

Key Principles to Support the Vision

Planning seamless, enjoyable, memorable experiences for all audiences is key to achieving the new vision. The objective is to ensure that the Capital's core themes and messages are communicated to all Canadians, and that all Canadians find a reflection of their regions and cultures in Capital programs.

This Vision provides a long-term view – one that brings us to the start of Canada's third century in 2067. It suggests future development directed by many important programming and planning principles.

Planning Principles

1. The Capital Core Area will remain as the prime destination for visitors to the Capital. It will continue to be a national gathering place where people discover and learn about Canada and their Capital.
2. Confederation Boulevard will be developed as a continuous programming stage, dense with attractions and animation and with greater programming balance between the two sides of the Ottawa River. As an avenue for discovering the major attractions in the Core Area, it will provide an introduction to many of the landmarks and milestones of Canadian nation-building. It will also serve as a stage for ceremonial events and pageantry.
3. The pedestrian experience of the Core Area will be emphasized, encouraged and promoted, enhanced by convenient public transit and minimized traffic intrusion upon the visitor experience.
4. Commemorations in the Capital will be inspirational in scale—powerful national symbols that remember and reflect significant people, events, ideas and places for present and future generations.
5. Programming in the Capital Core Area will provide opportunities to explore, appreciate and enjoy the beauty and power of the natural landscape.
6. A dynamic mix of the Capital and urban realms is required to meet the varied needs of visitors. Supporting amenities and commercial activity need to be in close proximity to attractions and activity areas.
7. The Ottawa River will serve as a programming stage and its shores will open up to the public through new public institutions, facilities, services and stages.
8. Capital Pathways and Parkways will provide a route for exploring the natural landscape, especially along the waterways, easily accessed throughout the Core Area and enhanced by orientation signage, lookouts and interpretation.

Programming Principles

1. The Capital Core Area reflects the essence of Canada, with symbolism and experiences shaped by Canadians from all regions of the country, and through celebration of the diversity, creative talent, aspirations and achievements of Canadian society.
2. Public programs and activities in the Capital Core Area will provide places and opportunities for Canadians to meet and communicate with each other.
3. The Capital Core Area will be a vibrant day and evening space for working, living and celebrating Canada. It must provide satisfying year-round experiences for visitors who engage in cultural, heritage, recreation and leisure activities.
4. The Capital Core Area will present and communicate the Canadian experience and the heritage of the Capital and Canada's Capital Region through innovative and varied media and approaches that engage visitors.
5. The Capital Core Area will provide comprehensive, modern and innovative orientation and visitor services.
6. Programming will be designed to meet the needs of particular segments of visitors such as families, youth and seniors.
7. The Capital Core Area will offer accessible and diverse experiences in a safe and secure environment.
8. Active partnerships between the public and private sectors are, and will continue to be in the future, critical to the planning, development and delivery of a cohesive, seamless visitor experience.
9. Programming development will respect the heritage integrity of the built and natural environment.