of the Western Standard Media Corporation

**Dr. Miles Smit:** Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Petrarch Institute

**Dr. David Livingstone:** Chair Liberal Studies, Professor Liberal Studies and Political Studies at Vancouver Island University

**MP Garnett Genuis:** Member of Parliament for Sherwood Park—Fort Saskatchewan

**Dr. Ian Brodie:** Former Chief of Staff to Stephen Harper and Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Calgary

**Dr. Mark Milke:** Senior Fellow at the Fraser Institute, Columnist and Public Policy Advisor

**Kaz Nejatian:** Vice President, Merchant Services at Shopify

**Hamish Marshall:** Partner at One Persuades, former National Campaign Manager for the Conservative Party of Canada

**Ginny Roth:** Vice President and National Practice Lead for government relations at Crestview Strategy

**Dr. Rahim Mohamed:** Visiting Adjunct Professor in International Studies at Centre College in Kentucky

**Aaron Gunn:** Independent Journalist; Producer and Director of Politics Explained

**Preston Manning:** Founder of the Reform Party of Canada and former Leader of the Official Opposition



# About Us

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## Our Purpose

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To promote and deepen understanding through the exchange of a wide range of political, economic, social, religious, cultural and philosophical ideas concerning the principles and traditions of a free and ordered society.

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## Officers

Candice Malcolm, *President*  
Dr. Miles Smit, *Past President*  
Dustin Jussila, *Treasurer*  
William McBeath, *Secretary*

## Directors

Dr. David Livingstone  
Dr. Roy Eappen  
Dr. Bill Bewick  
Gregory Thomas

Dr. Shawn Whatley  
Andre Mihelic  
Hamish Marshall  
Brianna Morris

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## Past Presidents

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Bill Gairdner (Founder), Tom Flanagan, William Robson, Lorne Gunter, Brian Lee Crowley, Ken Boessenkool, Michel Kelly-Gagnon, John von Heyking, Mark Milke, Marco Navarro-Génie, Miles Smit

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## Founding Directors

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Janet Ajzenstat, Ted Byfield, Michael Coren, Jacques Dufresne, Tom Flanagan, David Frum, Bill Gairdner, Jason Kenney, Gwen Landolt, Ezra Levant, Tom Long, Mark Magner, William Robson, David E. Somerville, Michael Walker

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## Civitas Administrator

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Lindsay Shepherd

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## Civitas and Chatham House Rule

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**Please note that Civitas adheres to Chatham House rule. The identities of the participants are private and all discussions are not to be recorded, reported, attributed or disseminated in any fashion. All members and guests are asked to respect Chatham House rule.**

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*Thank you to Meta for generously helping to sponsor this conference*

