



Hilary M. Pearson, CM. LL.D

Hilary Pearson has had a twenty-year career in the field of foundation philanthropy in Canada. As the founding President of Philanthropic Foundations Canada from 2001 to 2019, she collaborated with many of the largest private charitable foundations in the country. She is a strategic advisor and facilitator for family and independent foundations, helping them with priority-setting and structuring their governance and grantmaking practices.

Author of numerous articles, book reviews and columns, Ms Pearson speaks frequently on Canadian philanthropy at conferences and workshops in Canada and globally. In her role at PFC, she edited comprehensive guides to starting and managing foundations, as well as guides for funders working with governments, with universities, and in policy advocacy. She writes a regular blog on trends and issues in foundation philanthropy for her website, www.hpearson.ca

Ms Pearson has an extensive knowledge of federal public policy regarding charities. In 2019, she was appointed co-chair of the Advisory Committee on the Charitable Sector, advising the federal Minister of Revenue on policy and regulatory issues. From 2012 to 2015, she served on the Governor-General's Advisory Committee on Volunteerism and Philanthropy. She currently serves on the Advisory Committee to the Masters in Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership program at Carleton University.

In July 2018, she was appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada for her contributions to building the field of philanthropy in Canada.

Ms. Pearson is an experienced nonprofit board member, serving as a director on many national boards, including:

- Imagine Canada
- The Stratford Shakespeare Festival of Canada
- CARE Canada
- Indspire

She holds a BA and MA in Political Economy from the University of Toronto and was awarded honorary doctorates from Carleton University and the University of New Brunswick.