



You're Invited

Youth ministry is one of the most complex and important callings in the Church. You're a shepherd, a counselor, a theologian, a leader, and a friend, often all in the same afternoon. It deserves more than good intentions and a stack of borrowed curriculum. The Coalition exists to surround people carrying that calling with the best research, the most seasoned mentors, and a community that actually gets it. This is your invitation to be part of that.

I WHO IS THIS FOR?

Whether you serve in a church, a camp, a school, or a community organization, you're welcome here. Some students come for a certificate simply to sharpen their leadership. Others complete a Bachelor's or Master's degree along the way. Whatever fits where you're headed. This kind of formation works whether you're just discovering your call to ministry or you've been serving for decades. Some of our most treasured students are long-time veterans finally finishing a degree they'd long set aside, learning shoulder-to-shoulder with leaders half their age (and everyone in between finds a place here too!).

I WHAT YOU'LL FIND HERE

Everything about the Coalition is built around four things we believe matter most:

- **Experiential Learning:** You won't learn about ministry from a distance. Instead, all your assignments and work will grow out of the ministry you're already living in. The result is you'll walk away with immediately helpful tools like a ministry philosophy or a leadership handbook. This whole experience is also guided by a ministry mentor who sharpens your competence along the way.

- **Spiritual Formation:** We believe it takes a disciple to make a disciple. A spiritual mentor walks with you through four seasons of "Soul Shaping," helping you build rhythms that can survive the mess of real ministry.

- **Intentional Community:** The best learning happens in an "iron sharpening iron" kind of community, so you'll join a cohort of peers who understand what it takes to do this important work. They will become as much a part of your development as any class.

- **Academic Excellence:** A rigorous curriculum taught by respected faculty, accredited through partner colleges and seminaries, leading to a credential that means something: Bachelor's, Master's, or a certificate... whichever fits where you're headed.

Almost every student tells us some version of the same story: they came for the education, but on graduation day, what they talk about is the community. People who truly understood them and their calling, and relationships that have outlasted the program itself.

| WHERE YOU'LL LEARN

You don't have to move to be part of this. We've facilitated regional cohorts across Canada (BC, SK, MB, ON, and NB) with new cohorts opening in new regions all the time. Wherever you are, there's likely one closer than you'd expect, and if there isn't yet, we'll help build one. Our central, live cohort meets in Kelowna, British Columbia, hosted at Green Bay Bible Camp. It's a lakeside setting in the Okanagan that's become something of a spiritual home for the Coalition. There's something about learning in a camp environment that just works: away from the distractions of daily life, sharing meals and downtime with people walking the same road, the kind of conversation that happens as easily around a firepit as in a classroom. It's a big part of why our community bonds run so deep.

| WHAT YOU'LL STUDY

Over two years, you'll work through eight core courses that cover personal and spiritual formation, youth ministry management, theological foundations for nextgen ministry, today's youth culture, counseling adolescents and families, worldviews and apologetics, communication skills, and adolescent faith formation. Running alongside all of it are two threads that never stop: all the credit you get for your Practicum work that is guided by your ministry mentor (aka your weekly work responsibilities), and all the credit you get for your Soul Shaping work that is guided by your spiritual mentor.

| SCHOLARSHIPS & MAKING IT AFFORDABLE

We never want money to be the reason someone doesn't become the leader they're meant to be. Our passion is to see leaders well equipped, and we'll work with you to find a financial picture that actually fits your life. Please talk to us before you count yourself out. And at roughly a third of what a traditional theological education can cost, the Coalition's price tag might just be the best scholarship there is. If you're pursuing a Bachelor's degree, some of our partner schools offer a cross-registration option that can open the door to grants and scholarships you might not otherwise have access to. It varies by school and situation, so ask us for details when you apply. We can also set up a payment plan that spreads the cost in a way that works for you.

PRESENTING THIS TO YOUR SUPERVISOR

Saying yes to the Coalition usually means having a conversation with your supervisor about time and about money. Here's how other students have approached it well.

START WITH THE VISION

- Before you get into logistics, help your supervisor see what this means for your ministry, not just for you. The Coalition is built so your growth becomes their gain. Assignments happen inside the ministry you're already leading, producing real tools your team will use long after you turn them in. Framing this as an investment in something you're building together, not a personal favor, tends to go a long way.
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ON TIME AWAY

- The time commitment is smaller than it sounds: about three weeks a year of intensive classes (Monday through Friday, so weekends are untouched), plus two shorter seminars that are often folded into conferences your ministry may already attend. Dates are published up to two years in advance, so your supervisor can plan around your ministry's busiest seasons well ahead of time.
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ON THE MONEY

Ministries have found no shortage of creative ways to help cover tuition (\$6,000/year). A few worth raising in the conversation:

- Cost-sharing between you, your ministry, and sometimes family or a sponsor.
- A mutual commitment, where your ministry covers some or all of tuition in exchange for you serving an agreed period afterward.
- A tax-smart move...in Canada, the CRA generally treats employer-paid tuition as non-taxable when it mainly benefits the employer, which this clearly does.
- There usually are training costs your ministry may already be absorbing in staff hours, which the Coalition's mentors and curriculum can help carry.
- Advancing a future raise many ministries already give for a completed degree, so tuition gets covered now instead of later.

We've also put together a short resource for supervisors that walks through exactly these questions. Just ask, and we'll send you a copy to share.

QUICK FACTS

CATEGORY	PROGRAM DETAILS
Length	Two years, part-time alongside full-time ministry
Format	6 one-week intensives (3/year) + 4 two-day seminars (2/year, hosted live at our conferences or online) + a mentored ministry apprenticeship
Tuition	\$6,000/year (\$12,000 total) — degree fees optional, \$200–\$3,000/yr
Other Costs	Books (\$50–120/class), travel, and accommodation for in-person weeks
Credential Options	Certificate, Bachelor of Arts, or Master of Arts
Accreditation	Via ATS/ABHE-recognized partner colleges and seminaries
Cohort Locations	Kelowna (live), Saskatoon, Southern Manitoba, Mississauga, plus new regions opening regularly
After the Coalition	Pathways into MDiv (bridging program in pilot), DMin, or PhD studies

COMMON QUESTIONS

“I just graduated high school. Is this for me?”

Maybe soon, but not quite yet. The Coalition is built around apprenticing inside a ministry role you’re already serving in, guided by a mentor. So we usually encourage a year or two of ministry involvement and personal faith formation first. It gives you a foundation to build on, and something real to bring into the program when you’re ready

“I’ve been in ministry for decades. Is this still worth it?”

Absolutely! And you’re in good company. Some of our students are 30+ year veterans finishing a long-postponed Master’s degree, learning right alongside (and often mentoring) students half their age. Experience doesn’t disqualify you from growing; if anything, it means you’ll get more out of the work and bring more to your cohort.

“Will this fit around my ministry job?”

Yes. It’s built for it. Assignments happen inside the ministry you’re already leading, not stacked on top of it. You’ll spend most of your two years living out the coursework in your actual context, not in a library.

“Is this even accredited?”

Yes, through respected partners. The Coalition partners with colleges and seminaries accredited through ATS and ABHE, so your path can lead to a real Bachelor’s or Master’s degree. Or you can pursue it as a certificate if that’s a better fit for your goals.

“How do I use this to complete a degree?”

At the undergraduate level, our partner schools count up to 60 credit hours toward your degree (half of a Bachelor of Arts) with the remaining classes typically available online or in person. If you’re interested in a specific partner school, just ask and we’ll send you a program checklist showing exactly what’s left to finish. At the Master’s level it’s possible to complete a full MA through the Coalition. Kairos University runs a competency-based model, rounding things out with a few small, self-directed modules alongside your Coalition coursework, while Horizon College & Seminary offers a path to an MA in Ministry Leadership with just 6 additional classes — or 11 if you’re aiming for an MDiv.

“What if I’m not in a traditional church?”

You’re still very welcome. Coalition students serve in churches, camps, schools, and community organizations alike. If you care about the faith of the next generation, this is for you.

“Do I need to relocate to do this?”

Almost certainly not. Facilitated regional cohorts mean most students learn close to home, with occasional travel for live intensives. If there isn't a cohort near you yet, we'll help build one.

“I'm new to ministry. How do I find a place to do my apprenticeship?”

We'll help you build that bridge. We can't guarantee a placement, but we work with churches, camps, and other ministry contexts who are willing to host apprentices. Let us know your situation during the application process, and we'll do everything we can to connect you with a mentor and a ministry that fits your sense of calling.

“What if life happens mid-program — a family need, a hard season in ministry?”

You reach out, and we figure it out together. We work with real people living real lives. The cohort model exists partly for this reason. You shouldn't have to carry a hard season alone. Talk to us before you assume the worst.

“What are my options after the Coalition?”

More doors than you might expect. We're currently piloting a Master of Divinity bridging program for graduates who want to keep going, and several of our alumni have gone on to MDiv, DMin, and even PhD studies through our partner institutions. Wherever you're headed next, the Coalition is built to be a strong foundation, not a ceiling.

Ready to take the next step?

Book a call with Steve, the Director of the Coalition, or apply now.

BOOK A CALL

VISIT OUR WEBSITE