



**Canadian Conference
on Tobacco and Nicotine**

5-6 NOVEMBER 2025

V I R T U A L

**Conférence canadienne
sur le tabac et la nicotine**

LES 5 ET 6 NOVEMBRE 2025

V I R T U E L

**PRELIMINARY
PROGRAM**

2025 CANADIAN CONFERENCE ON TOBACCO & NICOTINE

The 2025 Canadian Conference on Tobacco and Nicotine (CCTN25) is an interdisciplinary knowledge exchange event focused on reducing the harms associated with commercial tobacco and nicotine use. Taking place virtually, CCTN25 will convene public health professionals, researchers, policymakers, clinicians, educators, and advocates from across the country and beyond.

Through interactive plenaries, symposia, panel discussions, and networking forums, participants will examine the current landscape of commercial tobacco and nicotine use; explore emerging evidence and trends; consider the potential implications of emerging alternative nicotine products; and share policy, practice, and community-led innovations. With a continued focus on reaching less than 5% tobacco use prevalence by 2035, the conference will support critical dialogue and cross-sector collaboration to accelerate progress toward a tobacco- and nicotine-free future.

CCTN25 is designed to support real-time dialogue and collaboration—equipping attendees with the knowledge, connections, and momentum needed to accelerate progress toward a tobacco- and nicotine-free future.

CONFERENCE GOALS

CCTN25 will:

- Facilitate multi-directional knowledge exchange among researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and community partners to strengthen efforts to prevent and reduce the harms of commercial tobacco and nicotine use across sectors and jurisdictions.
- Profile innovative, evidence-informed strategies to prevent and reduce the harms of commercial tobacco and nicotine use in Canada.
- Advance health equity by examining the disproportionate impacts of tobacco and nicotine use on structurally disadvantaged populations, including but not limited to Indigenous Peoples, racialized communities, 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, youth, and people with lived and living experience.
- Strengthen collaboration and systems leadership across public health, clinical care, education, advocacy, and policy to drive transformative action at the local, provincial/territorial, and national levels.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By participating in CCTN25, delegates will be better equipped to:

- Describe the current and emerging state of commercial tobacco and nicotine use in Canada and identify key policy, practice, and research developments.
- Apply evidence-informed, equity-focused approaches to reduce tobacco and nicotine use and mitigate associated harms, including through policy, clinical, and community-based interventions.
- Recognize the lived experiences of people who use tobacco or nicotine products and incorporate these perspectives into program and policy development.
- Identify and address commercial, structural, and social determinants that shape tobacco and nicotine-related health outcomes.
- Build new partnerships and strengthen existing collaborations to advance shared goals in reducing the harms of tobacco and nicotine use.
- Identify knowledge gaps and emerging trends that require coordinated research, surveillance, and policy attention.

STEERING COMMITTEE

- Ian Culbert, Canadian Public Health Association (Chair)
- Les Hagen, Action on Smoking & Health
- Rob Cunningham, Canadian Cancer Society
- Sarah Butson, Canadian Lung Association
- Flory Doucas, Coalition québécoise pour le contrôle du tabac
- Manuel Arango, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
- Rebecca Love, Indigenous Health Unit, Ontario Health
- Laurie Zawertailo, Institute for Mental Health Policy Research, CAMH
- Cynthia Carr, Manitoba Tobacco Reduction Alliance
- Leslie Phillips, School of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University
- Michael Chaiton, Ontario Tobacco Research Unit
- Shae Wale, Respecting Tobacco, First Nations Health Authority
- David Hammond, University of Waterloo

VIRTUAL PLATFORM

The Virtual conference platform will allow participants to:

- Stream live sessions and connect with speakers via live Q&A.
- Interact with other participants directly, share contact information, and connect via chat or in small groups.
- Engage in live discussion forums where participants can ask and answer questions.
- Export session notes and contacts that participants meet in the platform.
- View session recordings post-conference.

The only equipment necessary for participants is an electronic device with an internet connection. The virtual platform works on computers, tablets and smartphones. The platform is optimized for viewing using Chrome.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Registered participants will have access to all virtual sessions and post-conference recordings.

SESSIONS

The virtual conference will feature many of the same program elements as the planned in-person event. Participants will be able to ask questions and up-vote others' questions. Presenters will be able to answer live during the session or provide a written answer that all participants can view, event after the conclusion of the session.

- **Plenary sessions** will feature either a keynote address or a panel discussion with a live question and answer period.
- **Concurrent sessions**, including symposia, workshops, and oral presentations, will be comprised of live and/or pre-recorded presentations, and interactive elements, such as polling, breakouts, and live Q&A periods.
- **Discussion forums** [networking rooms]

TIMING

As CCTN25 welcomes participants from all over the country, we want to ensure participants are engaged and avoid screen fatigue. Sessions are presented from 11:00-16:30 (Eastern) daily with breaks between each session block.

NETWORKING

We understand that networking is an important part of forum participation and our virtual platform allows for the interaction of all registered participants and presenters through the networking space. The networking options allow participants to:

- See a list of all registered participants and initiate conversations;
- Create a private chat or in small groups other participants; and
- Engage in the discussion forums to explore pertinent topics.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Transparency is a condition of participation at CCTN25. Registrants with ties to any tobacco or vaping product entity will be excluded from the conference.

SPONSOR

CPHA appreciates the financial support from corporate sponsors. This financial support offsets core expenses in order to reduce the financial burden on conference participants to the greatest possible extent. Financial contributions do not entitle corporate sponsors to any involvement in the development of the scientific program.

PLATINUM



REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION RATES

Pricing is per person. The sharing of registrations is not permitted. Registration includes:

- Access to virtual sessions presented over the two-day virtual conference.
- Interact with other participants directly, share contact information, and connect via chat.
- Access to all session recordings for one year post-conference.

	Early Bird Available until 9 October	Regular 10 October - 6 November
Participant	\$250	\$275
Student/Retiree	\$125	\$125



COMMUNITY RATE

\$100 per person

Supporting knowledge exchange among public health professionals and others working in our communities is vital to CPHA's commitment to health equity, social justice and evidence-informed decision-making.

We encourage the participation of diverse communities in our national conferences and understand that funding for professional development/conference attendance can be difficult to obtain. To support your participation in the conference, special registration rates have been established for delegates who:

- Self-identify as First Nations, Inuit or Métis;
- Work or volunteer for a First Nations, Inuit or Métis community-based organization with limited professional development/conference attendance funds; or
- Work or volunteer for a community-based organization with limited professional development/conference attendance funds.

Access to these special registration rates is based on the honour system; we ask that you respect the criteria established for each rate. If you have questions regarding these rates, please contact conference@cpha.ca.



GROUP REGISTRATIONS

\$200 per person

We are pleased to offer a discount to organization registering five (5) or more employees. Student, and community are not eligible for a group discount.

Contact conference@cpha.ca to initiate the group registration process. Please indicate if registration fees are to be included on one invoice or if each participant will require an individual invoice.



PAYMENT OPTIONS

For online registration, a Visa, MasterCard, or American Express is required to complete the transaction. To request an invoice payable by cheque, electronic transfer, or credit card, contact conference@cpha.ca.

CANCELLATION AND SUBSTITUTION POLICY

Requests for cancellations must be received by conference@cpha.ca on or before Monday 3 November and will be subject to a \$50 cancellation fee. No cancellations will be granted after Monday 3 November.

If you are unable to attend the conference you may designate someone to attend in your place. Requests must be made by the person registered and received by conference@cpha.ca on or before Monday 3 November. No substitutions will be granted thereafter.

PROGRAM-AT-A-GLANCE

Subject to change. All times are Eastern Standard Time.

This event is not accredited and no CME credits will be awarded.

WEDNESDAY 5 NOVEMBER		
11:00-12:00	Opening & Plenary I	The tobacco settlement: Promise and gaps
12:00-12:30	Break	
12:30-13:30	Concurrent Sessions	
	Oral Presentations 1	Youth vaping: Trends, policies, and prevention
	Symposium 1	The opposite of addiction is community: Developing community engagement
	Symposium 2	What does end-state for tobacco control look like?
13:30-14:00	Break	
14:00-15:00	Concurrent Sessions	
	Oral Presentations 2	Emerging Nicotine Products and Health Impacts
	Symposium 3	From voices to action: Co-creating tobacco cessation programs with Métis Albertans
	Symposium 4	Smoking and vaping among queer and trans young adults in Canada: A developmental evaluation perspective
15:00-15:15	Break	
15:15-16:15	Plenary II	Equity at the core: Reducing commercial tobacco harms for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples
THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER		
10:15-10:45	Discussion Forums	
11:00-12:00	Plenary III	Shifting Landscapes: Nicotine Products, Industry Tactics, and Emerging Trends
12:00-12:30	Break	
12:30-13:30	Concurrent Sessions	
	Oral Presentations 3	Equity, community models, and priority populations
	Symposium 5	Health effects of e-cigarettes or vaping products: Evidence update and development of research and practice guidelines
	Symposium 6	STOMP as an intervention to address commercial tobacco use among youth
13:30-14:00	Break	
14:00-15:00	Concurrent Sessions	
	Oral Presentations 4	Cessation innovations and system-level strategies
	Symposium 7	Gender, equity, and tobacco control: Innovations and gaps in Canada and globally
	Symposium 8	Supporting youth who vape: Identifying needs, taking action, and connecting to care
15:00-15:15	Break	
15:15-16:15	Plenary IV and Closing	Endgame Insights: International Perspectives

11:00-12:00

PLENARY 1

THE TOBACCO SETTLEMENT: PROMISE AND GAPS

The settlement agreed to by Canadian provinces and territories to resolve their lawsuits against tobacco companies is set to provide them with \$24.7 billion over several decades. These revenues are dependent on continued use of tobacco products. The settlement contains no measures to reduce tobacco use. The settlement provides \$1.0 billion funding for tobacco-related health research, but not programs or initiatives to reduce tobacco use. This plenary will outline the elements of the settlement, and the need it underscores to motivate governments to fund, modernize and improve their tobacco control programs and policies, including those addressed at health inequities. Speakers will highlight ways to meet these challenges and opportunities.

Learning Objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe the legal, financial, and policy dimensions of Canada's tobacco settlement.
- Identify strategies that stakeholders can use to advocate for governments to mitigate the harms resulting from the settlement and implement a tobacco control-focused use of some settlement funds.
- Identify opportunities arising from the foundation created by the settlement.

Speakers

- Rob Cunningham, Lawyer and Senior Policy Analyst, Canadian Cancer Society
- Flory Doucas, Co-Director, Coalition québécoise pour le contrôle du tabac

12:00-12:30

BREAK

12:30-13:30

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

ORAL PRESENTATION #1 – YOUTH VAPING: TRENDS, POLICIES, AND PREVENTION

- An assessment of provincial policy and youth vaping rates in Alberta – *Amanda Hepp, Alberta Health Services*
- Comparing vaping products, flavours, purchase locations and patterns of use among youth versus adults – *Makenna Nunes Gomes, University of Waterloo*
- Evaluation of a vaping prevention program among youth aged 11–12 in Prince Edward Island – *Jennifer O'Brien, Lung Association of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island*
- Integrating youth voices to inform community-driven strategies to prevent tobacco and other substance use – *Tanya Halsall, The Royal Ottawa-Institute of Mental Health Research*
- Understanding substance use prevention programs with school involvement – *Chase Siimms & Kim Thomson, BC Centre for Disease Control*

REGISTER TODAY

12:30-13:30

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SYMPOSIUM 1

THE OPPOSITE OF ADDICTION IS COMMUNITY: DEVELOPING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This session will describe the Smoke Free Curious campaign and the results of the evaluation of the program, including the randomized control trial. Speakers will then describe how the results fed into the development of the Smoke Free Connect project, which builds on the findings of the Curious campaign by creating opportunities for connection in smoking cessation both in person and virtually. Eugene Wong, Person with Lived Experience (PWLE) Community Advisor to Smoke Free Connect and TikTok influencer with over 500,000 followers, will talk about developing community engagement online. Participants will then use the Smoke Free Connect technology to connect with other conference participants.

Learning objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe the value of long-term engagement in smoking cessation programming.
- Learn about new innovations in building engagement and connection for smoking cessation.
- Develop skills for engagement.

Speakers

- Tracey Borland, Independent Consultant
- Michael Chaiton, Senior Scientist, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- Eugene Wong, PWLE Community Advisor; The Euge Food
- Robert Schwartz, Senior Scientist, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

SYMPOSIUM 2

WHAT DOES END-STATE FOR TOBACCO CONTROL LOOK LIKE?

This session will look at why the public health community needs to set out what the tobacco and nicotine environment should look like past 2035, beyond the “less than 5% tobacco use prevalence” target. To help participants develop their own vision and contribute to the development of a common one for the public health community, multiple visions with supporting rationales will be presented. Participants will be invited to comment on the strengths and weaknesses of these visions at the end of the session.

Learning objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Engage in a meaningful debate on what components will make up a tobacco control end-state for Canada.
- Be better informed on the key issues when considering the pros and cons of a tobacco-free end-state versus a recreational nicotine-free end-state.
- Describe the sequential conditions and requirements that would facilitate various end-state visions.

Speakers

- Denis Choinière, Former Director, Tobacco Products Regulatory Office, Health Canada
- Mitch Zeller, Retired Director, Center for Tobacco Products, US Food and Drug Administration
- Flory Doucas, Co-Director and Spokesperson, Coalition québécoise sur le contrôle du tabac

13:30-14:00

BREAK

ORAL PRESENTATION 2

EMERGING NICOTINE PRODUCTS AND HEALTH IMPACTS

- Association between e-cigarette exposure and lung function in young adults – *Rachelle Aucoin, Dalhousie University*
 - Awareness and use of oral nicotine pouches among youth and young adults in four countries – *Jessica Reid, University of Waterloo*
 - Changes in vaping and tobacco product sales following a vaping flavour ban in Quebec – *Annie Montreuil, Institut national de santé publique du Québec*
 - Clearing the air – Exploring the international public policy response to the synthetic nicotine crisis: A scoping review – *Surabhi Sivaratnam, SickKids*
 - Developing supportive and non-stigmatizing healthcare resources for women who vape during pregnancy and postpartum – *Lorraine Greaves, Centre of Excellence for Women's Health*
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SYMPOSIUM 3

FROM VOICES TO ACTION: CO-CREATING TOBACCO CESSATION PROGRAMS WITH MÉTIS ALBERTANS

This session will explore how culturally grounded, community-informed programming can address commercial tobacco use among Métis Albertans. Presenters will walk through the design, adaptation, and evaluation of the Métis Nation of Alberta's Tobacco Reduction Program (TRP), highlighting how data from community engagement sessions directly informed the creation of the Métis Model and a range of program styles, including virtual, in-person, land-based, group, and peer support options. Participants will learn practical strategies for adapting existing cessation programs, such as Alberta Health Services' QuitCore, to better meet the cultural and contextual needs of their communities. The session will also cover flexible evaluation approaches used to guide continuous improvement. Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of how to build or refine culturally specific tobacco cessation initiatives in collaboration with the communities they serve.

Learning objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Apply strategies for transforming community engagement data into tailored, culturally grounded tobacco cessation programming, drawing on the example of the Métis Nation of Alberta's Tobacco Reduction Program (TRP).
- Identify practical approaches for culturally adapting existing cessation resources, such as Alberta Health Services' QuitCore program, to better reflect the needs and priorities of Métis communities.
- Use flexible, community-informed evaluation methods to guide continuous improvement of culturally specific cessation programs.

Speakers

- Kevin Cunningham, Community Wellness Manager, The Otipemisiwak Métis Government within Alberta (mediator, Métis citizen)
- Kyla Hachey, Tobacco Educator, The Otipemisiwak Métis Government within Alberta (presenter, non-Métis citizen)
- Milissa Kilian, Tobacco Educator, The Otipemisiwak Métis Government within Alberta (presenter, Métis citizen)
- Rochelle Griffiths, ChangeCore Peer Support Guide, The Otipemisiwak Métis Government within Alberta (presenter, Métis citizen)

14:00-15:00

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SYMPOSIUM 4

SMOKING AND VAPING AMONG QUEER AND TRANS YOUNG ADULTS IN CANADA: A DEVELOPMENTAL EVALUATION PERSPECTIVE

This interactive session aims to explore how an intervention led by researchers and evaluators can effectively inform initial program design and changes throughout a program implementation.

Participants will learn about queer and trans-focused smoking and vaping cessation/reduction approaches, and how to embed developmental evaluation into an intervention, facilitating learning and development along the way. Participants who are developing or implementing programs will be able to reflect on how to conduct thoughtful evaluation activities that directly impact the success of their initiatives. The session's interactive components will include live polling, quizzes, small-group work, and time for reflection.

Learning objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe the factors associated with higher smoking and vaping rates among queer and trans young adults.
- Identify the key elements of the Expand Project social marketing campaign and how it supports queer and trans young adults.
- Summarize key developmental evaluation methods that shape a program from inception to implementation to pivoting post-implementation.

Speakers

- Lynn Planinac, Research Officer, University of Toronto
- Ron Renaud, Outreach Coordinator, Montreal LGBTQ+ Community Centre & Halcyon Zoubaidi, Outreach Coordinator, University of Toronto
- Andrii Zarytskyi, Project Manager, Egale Canada & Luc Grey, Manager, The Lung Foundation (previously with the Canadian Cancer Society)

Moderator

- Robert Schwartz, Senior Scientist, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

13:00-15:15

BREAK

15:15-16:15

PLENARY II

EQUITY AT THE CORE: REDUCING COMMERCIAL TOBACCO HARMS FOR FIRST NATIONS, INUIT, AND MÉTIS PEOPLES

While overall smoking rates continue to fall, tobacco use remains disproportionately high in many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities. This plenary will focus on distinctions-based, equity-oriented approaches that centre Indigenous leadership and community priorities. Speakers will share examples of meaningful engagement, discuss where systems and policies fall short, and reflect on how tobacco control can better address the legacies of exclusion and colonial policy. The session will highlight pathways for supporting Indigenous-led action and ensuring that endgame strategies are not achieved at the expense of those most affected by commercial tobacco harms.

Learning Objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Explain how distinctions-based approaches can better address the commercial tobacco burden in First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities.
- Discuss examples of Indigenous-led and community-driven tobacco control initiatives.
- Identify policy and program changes that could reduce inequities and support meaningful engagement with historically excluded populations.

THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER

10:15-10:45

DISCUSSION FORUMS

11:00-12:00

PLENARY III

**SHIFTING LANDSCAPES: NICOTINE PRODUCTS, INDUSTRY TACTICS,
AND EMERGING TRENDS**

The nicotine market is evolving quickly, with pouches, disposables, and synthetic formulations gaining ground—particularly among youth and young adults. This plenary will provide a high-level synthesis of recent trends in Canada and abroad, situating new products within the broader context of industry repositioning and misinformation. The speakers will examine how companies frame products as lifestyle enhancers, exploit youth concerns (including environmental marketing claims), and use digital platforms to normalize recreational use. The discussion will equip participants with forward-looking insights into how to respond to these shifts, counter misleading narratives, and anticipate the next generation of industry strategies.

Learning Objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe current and emerging trends in nicotine products, including pouches, disposables, and synthetic formulations.
- Analyze how industry tactics, misinformation, and digital marketing are shaping youth and young adult nicotine use.
- Identify public health strategies to anticipate and respond to evolving nicotine markets and industry repositioning.

12:00-12:30

BREAK

12:30-13:30

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

ORAL PRESENTATION 3

EQUITY, COMMUNITY MODELS, AND PRIORITY POPULATIONS

- Co-occurring substance use and support needs among 2S/LGBTQQIA+ people in Canada – *Malhar Shah, Community-Based Research Centre*
- Early tobacco education for Indigenous children: Culturally tailored curriculum development for kindergarten to Grade 3 students in Northern Saskatchewan – *Justina Ndubuka, Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority*
- An intention: A fine line between ceremonial and recreational tobacco use among 2SIQT people in Ontario – *Shiva Acharya, Laurentian University*
- Smoking cessation interventions for low-income women: A scoping review protocol with a focus on sex, gender, equity and diversity considerations – *Andreea Brabete, Centre of Excellence for Women's Health*
- Smoke Break: Queering smoking cessation with peer support and harm reduction – *Julia Falco, Community-Based Research Centre*

SYMPOSIUM 5**HEALTH EFFECTS OF E-CIGARETTES OR VAPING PRODUCTS: EVIDENCE UPDATE AND DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH AND PRACTICE GUIDELINES**

This session will present expert clinical recommendations from the VECTOR project on from systematic reviews on the effects of e-cigarettes on heart, cancer, respiratory and dependence outcomes (Selby); results from additional reviews on gestational health, intention to control weight, and association with social media and periodontal health (Chaiton); and discussion on implications (Schwartz, and Person with Lived or Living Experience). Knowledge gained from this session symposium will help the research community generate timely research questions to produce high-quality evidence that will impact clinical and policy recommendations.

Learning objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe current clinical recommendations based on health effects of vaping products.
- Explore current evidence on health effects of vaping.
- Discuss understandings of health effects in absolute terms and relative to smoking.

Speakers

- Peter Selby, Principal Investigator Intrepid Lab, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- Michael Chaiton, Senior Scientist, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- Robert Schwartz, Senior Scientist, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

SYMPOSIUM 6**STOMP AS AN INTERVENTION TO ADDRESS COMMERCIAL TOBACCO USE AMONG YOUTH**

This presentation aims to explore the implementation and impact of a national initiative advancing the health and well-being of children and youth in schools across Canada by addressing commercial tobacco and vaping use among youth: STOMP (Students Together Moving to Prevent Tobacco Use).

Physical and Health Education Canada (PHE Canada) will spotlight the STOMP program, showcasing its unique role in empowering youth to make healthy decisions surrounding substances and supporting healthy school outcomes through peer-to-peer interventions, while simultaneously working to curb commercial tobacco use among youth. Participants will learn about the program's unique implementation approaches, hear success stories, learn about wise practices around implementation, and hear more about STOMP's impact to date. Attendees will also explore the STOMP Hub—a resource centre to mobilize STOMP efforts in schools. The session will close with next steps for action and a brief question and discussion period.

Participants will be able to apply learnings in the following ways:

- Bring STOMP and/or its program elements and resources to youth-based settings, including recreation spaces, schools, community programming, etc.
- Encourage schools to take action in new ways, using STOMP wise practices and success stories as examples.
- Embed STOMP program resources (activities, STOMP kit resources, one-pagers, etc.) into existing programming and practice.
- Share STOMP Hub and accompanying evidenced-based resources with communications teams for sharing across networks.

Learning objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify and implement ways STOMP learnings, data, resources, tools and supports can be embedded within participants' existing work – both in policy and in practice.
- Apply STOMP approaches, tools and knowledge products within participants' own unique contexts.

Speaker

- Ryan Fahey, Manager, Programs and Education, Physical and Health Education Canada

13:30-14:00

BREAK

14:00-15:00

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

ORAL PRESENTATION 4

CESSATION INNOVATIONS AND SYSTEM-LEVEL STRATEGIES

- A new generation? Evolution of smoking bans inside homes among smokers in Quebec – *Annie Montreuil, Institut national de santé publique du Québec*
 - Investigating trends in tobacco and vape product sales offences among retail locations in Ontario between 2018 and 2024 – *Adam Cole, Ontario Tech University*
 - Saskatchewan Quits: An online smoking cessation community of support – *Bethany Verma, Lung Saskatchewan*
 - Impact of dedicated smoking cessation nurses in a tertiary cardiac care setting – *Stephanie MacLaren, University of Ottawa Heart Institute*
 - Smoking cessation programs in long-term care: A scoping review of implementation barriers and facilitators – *Vania Tjandra, University of British Columbia (Okanagan)*
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SYMPOSIUM 7

GENDER, EQUITY, AND TOBACCO CONTROL: INNOVATIONS AND GAPS IN CANADA AND GLOBALLY

This interactive panel explores how gender shapes tobacco use and control outcomes across diverse contexts. Speakers will share new evidence, examine existing barriers to integrating gender in tobacco control, and offer actionable strategies for designing and implementing more equitable tobacco control measures. Participants will learn gain insights about new datasets and real-world evidence, including tools to apply gender-responsive approaches in tobacco control research and policy.

The panel directly supports the 2025 Canadian Conference on Tobacco and Nicotine objectives and goals, specifically equipping attendees with evidence-informed, equity-focused approaches to reduce tobacco and nicotine use and mitigate associated harms, and advancing health equity by examining the disproportionate impacts of tobacco and nicotine use on structurally disadvantaged populations.

Learning objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Raise awareness of persistent gender gaps in tobacco research and policy.
- Share new research findings and frameworks for integrating gender-responsive approaches in tobacco control interventions.
- Foster cross-sectoral partnerships to advance gender equity in tobacco control in Canada and beyond.

Speakers

- Lathika Laguwaran, PhD student, Global Strategy Lab, York University
- Lorraine Greaves, Senior Investigator, Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, International Network of Women Against Tobacco (INWAT)
- Les Hagen, Executive Director, Action on Smoking & Health Canada (ASH Canada)

Moderator

- Mathieu Poirier, Director, Global Strategy Lab, York University

14:00-15:00

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SYMPOSIUM 8

SUPPORTING YOUTH WHO VAPE: IDENTIFYING NEEDS, TAKING ACTION, AND CONNECTING TO CARE

Participants will explore behavioural, emotional, and social indicators that may signal a need for clinical intervention in youth who vape, and learn practical strategies to engage and support youth. This interactive session will also introduce participants to Youth-VAST, an Ontario-based program that provides evidence-informed in-person and virtual supports for youth aged 12–21 struggling with vaping use, substance use, and/or technology use. The session will feature real-world examples, practices, and lessons learned from program implementation, with opportunities for participants to share experiences and discuss adaptation to their local contexts. Participants will leave with actionable approaches to strengthen youth vaping cessation pathways in their communities and foster collaboration between public health, education, and community sectors.

Learning objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify behavioural, emotional, and social indicators that a young person may require clinical support for vaping.
- Apply practical, evidence-informed strategies to support youth who vape.
- Describe the Youth-VAST program model and identify ways public health and community professionals can facilitate access for youth in need.

Speakers

- Peter Selby, Principal Investigator, Intrepid Lab, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- Hillary Chan, Clinical Manager, Intrepid Lab, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

15:00-15:15

BREAK

15:15-16:15

PLENARY IV

ENDGAME INSIGHTS: INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

With global momentum building toward “tobacco endgame” strategies, Canada has the chance to learn from international experience while charting its own course. This plenary will explore the rationale, political context, and implementation challenges of bold measures such as smoke-free generation policies. Speakers will reflect on international lessons and discuss how alternative nicotine products, regulation, and industry narratives are shaping the path forward. The session will highlight both the promise and the pitfalls of endgame approaches.

Learning Objectives

Having attended this session, participants will be able to:

- Summarize international endgame strategies, including the UK’s smoke-free generation approach, and assess their relevance for Canada.
- Discuss Canada’s progress toward the 5x35 target and the role of alternative nicotine products in shaping endgame trajectories.
- Evaluate opportunities and challenges for adapting international lessons to Canadian policy and practice contexts.

REGISTER TODAY