RURAL ONTARIO INSTITUTE

AALP ADVANCED AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Class 22 Curriculum Overview (September 2027 to March 2029*)

Date	Location	Theme
Up to 2 days	**Home**	**Getting Ready** Collect information from your network to prepare for a journey in leadership development.
August 12, 2027 Thurs Morning	**Webinar A**	**What to Expect** Participant introductions. Who is ROI? Preparing for Seminar 1.
September 9-12, 2027 Thurs-Sun	**Seminar 1 - St Catherines**	**Leadership – Theory & Application** Define the leadership challenge. Develop tools to improve analytical and emotional intelligence. Learn foundational behaviours for self-awareness and interpersonal attentiveness.
October 7, 2027 Thurs Morning	**Webinar B**	**Connect, Review, Practice, Explore Issues** Reinforce the seminar topics, discuss application, and share viewpoints. Plan winter networking event.
November 28-December 1, 2027 Sun-Wed	**Seminar 2 - Toronto**	**Effective Dialogue and Creating Team Synergy** Establishing behaviours for performance, coaching and team development. Advocacy and connections to provincial government.
December 16, 2027 Thurs Morning	**Webinar C Global Zoom Networking**	**Connect with other ag-sector leadership programs globally** Share viewpoints around issues of leadership with international leadership program participants.
January 13-16, 2028 (Partners to attend) Thurs-Sun	**Seminar 3 – Eastern Ontario**	**Personalities, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** Deepen self-awareness and awareness of others' personality style. Welcome and encourage multiple perspectives. **Awareness of Self and Others** Discover how we act and why. Explore methods of creating positive and productive relationships and teams.
March 21 – 30, 2028 Contingency tour if necessary is March 28-April 6, 2028	**Study Travel** (7 to 10 days in length)	**Understanding Canadian/North American Relations** Increase Cultural intelligence. Observe varying approaches to agriculture, trade, policy development, rural development, resource and social policies *(Destination: TBD).*
July 13, 2028 Thurs Morning	**Webinar D**	**Connect, Year 2 overview** Prepare for Thunder Bay seminar and IAP presentations
August 21-24, 2028 Mon-Thurs	**Seminar 4 – Northern Ontario**	**Situational Analysis, Problem-solving style** Delve into challenging assumptions and workplace environments.. Awareness of adaptive and innovative problem solving.
September 14-17, 2028 Thurs-Sun	**Seminar 5 – London**	**Communication – Media, written , Present IAPs** Completion of Issues Analysis Projects (IAPs). Articulate the current issues in the areas of agri-food systems and rural communities including related policy aspects.
October 19, 2028 Thurs Morning	**Webinar E**	**Connect, Review, Practice, Explore Issues** Reinforce the seminar topics, discuss application, and share viewpoints. Prepare for Parliament Hill networking & reception.
November 12-15, 2028 Sun-Wed	**Seminar 6 - Ottawa**	**Federal Government; Globalization & Trade; Competing Commitments** Learn about Canadian & American government - people, policies, and programs. Discuss new and emerging realities of globalization and trade. Learn problem solving style.
December 7, 2028 Thurs Morning	**Webinar F**	**Connect, Review, Practice, Explore Issues** Reinforce the seminar topics, discuss application, and share viewpoints. Recap study tour. Plan for Leadership Lecture & Reception.
February 6-19, 2029 Contingency tour if necessary is February 20-March 5, 2029	**Study Travel** (8 to 14 days in length)	**Intercultural Communication and Cultural Intelligence** Strengthen Global awareness including political, economic and social comparisons between our own society and others, unconscious bias, behaviour adaption, empathy, and diversity**.** *(Destination: TBD)*
March 8, 2029 Thurs Morning	**Webinar G**	**Prepare for Final Seminar and Leadership Lecture & Reception**
March 22-25 Thurs-Sun	**Seminar 7 – Kitchener/ Waterloo**	**A Look Ahead** Graduation: How will you use the knowledge and skills you have acquired through your experience in AALP? *Participants will be involved in the organization and delivery of this seminar.*
Guelph or other location, Date in 2030	**Giving Back** The graduating Class hosts an event (e.g. Dream Auction, Dream Gala) to raise funds for the incoming Class. Fundraising is an obligation.	

NOTES:

- Slight modifications may be made on dates, locations and themes as necessary.
- All attempts will be made to have seminars in-person except for those originally scheduled for virtual; however these may be modified to virtual or changed to an alternate date subject to the ability to provide participant safety for in-person events and study tours.
- Participants' life partner, business associate, or a person supporting the participant's AALP journey are invited and encouraged to participate in Seminars 3 & 7.
- Some seminars may include a professional development opportunity for all AALP Alumni.
- Participants are expected to make their own way to seminar locations and to the Ontario start of study tours.

Learning Opportunities:

A. Seminars: skills workshops, technology tours, knowledge/motivational lectures
Seven seminars will include a mix of group work, leadership skills development workshops, visits to farms/organizations/industry/services, lectures by knowledge experts and organizing networking events.

B. Webinars: Interactive and self-directed distance learning modules
Six webinars will occur outside of seminars. These will build on seminar material and help to reinforce application of skills. These webinars may be used in part to share key events/projects amongst participants, organize fund raising activities, plan tour logistics and other items as the Class decides, if time permits.
The program also involves participation in various web-based and/ or email assignments for seminar & study tour preparation and follow-up, discussion forums, conversations, project and activity planning with classmates, ROI office and curriculum team.

C. Projects: Issues Analysis (IAPs)
This self-directed team project will provide participants with the opportunity to sharpen your analytical, problem solving, research, critical thinking, communications and planning skills while working on a project of importance to you and your AALP class members and to the agricultural, agri-food and rural community in Ontario.

D. Study Tour: North American and International
Two study tours are scheduled into the program. Cultural intelligence and global perspectives on trade and policy with respect to social, economic and environmental issues is gained.

E. AALP network: A lifetime of quality leadership opportunities
Your investment pays back dividends both while in the program and for the rest of your life. These opportunities include:

- Over 450 AALP alumni provide connections across rural Ontario and in every ag sector and service across the full value chain. This has helped many AALP graduates make life decisions.
- Invitations to attend and participate in a variety of educational leadership opportunities and professional development sessions including the International Leadership Alumni Conference - ILAC.
- Invitations to social functions in association with AALP fund and friend raising activities and seminars.
- The use of the AALP Logo on your business cards and social media.
- Participation in a variety of current class activities such as the AALP Curriculum, Engagement and Recruitment advisory teams, Dream Auction/Gala, Stewart Gala and the Rural Ontario Institute Board of Directors.
- Periodical professional leadership updates by email.

An OAC Open Learning Certificate and More…..

Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program graduates are presented with a University of Guelph certificate from the Office of Open Learning and a Rural Ontario Institute Award of Achievement.

AALP is a TERRIFIC investment
for you, your business and your community!

Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program (AALP)
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