About the Institute on Governance

Our Mission
The IOG’s mission is ‘advancing better governance in the public interest,’ which the Institute accomplishes by exploring, developing and promoting the principles, standards and practices which underlie good governance in the public sphere.

Our Vision
The IOG’s vision is to be the pre-eminent, independent Canadian source of knowledge, research and advice on governance and its continuous improvement.

Our Expertise
Our leading expertise is rooted in our innovative leadership practices, ongoing and applied research and practice-based insights. The IOG offers:

• A systems approach taking into account the interaction of complex systems and decision-making
• A neutral, impartial, independent and confidential working environment for clients addressing real-time governance challenges
• Access to a network of leading thinkers on governance, with domestic and global expertise in the government, private and non-profit sectors, as well as Indigenous and other governance areas
• Access to research and development resources to enable clients to apply leading-edge practice

Our Work
The IOG works with a wide range of clients and partners in Canada and abroad including governments, communities, universities, and private and public organizations. Our constant interaction with senior officials from the private and public sectors affords us complementary perspectives – inside and outside views – of the challenges facing today’s leaders. Our experience in and across sectors makes our expertise flexible, sensitive, broadly-based and extremely useful to clients no matter their location, culture or traditions.

Founded in 1990, the Institute on Governance (IOG) is an independent, Canada-based, not-for-profit public interest institution with its head office in Ottawa and an office in Toronto.

Over the past 20 years, the IOG has advanced better understanding and practice of good governance in Canada, with federal, provincial, municipal and aboriginal governments, not-for-profit organizations, and in 35 other countries including most recently projects in Iraq, China and Botswana.

Our work is marked by independent thought, innovation, collaboration, excellence, and a responsive and principled approach. We are uniquely positioned, as a truly independent, public purpose organization, to fill the need for knowledge, research and advice on good governance. It is a registered charitable organization.

Our Virtuous Circle
Our leading expertise is rooted in the balanced growth of our research, advisory and learning activities. This “virtuous circle” means that you benefit from a strong applied research focus that strengthens our ability to provide advisory services and informs our learning products; advisory services that shape our research and leverage our learning programs; and learning products that are based on evidence and experience.

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