The Canadian Health and Wellbeing in Developmental Disabilities Conference (HWDDC), Feb 9-10, 2022 - Call for Abstracts

# Overview

The HWDDC provides an interprofessional forum where health care providers and community partners engage in sharing educational and informative updates and practical innovative, promising and effective practices that improve the health and wellbeing of people with developmental disabilities across the lifespan.

The conference planning committee strives to achieve equity, diversity, and inclusion through recognition of intersectionality—the inter-connected nature of social categorizations such as race, class, and gender as they apply to people with developmental disabilities, creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage.

The Conference Program Committee invites abstract submissions for 60-minute interactive workshops and for poster presentations. We encourage submissions from clinicians, direct support professionals, health care providers/organizations and from students who are doing new and innovative work.

# Submitting Abstracts

Once you have all the information below ready, please go to the conference home page ([http://www.healthandwellbeingindd.ca/](about:blank)) and press the “Submit Abstract” button to start the abstract submission process.

* NOTE: title, presenters/authors, and abstract details should be provided as it should appear on the website and in the program, including the order of the presenters’ names.

## For BOTH WORKSHOPS and POSTERS, provide the following information:

* **Title**: Full title of the workshop/poster (maximum 200 characters). *NOTE: This information will be published on the conference website and in the conference program guide.*
* **Presenters/Authors**: List of the presenter(s)/author(s), including their title, position, and affiliation.
  + *NOTE: This information will be published on the conference website and in the conference program guide.*
  + An email address will also be collected for the purposes of following up with individuals; however, it will not be published.
  + For the purposes of this submission, please use:
    - “Presenter” to designate individual(s) who will be attending the event and presenting the poster or workshop; and
    - “Author” to designate additional individual(s) that you wish to recognize who were involved or affiliated with the work you are presenting.
* **Conference Outcomes**: Indicate the conference outcome(s) the workshop/poster best aims to address (i.e., after participating in this conference, participants will be able to discuss the health and wellbeing across the life span for persons with a developmental disability in terms of the following [select all that apply]):
  + Discuss innovative, promising, and effective practices that contribute to positive physical and mental health outcomes, interprofessional collaboration, and strategic leadership;
  + Identify possible solutions for core issues and challenges faced by the people being supported, their families, and community partners;
  + Explore evidence-based clinical best practices relating to physical and mental health;
  + Discuss the role of community healthcare in maintaining and improving quality of life; and/or
  + Develop, maintain, and expand interprofessional partnerships in order to provide more effective supports.
* **Target Audience**: Indicate the target audience(s) the workshop/poster is primarily geared toward (select all that apply):
  + Healthcare Providers and Clinicians (e.g., Behaviour Professionals, Counselors, Family Physicians, Medical Specialists, Mental Health Therapists, Nurses/Nurse Practitioners, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Physician Assistants, Psychologists, Social Workers, Speech Language Pathologists); and/or
  + Administrators (e.g., Case Managers/Planners, Government Officials & Ministry Staff, Policy and Decision Makers, Program Managers, Senior Leadership); and/or
  + Partners in Health and Wellbeing Across the Lifespan (e.g., K-12 and Post-Secondary Educators, Academics, Direct Support Providers, Families, People with Developmental Disabilities & Self-Advocates, Post-secondary Students).
* **Topic Streams**: Indicate the conference topic streams the workshop/poster best fits with (select all that apply):
  + Healthy Body (e.g., medical care, nutrition, physical health);
  + Healthy Mind (e.g., mental health, mindfulness, psychology);
  + Healthy Living (e.g., employment, relationships, spirituality); and/or
  + Healthy Systems (e.g., administration, advocacy, policy).
* **Abstract**: Submit a summary of your workshop/poster (maximum 100 words);
  + *NOTE: This information will be published on the conference website and in the conference program guide.*
* **Additional Information**: Share anything else you would like the reviewers to know – in particular we’d be interested to know how this workshop/poster has been informed by and/or will be presented by/with people who have developmental disabilities and/or their families (maximum 250 words);
* **How Did You Hear About Us:** How did you hear about the Call for Abstracts for this conference (select all that apply)?
  + Attended the conference in the past
  + From a colleague/ Word of mouth
  + Email
  + Website
  + Google Search
  + Twitter
  + Other (please describe; maximum 50 words)
* **Video (optional)**: Feel free to attached a brief (2 MB maximum) video clip to review the main features of your abstract submission

## For POSTERS ONLY, please also include:

* **Detailed Description**: Provide a more detailed description of the poster content (maximum 500 words), including a brief overview of the introduction, methods, results, and discussion/conclusions

## For WORKSHOPS ONLY, please also include:

* **Time Frame Options**: Depending on the number and nature of submissions received, the Program Committee may reclassify submissions to 20-minute talks; if this is the case, would you be open to this option (yes or no)?
* **Main Learning Outcome**: Indicate the main focus of your workshop (i.e., what participants will be able to do differently back at work because of attending your workshop [“As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to...”; maximum 50 words])
* **Agenda**: Provide a brief agenda of how the 60 minutes will be filled (e.g., amount of time for lecture, small group activity, activity debrief, discussion, etc.; maximum 100 words])
* **Audience Engagement**: Indicate the methods that will be used to engage the audience (e.g., activities, personal reflection, Q&A, polls/surveys, etc. in order to improve the quality of the learning experience; maximum 100 words]). Note that workshops will take place using the University of Toronto’s digital platform, which includes options such as text chat and polling; advanced support is provided in the form of technical rehearsals to help familiarize you with the platform.

# Additional Details

## Abstract Evaluation

All submissions will be evaluated based on:

* Relevance to conference outcomes, target audience, and topic streams;
* Demonstration of evidence-based, innovative and/or emerging approaches;
* Informed by and/or presented by people with lived-experience; and
* Clarity and completeness of submission (e.g., use of plain-language).

Workshops will also be evaluated on:

* Ability to engage participants in a creative, interactive, outcomes-based learning experience; and
* Suitability to fill the time frame.

## Timelines

* Call for abstracts closes: 11:59pm EST Friday, October 29th, 2021
* Notification of acceptance for poster or workshop: no later than end of day Friday, November 12th, 2021
* Presenter confirmation of acceptance: no later than end of day Fri, November 19th, 2021

## Presenter Responsibilities

* Covering their own registration fee(s) (it is our expectation you will attend the event; however, if this would present a barrier, please contact us regarding options);
* Where applicable, prior to submitting an abstract, confirming with their employer/agency that participation in the conference will be supported;
* Declaring any commercial or financial interests; and
* Willingness to present on days/at times as determined by the conference organizers.

## Contact Information

**Continuing Professional Development**  
Temerty Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto  
500 University Avenue, 6th Floor Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1V7  
Tel: 416.978.2719  
E-Mail: [facmed.registration@utoronto.ca](about:blank)