Security and Policy Institute of Professional Development

Centre for Continuing Education
continue.uOttawa.ca/SPI
Engaging decision makers in a complex world

Security considerations are on the mind of all decision makers in the public and private sectors and, indeed, of most citizens. The Security and Policy Institute of Professional Development (SPI) is a trusted source of knowledge and learning. It fosters substantive dialogue and provides continuing education opportunities with top security and policy experts from around the world. The exchange of knowledge on the most current and emerging security issues leads to actionable policy options, informed decision making and enhanced planning for resiliency.

SPI is not a research centre or a think tank. Rather, it fills THREE primary roles:

ONE | Knowledge aggregator
SPI brings together a select group of leading experts from various fields to share expertise, analysis and knowledge of emerging security issues.

TWO | Security advisor
SPI mobilizes information and relays it to Canada’s policy makers and corporate leaders, turning research and hot-off-the-press knowledge into actionable policy options and business decisions.

THREE | Educator
SPI runs a specialized certificate program for civil servants and private industry to establish shared knowledge, draw lessons from collective security experiences and create connected professional environments that will keep the security context relevant in government and corporate sector decision making. Delivery is via intensive short courses designed to focus on practical decision making.

SPI caters to the information needs of various audiences:
- Private and public sector managers
- CEOs, CFOs, CIOs
- Board members and administrators
- The legal community
- Accounting firms and the insurance industry
- Government officials
- Politicians and their advisers
- Program and policy analysts
- Anyone with a need to know in order to stay ahead of the curve in the complex world of security
SPI Learning Program

With so much information available on a wide range of security issues, and with a rapidly developing security environment, differentiating between noise and useful information can be overwhelming. Keeping ahead of the curve on how that information applies to decision making and policy formulation is a major undertaking. Yet there is a strategic imperative for public and private organizations, large or small, to understand security considerations and opportunities.

Stakeholders and participants have direct input into the curriculum design. Courses are customized to the specific needs of selected audiences. Course topics are constantly evolving to keep up with current events, emerging issues and the availability of new knowledge.

SPI provides access to world-class experts in a small group context to enable participants to learn about and analyze emerging security issues. An SPI experience leads to:

- Timely and relevant learning
- Productive networking
- Deeper understanding of underlying causes and trends
- Powerful insight and discovery
- Enhanced planning and decision-making abilities
- Credibility and influence

Program Format

Courses are typically offered in intensive one-, two- or three-day formats. The completion of a series of five SPI courses over three years leads to a Certificate of Professional Development in Security and Policy.

Our courses can also be customized and offered to your organization on site to meet the specific needs and interests of your team.

Current course topics:

- Big Data Analytics and the Future of Decision Making
- Canada and the Cyber Challenge 101
- Canadian Security and Technology Strategy
- Cybersecurity in an Era With Quantum Technologies
- Cyberwar, Cybercrime, and Everyday Cyber Attacks: How Nations Prevent and Respond to Cyber Threats
- Fighting ISIS: Canada’s Options
- Future Connections: How we will communicate, work & play
- Global Terrorism and Implications for Canada
- Iran: Implications for Canada and the World
- Russia, Turkey, and the Black Sea Basin
- Security Outlook: Potential Risks and Threats
- Someone is Watching & Listening: Lawful Intercept
- The Rule of Law: Privacy & Security in Policy Making
- Track Two Diplomacy
- Values and Ethics in Security

Detailed course descriptions, schedules and registration available online at continue.uOttawa.ca/SPI
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