

David J. Mitchell



World Fragile X Day, Calgary 2021

Based in Calgary, Alberta, and with pan-Canadian experience and perspective, David Mitchell is focused on three areas of priority: convening, strategy and public policy.

Currently, David serves as Strategic Planning Associate with the University of Ottawa's [Professional Development Institute](#) and is President of the Board of Directors of the [Fragile X Research Foundation of Canada](#). He has also served on the Alberta Premier's Council on Charities and Civil Society and Co-Chair of the Alberta government's Red Tape Reduction Panel for the Nonprofit Sector.

David has a broad professional background, spanning the private, public, and nonprofit sectors. From 2017-20 he served as the President and CEO of the [Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations \(CCVO\)](#). Previously he was Vice President, College Advancement & Chief External Relations Officer with [Bow Valley College](#). In both of these roles, he built strong connections in the Calgary and Alberta communities.

In Ottawa, he served as President & CEO of Canada's [Public Policy Forum](#), a non-governmental organization dedicated to improving the quality of government through multi-sectoral dialogue. Before that he served as vice president at three Canadian universities: [Queen's](#), [Ottawa](#), and [Simon Fraser](#). Directing fundraising and external relations at each institution, he achieved notable successes in

strategic positioning and fund development.

David served as a Member of the British Columbia Legislature from 1991-1996, where he was Opposition House Leader and a watchdog on a broad range of issues including advanced education, resource management, labour relations, and governance. He previously gained experience in parliamentary procedure and legislative processes as Deputy Clerk of the Saskatchewan Legislature.

David also has significant private sector business experience that includes executive positions within Western Canadian resource industries, including vice president of marketing and general manager of industrial relations.

An award-winning writer and author, he was a Governor and is a Fellow of the [Royal Canadian Geographical Society](#), and previously served on the boards of the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra, the Great Canadian Theatre Company, the Parliamentary Centre, the Vancouver Aquarium and Marine Science Centre, and the Vancouver Art Gallery.

The father of two daughters, and devoted grandfather of three adorable grandchildren, David Mitchell is married to author and women's advocate, [Shari Graydon](#).



Kayaking with my grandson, Samuel,
British Columbia, 2021