Canada FASD Conference

2025 PROGRAM





Canada Northwest FASD Partnership

CANADA FASD CONFERENCE

The Canada FASD Conference is coming to **Toronto**, **Ontario on October 21-23**, **2025.** This national conference on FASD brings together different people from across the country and internationally who hold valuable perspectives on FASD and prevention of FASD. The theme for Canada FASD Conference 2025 conference is **Shaping the Future of FASD: From Evidence to Action**.

With over 600 attendees expected, this three-day event brings together healthcare professionals, social workers, justice and legal professionals, educators, counsellors, researchers, policy makers, and those with direct or indirect lived or living experience to connect and collaborate. This conference provides a secure and open environment to share diverse perspectives, valuable experiences, new research, and best and promising practices. We encourage you to be part of it!

"This conference was just fantastic and made me feel so much less alone!"

2023 Conference Attendee

"This was truly career changing for me..."

2023 Conference Attendee

"Best conference I've ever been to, and I mean that! The inclusive and supportive environment was second to none."

2023 Conference Attendee

About the Program

We are thrilled to present our lineup of incredible presentations for the 2025 Canada FASD Conference. Our program is broken out into seven concurrent sessions over 2.5 days. In each concurrent session, there are eight breakout sessions to choose from. Presentations from those with living experience are woven in throughout the program. They are indicated by a * symbol.

This program - including dates, times, and presentations - is subject to change. You can find details about each presentation (including presenter bios and presentations descriptions) on our website at <u>www.canfasd.ca</u>.

Presentation Formats

PANEL - One 60-minute in-depth presentation, usually given by a panel of presenters, on a specific topic, followed by a 30 minute question and answer period.

WORKSHOP - One 90-minute interactive learning workshop where presenters will lead a learning opportunity for attendees.

ORAL - Three 20-minute oral presentations on a similar topic, followed by a 30-minute question and answer period for all presenters. You must attend all three presentations.

POSTERS - Physical posters displayed at the conference that attendees can view at their leisure during break-times and meals.



Conference Schedule

Tuesday, October 21		Wednesday, October 22		Thursday, October 23	
Morning		Morning		Morning	
7:30-8:30	Light Breakfast	7:30-8:30	Light Breakfast	7:30-8:30	Light Breakfast
8:30-10:00	Opening Remarks & Plenary	8:30-10:00	Opening Remarks & Plenary	8:30-10:00	Concurrent Session G
10:00-10:30	Coffee Break	10:00-10:30	Coffee Break	10:00-10:30	Coffee Break
10:30-12:00	Concurrent Session A	10:30-12:00	Concurrent Session D	10:30-12:30	Plenary & Closing Remarks
Afternoon			Afternoon		
12:00-13:15	Lunch	12:00-13:15	Lunch		
13:15-14:45	Concurrent Session B	13:15-14:45	Concurrent Session E	1	
14:45-15:15	Coffee Break	14:45-15:15	Coffee Break	1	
15:15-16:45	Concurrent Session C	15:15-16:45	Concurrent Session F	1	
			Evening		
		17:00-19:00	Networking Event & Film Festival		

"I've been to many FASD conferences over the past decade and this was my favourite in regards to sessions. It was a nice balance, it wasn't too complex, but nor was it too simple."

023 Conference Attendee



Concurrent Session A

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 from 10:30 to 12:00

Panel	Aging and FASD: What does the future hold? - Valerie Temple *Living as An Adult On The FASD Spectrum in 2025 - Reinier deSmit
Panel	Exposed: Examining the generational impact of maternal substance and alcohol use on family health and social outcomes Sarah Gander & Natalia Fana
Workshop	System neglect is neglecting children Peter Choate, Dorothy Badry, Jacquie Pei, Kimberly Spicer & Terri Pelton
Oral	CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM FASD Awareness, Recognition, and Response: Developing a Toolkit for Multi-Disciplinary Professionals Supporting People in the Legal System Emma Jewell, Martina Faitakis & Kaitlyn McLachlan FASD and the Over-Incarceration of Indigenous Women: Psychological Perspectives Rina Asghar *Shaping support in the justice system Leesa Myers
Oral	TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION AND INDIGENOUS APPROACHES Manitoba's FASD Strategy Indigenous Elders Circle Jennifer Short Key Considerations for Using Self-Report Questionnaires to Research and Evaluate Community-based Parenting Programs in Indigenous Contexts Lakota Wood & Melissa Tremblay *Culturally Enhancing Resources through Indigenous Voices Jillian Nason & Courtney Fournier
Oral	SERVICE PROVISION Empowering Ontario Families: Building Knowledge, Mentorship, and Connections Through Innovative FASD Support Group Microgrants Marine Delage de Luget & Nancy Lockwood Staff Experiences of a Dedicated FASD Residential Summer Camp Jessica Rutherford *Growing Up, Growing Forward: An Occupational Therapist's Journey as a Parent of Youth with FASD Janet Carioni
Oral	HEALTH AND WELLBEING Pain in Individuals with FASD: Overlooked and Misunderstood Cara Nania A systematic review of the health needs of children and youth with FASD to inform their primary care needs across the lifespan Prabhjot Bedi & Ana Hanlon-Dearman *My Story: Thriving with FASD through Education, Employment and Health Challenges Jessica Fulmer
Oral	MENTAL HEALTH Untangling the Complex Associations Between Mental Health and Early Adversity in Youth with FASD Carly McMorris *The Impact of FASD in the Virtual World: Lessons from Living Experiences Joseph Munn & Pamela Belanger Improving Suicide Risk Assessment for People with FASD: Research Findings and Clinical Recommendations Stephanie Howe

Concurrent Session B

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 from 1:15 to 2:45

Panel	Shaping the Future – Australia's Evolving FASD Response and the Role of International Collaboration	
	Sophie Harrington & Louise Gray	
Panel	The association between self-esteem, compliance, acquiescence and suggestibility in individuals with FASD from an international study David Gilbert	
Workshop	FASD Diagnostic and Assessment Clinic Team Training Workshop (Part 1) Lisa Swan, Amanda Lindholm, Hasu Rajani & Monty Nelson	
Workshop	The Traveller's Guide to FASD Danna Ormstrup	
Oral	PREVENTION AND WOMEN'S HEALTH The Power of Networking: The work of Canada's Network Action Team on FASD Prevention from a Women's Health Determinants Perspective (pNAT) Nancy Poole Impacts of relational FASD prevention with pregnant individuals using substances Kirstin Bonot Integrating Alcohol Use Reduction Counselling with a Person-Centred Guidebook David Brown & Wayne Skinner	
Oral	IDENTITY Who Am I? Exploring identity experiences of individuals with FASD Vannesa Joly Who Gets to Be Neurodiverse? Understanding the Place for FASD in Neurodiversity Research Emily Cauduro & Devon Edwards *Navigating the Search for Identity in Individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Dorothy Reid, Niall Schofield, Katy Flannigan & Lauren Richardson	
Oral	TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION AND INDIGENOUS APPROACHES*Healing through Understanding: Supporting Indigenous Families Impacted by Fetal AlcoholSpectrum Disorder (FASD)Marian PaulQanuqtuurniq: Providing Innovative and Responsive FASD Services in NunavutJennifer Noah, Amanda Ishulutaq, Amber Miners & Shuvinai Mike*Welcome to my FASDMatthew Sinclair	
Oral	LIFESPAN INTERVENTION Peers, Power, and Potential: Transforming FASD Support Through Strength-Based Interventions Melody Morton Ninomiya, Carl T & Robert MacDonald Transition from Care Experiences of Youth Aged 13 to 23 Living with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) in Canada: A Scoping Review Michele Palk & Christine Wekerle Exploring the Transition from Childhood to Adulthood for Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Lauren Gnat & Melody Morton Ninomiya	

NOTES:

The **FASD Diagnostic and Assessment Clinic Team Training Workshop** will be held over two sessions from 1:15 to 2:45 and from 3:15 to 4:45.

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 from 3:15 to 4:45

Panel	Building Community, Capacity, and Connection – A Rural Approach to FASD Mental Health Support Jayne Stoddart & Rob More
Panel	Preparing BC Educators to Support Students with FASD: A Participatory POPFASD Program Evaluation <i>Trina Chivilo, Heather Braund & Stace Kelsh</i>
Workshop	FASD Diagnostic and Assessment Clinic Team Training Workshop (Part 2) Lisa Swan, Amanda Lindholm, Hasu Rajani & Monty Nelson
Oral	CAREGIVING Wellness Strategies Among Caregivers of Individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: Practices and Perceived Usefulness Mansfield Mela, Dorothy Reid & Katy Flannigan The experiences and needs of fathers of children with FASD Lindsay Morcom & Dane Mauer-Vakil *From Overwhelmed to Empowered: Parenting Through FASD with Confidence
Oral	Michelle Hughes TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION AND INDIGENOUS APPROACHES Leading Education and Healing Through TRC Courtney Farrow Lawrence & Yunn Wong *Honouring Strengths, Navigating Challenges: A Team-Based Approach to FASD Support in an Indige- nous School Deborah Maund & Christine Agnew *Supporting Indigenous individuals who can become pregnant in rural communities and the Piikani Nation in Alberta Ashlynne Ball & Kelly Lepine
Oral	BUILDING CAPACITY Building Capacity to Support Families: An FASD Training Initiative for Frontline Children's Program Workers Kathy Unsworth & Celisse Bibr Evidence-based FASD prevention school-based program for urban, rural and First Nation schools in Ontario, Canada: A pilot study Svetlana Popova & Danijela Dozet *Living with FASD: A Youth's Perspective on Hope, Awareness, and Navigating Stigma Ben Walsh
Oral	HEALTH AND WELLBEING FASD across the lifespan: Exploring health and aging in adults with FASD Tamara Bondar *Looking Back, Moving Forward Wanda Beland The path to FASD diagnosis: A retrospective study of healthcare resource utilization Erika Dugas & Nadia Bouhamdani
Oral	POLICY AND PRACTICE Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about the Canada Northwest FASD Partnership (CNFASDP) Melanie Muehling & Alexandra Taylor Secure Treatment in the Province of Ontario: Opportunities for treatment of youth with FASD utilizing youth centric legislation Mitesh Patel & Jason Langer *Supporting System Change Through Community Partnerships Sue Brooks & Denise Kollee

Wednesday, October 22, 2025 from 10:30 to 12:00

Panel	Sheltering Arms: Housing Program for Persons with FASD
i unci	Wanda Beland
Panel	*Insights from Adults with FASD: Navigating Life and Advocacy Dorothy Reid & AFECT Committee
Workshop	Is Canada Ready for a New Consensus Statement on Legal Issues for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)? Christian Whalen & Nicole Leblanc
Workshop	Finding New Opportunities for Collaboration: Bridging Policy and Practice Efforts to Support Women at-risk of an Alcohol Exposed Pregnancy Lindsay Wolfson, Ashley Wettlaufer & Nancy Poole
Oral	WOMEN'S HEALTH AND PREVENTION The Good, The Bad, and The Contradictory: Consumption Consequences of Alcohol in Womanhood Kelly Harding An insight into the answers of Danish pregnant women and attitudes towards substance use screen- ing, when asked anonymously - A pilot study Michela Wedel *Wicked: FASD through the lens of Elphaba Rhonda Konrad
Oral	ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS Prenatal Alcohol Collection and Confirmation: A Guide for FASD Diagnostic Clinics Lisa Swan & Amanda Lindholm An Innovative Model of FASD Assessment and Diagnostic Services through Partnership Olivia Ng, Marcella Blanchard, Sarah Balazs & Nidhi Luthra Clinic Collaboration as a Means to Producing Positive Access to Health Care Across the Life Span Emily Cotsomitis
Oral	FASD AWARD PRESENTATION Dr. Sterling Clarren FASD Research Award - 2025 Recipient Chantel Ritter Claudette Bradshaw FASD Innovation Award - 2024 Recipient Eastern Door Centre
Oral	CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM *Demanding Better: integrating lived experience, research and practice to educate, train and empower in the New Zealand Criminal Justice System Anita Gibbs Trends in Sentencing Indigenous People who are Affected by FASD Jonathan Rudin Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Support FASD diagnosed justice involved folks Shay Sharma, Angela Kemble & Jessica DeVries

Wednesday, October 22, 2025 from 1:15 to 2:45

Panel	Honoring Tradition: Decolonizing FASD Assessments for First Nations Healing		
i anei	Nicole Leblanc & Noel Milliea		
Panel	Templates for understanding common issues affecting patients with FASD		
	Roderick Densmore		
Workshop	Bridging Evidence and Action: Advancing Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment for Individuals		
	with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)		
	Lucy Digney, Jacqueline Pei, Jeremy Weleff & Tracey Marshall Craig		
Workshop	Key Findings from a Canadian Assessment on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder		
	Peter Choate, Leigh Wincott & Lori Vitale Cox		
Oral	BUILDING CAPACITY		
	Increasing FASD Care Capacity with Advanced Practice Nurses: Current Status and Future		
	<u>Opportunities</u> Lynn Cole, Erin Baylor, Kimberly Buholtz & Madeline Rockhold		
	Building a cross-sectoral collaboration for inclusive and FASD-informed practices		
	Taha Awan		
	Manitoba's FASD Strategy: A collaborative, cross-departmental approach		
	Melanie Muehling, Carly Moore, Ken Lamoureux		
Oral	EDUCATION		
	*From Training to Teaching: Assessing Ontario Preservice Teachers' Knowledge, Self-Efficacy, and Pre-		
	paredness to Support Students with FASD		
	Tanya Joseph		
	The Animation Curriculum: An inclusive educational intervention to support those with FASD in main-		
	<u>stream classroom settings</u> Jessica Rutherford		
	Helping Educational Staff and Students with FASD reframe their views on the diagnosis		
	Meredith Sewell		
Oral	CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM		
	Engaging Police Officers in FASD Prevention: Exploring the Synergies between Relational Policing and		
	the FASD Prevention Conversation		
	Lisa Whittingham & Jennifer Lavoie		
	Bridging the Gap – Advancing Justice Reform for Youth with FASD		
	Sophie Harrington & Louise Gray To Be Announced		
	To Be Announced		
Oral	PREVENTION AND WOMEN'S HEALTH		
	#winemoms and #cannamoms: Motherhood and Substance Use Culture on Instagram		
	Kelly Harding		
	Expanding our understanding of the influences on alcohol use in pregnancy		
	Nancy Poole		
	Do alcohol tax changes reduce pre-pregnancy and pregnancy alcohol consumption? Evidence from		
	the PRAMS		
	Sarah Hamersma		

Concurrent Session F

Wednesday, October 22, 2025 from 3:15 to 4:45

Panel	Flexing the Model for FASD Assessment: Improving Accessibility and Inclusivity for Clients Kendra Toporowski & Hasmukhlal (Hasu) Rajani
Panel	Let's Get Real about Sex and Drinking - A Prevention Conversation for Youth Korie Seibel
Workshop	Development of a National Indigenous FASD Framework in Canada Melissa Tremblay & Jasmine Kowalewski
Workshop	*Vulnerability and finding strength Sara Harrison & Lexie Chornoby
Workshop	*Mindfulness through meditation and breathwork Melissa Dobson
Oral	WOMEN'S HEALTH To Be Announced To Be Announced To Be Announced To Be Announced <u>*Women with FASD - What matters</u> Nancy Poole & Lauren Richardson
Oral	HEALTH AND WELLBEING The "Pebble in Your Shoe" Model of Effectiveness: Undergraduate Students' Perspectives on Campaigns Regarding Alcohol Use During Pregnancy Celisse Bibr The Impact of Prenatal Alcohol and Other Exposures on Growth: A Focus on Individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Jocelynn Cook & Katy Flannigan *Parenting Through Complexity: A Mother's Perspective on Raising a Child with FASD Tanya Walsh
Oral	SERVICE PROVISION Transformative Approaches in Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Support: A Two-Decade Journey with the Lakeland Centre Lisa Murphy Landscape of health of children and youth with Prenatal Alcohol Exposure (PAE) and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Shae Mulvihill & Ana Hanlon-Dearman Creative Solutions in Unique Populations: How One Diagnostic Assessment Centre Works Collaboratively to Serve their Community Lauren Ireland & Megan Quinn

Thursday, October 23, 2025 from 8:30 to 10:00

Panel	A Case Study of Trauma-Informed, Culturally Safer Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)
	Assessments in the Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut
	Kaitlynn Dewhirst, Kendal Aknavigak & Shayla Richards
Panel	Reframing child protection for children and youth with FASD: Protective casework planning for chil-
	dren and youth with FASD
	Dorothy Badry, Peter Choate & Terri Pelton
Workshop	Beyond Awareness: Mobilizing Multi-Sectoral Action for FASD-informed Transformations
	Melody Morton Ninomiya, Annette Cormier, Jillian Nason, Lisa Gay-Taylor & Nicole LeBlanc
Workshop	Overcoming Barriers: Fostering Meaningful Community-Engaged Research Partnerships
	Emily Speybroeck, Christie Petrenko, Erika Makowecki, Jacqueline Pei
Oral	WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING
	<u>"Wine not make it a big glass!": Representations of Women, Alcohol, and Young Adulthood in a Pop-</u>
	ular Television Reboot
	Kelly Harding & Kirsten Morrison
	<u>*"Don't Let Go!"</u>
	Maria Beland Birth Mothers Caring for Their Children with Fotal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
	Birth Mothers Caring for Their Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Wanda White, Karen Huber & Maureen Parkes
Oral	CAREGIVING AND CAREGIVER PERSPECTIVES
Orai	Māori Caregivers Experiences of Parenting a Person with FASD in Aotearoa New Zealand
	Anita Gibbs
	To Be Announced
	To Be Announced
	Caregiver perspectives of the role of strengths and protective factors for youth with FASD and crimi-
	nal legal system involvement: A thematic analysis
	Chantel Ritter
Oral	BUILDING CAPACITY FOR SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY
	*Building Capacity in those with FASD; a conversation with residents of Hope Terrace
	Diana van der Stoel, Floyd Gray, Mandi Waskahat & Nola Visser
	What We Have Learned: Improving Housing for Individuals with FASD
	Celisse Bibr, Lauren Richardson & Rod Densmore
	*FASD Mentors of Change
	Shannon Foster, Chris Fillion, Kaitlin Larabie
Oral	TRENDS IN ASSESSMENT, DIAGNOSIS, AND SUPPORT
	Sex-related trends among people assessed for FASD in Canada
	Katy Flannigan, Jocelynn Cook, Nancy Poole & Kathy Unsworth
	Recommendations Following Clinical Assessment for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD): Trends by Age, Sex, Diagnostic Status, and Needs Class
	Ariella Gordon & Martina Faitakis
	Ten years of teaching service providers (and others) about supporting people diagnose with FASD:
	Lessons learned and future directions
	Jay Goddard, Marsha Wilson, Michele Bebault & Sharnelle Matthew

Posters

Overcoming Stigma: Navigating Systems as a caregiver and advocate

(Fatima) Natascha Lawrence, Chris Fillion & Twyla Gilroy

Creating a Cohesive and Connected Community of Practice Model for FASD: A Manitoba Strategy Shannon Foster

<u>Knowledges, attitudes, and practices of social workers related to alcohol and pregnancy, and FASD in New</u> <u>Brunswick</u>

Lauren O'Neill

Exploring the Impact of Stigma on Mental Health in Individuals with FASD: A Qualitative Study *Kanzah Rabbani*

Bridging Sectors: Exploring the Role of Collaboration in Addressing FASD Across Health, Education, and Justice Systems in New Brunswick

Alexandra Burman & Hannah Denberg

Exploring the context of vulnerability for those with FASD to become engaged in harmful sexual behaviours and/or sexual offending

Uzma Naseem

Building Capacity in an FASD Assessment and Diagnostic Service Olivia Ng, Marcella Blanchard, Nidhi Luthra & Sarah Balazs

Uncovering Systematic Barriers and Highlighting Pathways to Accessing Ethical Treatment for FASD Persons in the Criminal Justice System

Mansfield Mela

Enhancing FASD Service Delivery: Lessons from a Rural Integrated Model

Katy Flannigan & Devon Edwards

Oculomotor Performance on a Novel Free-Viewing Eye Tracking Task in Justice-Involved Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Pamela Gallego

Events and Activities

In addition to our lineup of incredible speakers, we have a number of fun events and activities where you can connect with other attendees and get inspired.

Networking Night

Join us on Wednesday, October 22 from 5:00 to 7:00pm in the Ballroom for some light refreshments. Explore our exhibitor booths, connect with speakers and conference attendees, and have some fun!

FASD Film Festival

New this year we are running a film festival to showcase the diversity of experience in FASD. Canadians are invited to submit a short film about FASD for consideration. We will choose a selection to showcase at our film festival on October 22nd during the Networking Night. Come out and celebrate!

Member Meet & Greet

Individual members of CanFASD are invited to a small meet and greet the night before the conference starts (Monday October 20, 2025). Join us for some light refreshments and connection. Meet with CanFASD staff, researchers, and other members before the conference kicks off. CanFASD members can RSVP to conference@ canfasd.ca. Not a member? Sign up at www.canfasd.ca.









SHAPING THE FUTURE OF FASD: FROM EVIDENCE TO ACTON canfasd.ca/canada-fasd-conference