

How you can get involved

Become a Rural Change Maker

Are you between 18 and 35 and live in rural Ontario? If you answered yes, we invite you to apply to be apart of the Rural Change Maker program. Learn new skills. Connect with others. Work on a community project. www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca/changemakers

Become a mentor

Help guide, discover and celebrate the aspirations of a future leader in your community or project! Support a young person to gain hands-on experience.

Become a sponsor

Sponsorship invests in the future of rural Ontario by empowering emerging leaders to develop the confidence and capacity to lead real change. It enables young leaders to contribute to the future of rural Ontario through employment, business and community economic development.

Become a Regional Partner and program champion for local youth.

Each year we work alongside regional partners for recruitment and delivery of the Rural Change Maker program with a shared mission of care & community development.



Follow the Rural Change Makers as they mobilize action in their communities on ROI Connect – a new online gathering place for rural folks to connect, collaborate, inspire and create change. You can help build your community by joining our change making journey, following a community project, joining a group, sharing your knowledge, exchanging ideas or offering feedback!

www.roiconnect.ca

More Info:

Contact us at _____

 519-826-4204

 info@ruralontarioinstitute.ca

 www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca

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Follow us on social media _____

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RURAL CHANGE MAKERS



A program of the

 RURAL ONTARIO INSTITUTE



#LeadYourFuture



*It's more than just an idea.
Changemaking is empathy, creativity,
courage and determination in action!*

Apply to become a Rural Change Maker,
and together we will shape the world
we want to live in.

We know that civic engagement is critical
to feeling a sense of community belonging.

Discover the potential of your community.

Ignite your passion for change.

Engage with other like-minded leaders and
expand your networks.

Our purpose

The Rural Change Makers (RCM) Program
helps young adults build confidence and
capacity in community change making.

Participants (ages 18-35) will gain the
leadership skills and hands-on experience
to benefit their communities, build their
preferred futures and become rural
community leaders.

Our Impact



Making a difference

94% believe they can make a
difference and have a sense
of belonging within their
community.



Skill Development

98% of Change Makers
reported that they were
leaving the program with the
knowledge and practical
skills needed to lead effective
community change.



Advancing future goals

97% said the program
increased their employability
or advanced career and
future goals.



Increased rural retention

90% of Change Makers said
they are likely to stay in their
local community to work and
live.

Our Goals

- **Build** youth leadership capacity
- **Ignite** impactful rural development
outcomes for communities and
organizations
- **Engage** in broader rural
development initiatives

Program approach:

The Rural Change Makers Program is a
FREE and transformative 12-month
leadership experience for emerging
leaders (ages 18–35) who are ready to
create positive change in their lives and
rural communities. Emerging leaders are
selected to participate in a dynamic mix
of evening virtual learning labs,
immersive in-person gatherings, and
real-world skill application. The program
culminates with a certificate of
completion, leadership recognition and
special graduation ceremony.

