

How you can get involved

Become a Rural Change Maker

Are you between 19 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

It takes a village...

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

Your sponsorship dollars invest in the future of rural Ontario by empowering young emerging leaders to develop the confidence and capacity to lead real change. It's an investment that grows!

Encourage youth in your community to apply!




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



Follow us on social media _____

 @ROIInstitute

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#RURAL YOUR ADVENTURE

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

Discover the potential of your community.

Ignite the passion for change.

Engage with your neighbours to make it happen.

Our purpose

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

Up to 30 individuals (ages 19-35) will have 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

78% of Rural Change Makers believed that they made a meaningful contribution to their community by taking part in the program.



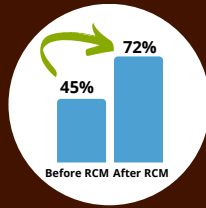
Skill Development

93% of Rural Change Makers reported that they were leaving the program with the knowledge and practical skills needed to lead effective community change.



Increased community connectedness

91% believe they can make a difference and have a sense of belonging within their community.



Increased rural retention

72% of Rural Change Makers said they are likely to stay in their local community to work and live. (up from 45% at the start of the program).

The Goal of the RCM program

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

Program approach:

Young leaders will participate in a series of developmental training sessions, and come together for experiential events in a supportive coaching environment.

