

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Diefenbunker: Canada's Cold War Museum

2023 On-site Programs

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN CANADIAN HISTORY

The Diefenbunker is one of the most unique educational sites in Canada, offering a one-of-a-kind experiential learning environment 75 ft underground. Tour the museum with your class or school group to experience the complexities of the Cold War first-hand and discuss the implications on our lives today.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

All our on-site educational programs include an informative tour component and an interactive activity with discussion. The descriptions below outline the available themed offerings.

Art and Peacebuilding

Ideal for: Grades 4–12

What role did art play in the Cold War? How can art be used to build and promote peace? This program encourages dialogue and discussion about the role of art in peacebuilding, art as an expression of values, and how art can promote ideas. Students view examples of art from the Cold War and make their own artworks.

Conflict Resolution

Ideal for: Grades 7–10

This program follows YUCCAN Ottawa's teaching of conflict resolution skills, which has been successful for twenty years. Students begin by exploring the communication and decision-making skills needed in conflict resolution. Next, they adopt the roles of key officials engaged in an emergency, to practise those skills. Lastly, students reflect on how these same skills can help them in everyday situations.

See the [Special Program Registration Form](#) for more details.

Continuity of Government

Ideal for: Grades 7–12

This program uses primary sources from a scenario that took place in 1986, when the Diefenbunker was active. As air-raid sirens blare, students are assigned key roles and tasked with making difficult decisions for Canada. They learn about Canada's *War Measures Act* and the role that the different levels of government play in an emergency.

Daily Life in the Diefenbunker

Ideal for: Grades 5–9

In this program, students explore what life would have been like in the Diefenbunker during a lockdown. Divided into three groups (military, civilian, and government), they discover how each group would operate during an emergency. They then debate the importance of each individual's role in the defence of the country, to decide who among them warrants one of the limited spots in the bunker.

Emergency Preparedness

Ideal for: Grades 6–12

What did people do to stay safe during the Cold War? To find out, students watch a primary source: the 1973 government-issued 11 Steps to Survival video. Students then look at emergency preparedness in today's context, and end the program by building their own emergency survival kit.

EDUCATOR CHECKLIST

- **Final participant numbers**
Please provide final participant numbers to our team via email two weeks in advance of your program.
- **Before your program**
Any additional materials related to the program that you may need to share with your students in advance of your visit will be sent at the time of booking confirmation.
- **Facility notes**
The Diefenbunker is a 100,000 square foot historic site. As such, please ensure all participants bring closed-toe shoes and a warm layer of clothing for the program. Please note that our washrooms are original to the facility and use is limited. If possible, we recommend large groups take this into account prior to arrival.
If you would like to self guide through the museum following your program, we require a ratio of 1 chaperone to every 5 students.
- **Lunch space**
If you would like to reserve an indoor space for your group to have lunch, please note that there is an associated **\$60 cleaning and supervisory fee** for use of our historic cafeteria space.
- **Arrival and departure**
Please check in at our Guard House prior to entering the museum. The Guard House is located on the left side of the road prior to entering the second gate, across from the library. If the Guard House is closed or you are arriving before 10:00 a.m., use the doorbell located next to the white doors and the 'Museum Entrance' sign to gain access to the museum. We do not have a dedicated entry and departure area for groups. Please arrange for your bus to be ready at the stated end time for your program.
- **Payment**
Please remember that we require payment upon arrival.
- **After your program**
You will receive a survey via email after your program. We would appreciate your feedback on your and your students' experience so we can continue to deliver high-quality programs!

SCHEDULING & PRICING

On-site educational programs are offered during the museum's operating hours, Wednesday to Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., and Saturday to Sunday between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., excluding statutory holidays. Please contact us if you have a request for outside of these hours. All on-site programs are 2 hours long, including the tour and activity components (approximately 1 hour each).

Programs are offered in English, or can be offered in French with advance notice.

On-site programs are priced based on the number of participants. Prices below exclude tax.

Type	60-minute Tour	90-minute Tour	Program Add-on	Cancellation Fee (Tour)	Cancellation Fee (Program)
Adult	\$16.50	\$22.50	\$3.10	\$8.25	\$1.33
Senior (60+)	\$15.50	\$21.50	\$3.10	\$7.75	\$1.33
Youth (6–17)	\$8.50	\$11.50	\$3.10	\$4.50	\$1.33
Student (18+)	\$11.50	\$15.50	\$3.10	\$5.75	\$1.33
Adult – Military	\$15	\$21	\$3.10	\$8.25	\$1.33
Senior – Military	\$14	\$20	\$3.10	\$7.75	\$1.33
Chaperone (1 adult per 15 youth)	Free				
Tour Operator	Free				
Bus Driver	Free				
After Hours Fee	\$2 per person				

HOW TO BOOK

To reserve a time for an educational program on-site at the Diefenbunker, please fill out our [Program Registration Form](#) and return it to our Operations Team by email at reservations@diefenbunker.ca.

Please return the Registration Form to us **at least two weeks prior to your intended program date**, as space is limited. For any questions or special requests, please contact our Operations Team by email at reservations@diefenbunker.ca or by phone at 613-839-0007 x227.

Find more information at diefenbunker.ca/educational-programs.