About the Fellowship

The Jane Glassco Northern Fellowship is a policy and leadership development program that recognizes the potential among young northern Canadians who want to address the emerging policy challenges facing the North. The 18-month program is built around four regional gatherings and offers skills training, mentorship, and networking opportunities. Through self-directed learning, group work, and the collective sharing of knowledge, Fellows foster a deeper understanding of important contemporary northern issues, and develop the skills and confidence to better articulate and share their ideas and policy research publicly.

The Fellowship is designed for northerners between 25 and 35 years of age, who want to build a strong North that benefits all northerners. Through the Fellowship, a bond is fostered, creating a pan-northern network that will endure throughout their professional lives.

“I will carry the experience of the Fellowship with me. I consider it to be one of the most important experiences of my life. It marked a period in my life of fundamental transformation—a rare and beautiful thing.”

JOEY FLOWERS
2010 - 2012 FELLOW
SKILLS BUILDING
Leading-edge content presented by top experts in the field.

MENTORSHIP
Mentor-pairing to ensure Fellows are guided in their projects and provided with unique perspectives on issues.

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE
Leading-edge content presented by top experts in the field.

EXPERIENCE
Mentor-pairing to ensure Fellows are guided in their projects and provided with unique perspectives on issues.

NETWORKING
Access to an extensive network of experts, academics and Fellowship alumni.
Our Fellows

Our Fellows are as diverse as the North itself yet all share the following:

- Strong attachment to the North as their homeland;
- History of community engagement and commitment to volunteerism;
- Interest in public policy and activism as an effective means to positive change;
- Knowledge of issues facing the North; and
- Leadership potential.

“If policy isn’t serving its purpose, I have the skills and abilities now to influence change for the future.”

CLARA WINGNEK
2015 - 2017 FELLOW
Why the North?

The North is a critical part of Canada, tied to our identity and sovereignty. The region has a small but growing population, being home to the youngest demographic in Canada.

With changing northern political structures, the settlement of land claim and self-government agreements and industry expanding rapidly, there are increasing social, economic, and political opportunities.

New generations of northern leaders are demonstrating extraordinary creativity, critical thinking and a strong desire for change. These leaders require access to skill- and knowledge-building opportunities related to policy and governance that are not readily available in the North. The Jane Glassco Northern Fellowship fills this gap.

“...my first impression was, here’s a program that’s working.”

MARY SIMON
FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL
Everyone who came to know Jane Glassco was touched by her colourful character, compassion, unabashed honesty, and her reverence for art, life, and the natural world and the need to protect it. She fell in love with the North immediately upon her first visit there in 1980. Since that time, through The Gordon Foundation, Jane worked tirelessly to bring awareness of Indigenous communities, as well as ideas and projects from the North to the attention of the philanthropic community across Canada. Her keen mind and passionate nature gave her voice resonance on issues such as improving education in Canada and strengthening sovereignty over Canada’s water and northern borders to better protect both natural resources and Indigenous rights.

Jane Lockhart Glassco (née Gordon) passed away peacefully at her home on April 28, 2010, surrounded by her family and friends.

Following her passing, The Gordon Foundation honoured Jane by launching the Jane Glassco Northern Fellowship to support young northerners to amplify their voice on public policy issues.
Get involved.

Do you know northerners with leadership potential? If so, encourage them to learn more about our program by visiting our website:

http://gordonfoundation.ca/initiatives/jane-glassco-fellowship/
Protecting Canada’s water.
Empowering Canada’s North.

The Gordon Foundation undertakes research, leadership development and public dialogue so that public policies in Canada reflect a commitment to collaborative stewardship of our freshwater resources and to a people-driven, equitable and evolving North. Our mission is to promote innovative public policies for the North and in fresh water management based on our values of independent thought, protecting the environment, and full participation of Indigenous people in the decisions that affect their well-being.