



 **28<sup>TH</sup> COMMONWEALTH  
AGRICULTURE  
CONFERENCE**



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# MEMBER SOCIETY GUIDE TO THE NEXT GENERATION

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## Introduction and Background

The Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth (RASC) is a confederation of over 50 leading national and regional agricultural show societies, agricultural associations and research bodies working in 20 Commonwealth countries. The RASC is the commonwealth civil society representing agriculture. The RASC has encouraged the involvement of youth in its activities for many years, however it was at the Commonwealth Agricultural Conference held in Albury in 2004 where the concept of the “RASC Next Generation” began.

The RASC Next Generation (NG) Conference is the flagship bi-annual event organised by the NG group. Front loaded to the main RASC Conference, it will take place this year over two days at the Edmonton Expo Centre in Alberta, Canada. It is the objective of the NG group to nurture and encourage delegates (aged between 18 and 40) to become leaders of the future and of course become valuable participants within their member societies. Many societies have benefited from investing in their younger members in this way. An interactive week with like-minded delegates from throughout commonwealth nations means that young people should return to their societies invigorated as to what agricultural societies can achieve with an enthusiasm to help make it happen.

## Next Generation Objectives

- To develop an international network and support system that will foster the collaboration and exchange of ideas between the NG delegation.
- To advocate NG leadership within the RASC and its member societies.
- To support the RASC in achieving its own aims and objectives.
- To achieve tangible and measurable results within the commonwealth countries.



## Benefit to Show Societies

A returning NG should provide an Agricultural Society with:

- a diverse understanding of other countries, cultures and societies across the globe;
- enthusiasm and passion for their agricultural society;
- a wealth of knowledge and key learnings back to agricultural societies;
- an ability to adapt their skill set to empower and lead others including young people, show members and industry stakeholders;
- improved leadership and communication skills; and
- a network of likeminded people across the world who share a common interest.

## The 2018 Conference Hosts

The 28<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Agricultural Conference will be hosted by Northlands. As Canada’s largest agricultural society, Northlands has cultivated the knowledge and experience to bring people together, spark interest and shine a light on Alberta’s agricultural industry. Northlands will foster an appreciation for the industry and give insight into the journey from gate to plate through educational programs, special events and the province’s culinary/food distribution channel.

## The Conference Theme

The theme of this year’s Conference is “Connecting the World Through Food” and more information about the theme and the programme of events can be found on the conference website – [www.rasc2018canada.com](http://www.rasc2018canada.com).

## Delegate Selection

Most member societies have a selection process in place when considering which young person to send as an NG delegate to conference. The organising committee felt it is appropriate to give some guidelines as to what is expected from a delegate and a brief profile of skills that might be useful to a delegate to assist in the selection process. The lists are by no means exhaustive and we certainly recommend that societies trust their instinct and good judgement when undertaking selection.



## Delegate Expectations

- To promptly attend all sessions and functions throughout the conference;
- To take a full and active part in all proceedings;
- To reply to communication in a prompt and timely manner with RASC staff and officials prior, during and post conference;
- To be enthusiastic towards agricultural societies and agricultural shows;
- To share ideas and experiences throughout the NG group;
- To have a reasonable knowledge of their own society and its workings;
- To submit a 200-word (max) biography and photo once registered for the conference to [rascng@outlook.com](mailto:rascng@outlook.com);
- To be ready and willing to assist in any way appropriate way during the course of the conference; and
- To make a full written report of their experiences and learnings for use by their member society and the RASC on their return home.

## Useful Skills and Traits for Delegates

- Reliability;
- Responsibility;
- Ambitious;
- A degree of natural leadership which can be developed during the week;
- Good and confident communicator (although the conference will also help develop confidence and knowledge);
- Knowledge of agricultural shows and societies; and
- Humility and empathy towards other delegates and cultures.

Please note that to be eligible for the NG programme, delegates must be aged between 18 and 40.

We look forward to welcoming your selected delegates to Canada and hopefully returning them to you as more enlightened young people ready to undertake responsible roles within your society.



## The Registration Process & Fees

Booking a place on the conference is easy. Simply head to the registration page on the main conference website - <http://rasc2018canada.com/registration/> to reserve your place. The registration fees (in Canadian Dollars) for the main conference taking place between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>



NG Delege - \$1,091 CAD
Full Member - \$1,193 CAD (early bird) \$1,397 CAD (main rate)
Associate Member- \$1,295 CAD (early bird) \$1,499 CAD (main rate)
Non-Member - \$1,397 CAD (early bird) \$1,601 CAD (main rate)

November 2018 are as follows:

Early bird rates apply for bookings before the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018, but there is only one rate for the heavily discounted NG delegate price.

All tickets include a 2% transaction fee and \$20 administration fee. Goods and Services Tax (GST) will be charged during registration checkout.

Accommodation and travel are booked separately. However, favourable rates have been secured with the chosen accommodation partner; Chateau Lacombe Hotel, 10111 Bellamy Hill, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 1N7. All the necessary details, room rates and guidance how to book can be found on the conference website –

[www.rasc2018canada.com/accommodation](http://www.rasc2018canada.com/accommodation).

## The NG Conference

The NG Conference takes place between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November at a cost of \$428 per delegate **in addition** to the above. NG delegates from non-member societies can still attend at the rate of \$530



CDN for the NG Conference and \$1,295 CDN for the main conference, but no bursary will be available to them.

## The Bursary

All member societies of the RASC (full and associate) can access a bursary to send one NG delegate each. Full members can claim a bursary of \$1,000 and associate members can claim a bursary of \$500 which is applied as a discount from the overall booking fee. This is how it works...

<b>Full Member</b>	NG Conference : \$428 Main Conference : \$1,091 Less bursary - \$1,000 Total cost for NG delegate is <b>\$519</b>	<b>Associate Member</b>	NG Conference : \$428 Main Conference : \$1,091 Less bursary - \$500 Total cost for NG delegate is <b>\$1,019</b>
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All accommodation and travelling costs are in addition to this fee. A separate voucher code will be sent to all members to use on the registration webpage.

## For further details, please contact...

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Email      [rascng@outlook.com](mailto:rascng@outlook.com)

or visit the following websites...

[www.therasc.com](http://www.therasc.com)

[www.rasc2018canada.com](http://www.rasc2018canada.com)

A video with highlights of the previous Next Generation conference held in Singapore in 2016, can be found on YouTube, simply follow this link - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=apef3SSIMM8>