



Rainbow Health Ontario

2018 CONFERENCE

Because LGBTQ health matters

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Rainbow Health Ontario is seeking proposals for the **RHO 2018 Conference: Because LGBTQ Health Matters.**

The Conference will take place at the **Radisson Hotel Sudbury**, starting with a day of learning institutes on **Wednesday, March 21**, and the conference running from **Thursday, March 22, to Saturday, March 24, 2018.**

www.rainbowhealthontario.ca/conference

Conference Streams

The conference sessions will focus on the following:

- Clinical practice
 - Public policy, activism and human rights
 - Community support and development
 - Professional education and training
 - Research
 - Organization and systems change
 - Ethics and law
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Conference Themes and Key Issues

The biennial Rainbow Health Ontario conference is a learning and sharing forum for agents of change in LGBTQ health and wellness. The conference brings together health and social service providers, community members, researchers, and policy makers to advance the health outcomes of LGBTQ Ontarians.

We are most interested in proposals that include an intersectional approach to health and well-being. For the 2018 conference, we encourage submissions within the conference streams that focus on Indigenous, Francophone, rural and northern, racialized, and newcomer LGBTQ needs and access.

Presenters and delegates are invited to join us for three and a half days in Sudbury, Ontario. We recognize that we are gathering on the Anishnawbek territories, and the First Nations of Atikameksheng and Wahnapiatae First Nation.

The RHO conference is the only conference in Canada focused on the health and wellness of LGBTQ communities, and is renowned for the scope and diversity of its programming.

Topics to consider

Within the streams indicated above, here are some potential topics to consider as inspiration for your submission:

- **Ethnocultural and racialized communities** (eg., health issues for LGBTQ newcomers and refugees)
- **Indigenous health** (eg., Two-Spirit health, access to traditional medicines, access to traditional teachings, access and acceptance of elders, acceptance in traditional ceremony, defining Two-Spirit, intergenerational learning, intergenerational health and blood memory, Indigenous populations living and impacted by HIV/AIDS, and transgender, gender diverse, non-binary Indigenous healthcare)
- **Francophone LGBTQ health**
- **Lifespan** (eg., children and mental health, gender-independent kids, queer youth homelessness, queer and trans families, seniors, palliative care)
- **Physical, mental, emotional, sexual and spiritual health** (eg., developing respectful, skilled LGBTQ clinical services, trans health care, cancer prevention and care, sexuality and sexual health and pleasure, LGBTQ research methods)
- **Social determinants of health** (eg., housing and homelessness, anti-violence, poverty, employment and labour, as a result of systems of oppression like colonization, racism, cissexism, transmisogyny and homophobia, among others)

This conference will include workshops in French, and all plenary sessions will feature simultaneous translation.

RHO Conference Submission Information

Proposals from health and social service professionals, organizations, community activists, policy makers and researchers are encouraged.

We welcome collaborative presentations that bring together a variety of perspectives and experience. For instance, if you would like to present findings from a research study, we encourage you to consider partnering with a service provider and/or a policy maker who can speak to the relevance of your findings in their work.

Submissions should consider the diversity of LGBTQ communities in Ontario and address the intersections of identity where possible. Research presentations should include the objectives, results and implications of the research for different audiences.

Please read the session type descriptions below so you can accurately categorize your submission.

Types of submissions accepted

Sessions may be delivered in French, English or bilingually. RHO reserves the right to suggest a change in format.

Seminars

Seminars are designed to impart new knowledge or new skills to the audience and may use a combination of lecture, visual aids, interaction with participants, and exercises to enhance the learning experience.

Timing: 90 minutes total including a minimum of 15 minutes audience participation.

Interactive Workshops

Interactive workshops have a high degree of audience participation, interaction, and hands-on exercises where participants learn and practice the knowledge and skills that are the focus of the workshop.

Timing: 90 minutes total including a minimum 45 minutes audience participation.

Highlights

Research Highlights: Present findings and recommendations from thematically related academic or community based research studies. Research highlights will feature three presentations and will be selected by the Conference Program Committee.

Timing: 20-minute presentation plus 10-minute audience question period per presenter with no more than three related topics in each themed session (90-minute total session).

Community Highlights: Present approaches, tools and strategies from thematically-related programs or services. These may include clinical interventions, specialized programs, educational initiatives, health promotion campaigns or demonstration projects. Community highlights will feature two presentations and will be selected by the Conference Program Committee.

Timing: 30-minute presentation plus 15-minute audience question period per presenter with no more than two related topics in each themed session (90-minute total session).

Panels

Panels involve between three and six people who share information and analysis on a topic and respond to audience questions. A moderator (who may be one of the panelists) facilitates the discussion

Timing: 90 minutes total including a minimum 30 minutes audience participation.

Poster Presentations

Poster presentations may showcase research findings, innovative programs, training initiatives, support groups, advocacy experiences, and outreach, education or demonstration projects. Poster presentations allow the audience to move through the displays and ask questions about posters of special interest.

Timing: Posters will be available for informal viewing by participants throughout the conference. Two scheduled 30-minute poster sessions with authors present (to be selected and scheduled by the Conference Program Committee) will take place on Thursday and Friday.

- Posters may include photographs, statistical tables, charts or other graphic material relevant to the presentation.
- Posters are to be no larger than 1.2m x 1.2m (4ft x 4ft), and no more than 0.15cm or 0.31cm (1/16in. to 1/8in) thick. The poster should be mounted on a sturdy, yet flexible material that can be rolled. Posters may be attached to the display boards with push-pins.
- No audio visual equipment will be provided for poster presentations.

Friday March 23 will be “**Clinical Highlights Day,**” with plenary speakers, practice innovations and highlights designed for physicians, nurses, psychotherapists and other clinicians. There will also be general interest, non-clinical content available.

Submission Guidelines

To provide the greatest opportunity for a diversity of presentations, each person may submit a maximum of two proposals where they are indicated as the lead Presenter.

Submissions must be made online at <https://secure.effreg.com/r/rainbowcall18>

Please develop your proposal offline using the guidelines below before submitting it through our online form.

Please note that session descriptions and summaries may be edited for style and clarity.

Your submission must include:

1. Name, position, organization, address, phone and email
2. Title of the session
3. Which stream is the best fit for your session (listed at the beginning of this document)
4. A max 250-word session description to be used in the conference program
5. A max 30-word summary of your session, also to be used in conference materials
6. A brief biographical sketch of the lead presenter (maximum 75 words)
7. The full names of any co-presenters who will be attending the conference (not co-authors on papers), their email contact information and brief biographical sketch (maximum 75 words each, including spaces)
8. The session format (seminar, interactive workshop, panel, highlights, poster)
9. A summary sentence explaining how the proposed topic relates to the conference’s main theme or issues for discussion
10. Three participant learning objectives for the proposed session
11. Audio visual equipment needed (presenters are asked to please bring their own laptops)
12. A plan for how you will involve the audience given the type of presentation chosen (maximum 40 words)
13. Whether you consider your session to cover information that is introductory, intermediate, or advanced

Selection Process

The Rainbow Health Ontario 2018 Conference Program Committee will select submissions using the following criteria:

- Clear, specific, and informative content which supports the conference's theme, streams and highlighted issues
- Content that is current and practical, and makes a contribution to the goal of improving LGBTQ health in Ontario
- Presentation methods that are engaging and interactive
- A balanced slate of presenters representing diverse backgrounds, viewpoints, organizations and geographical locations

Attending the Conference

Confirmed presenters are required to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses and to register and pay for the day or days that they are presenting. Presenters will be entitled to discounted rates on a one-day or full-conference registration.

Financial assistance for presenters and others may be available, but is not guaranteed. RHO Conference Access Fund information will be released in October 2017.

Online Submission

Submissions must be made online at <https://secure.iffreg.com/r/rainbowcall18>

Please develop your proposal offline before using the online system to avoid being timed out. Please use the spell check and word count features of your word processor before submitting it. Email fax, or mail applications will not be accepted.

Call Deadline

All submissions must be received no later than **Wednesday, May 31, 2017, at 5:00 pm, EST.**

Questions?

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