Media Kit

June 1 - 7
Vancouver, British Columbia

#congreSSH
congress2019.ca
Dear member of the media,

Welcome to the 2019 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, where Canada’s biggest conversations are happening. Congress is a unique platform that connects scholars, students, artists, policy-makers and the public to discuss and hone the ideas that will shape Canada’s future.

This year, Congress runs from Saturday, June 1 to Friday, June 7, hosted at The University of British Columbia in Vancouver, B.C. Our theme this year is “Circles of Conversation,” reflecting the need for conversations within and across communities, disciplines, and industries.

Congress is the largest academic gathering in Canada, and Canada is one of the only nations to unite over 70 scholarly associations at one conference. With over 5,000 papers being presented throughout this week, there is sure to be something to satisfy all interests. We invite you to browse the individual association programs along with almost 300 sessions in the calendar of open events.

If you have any questions or need help tracking down the right researchers, events, and speakers for your beat, don’t hesitate to reach out to the media team — our staff and volunteers would be pleased to assist you.

Sincerely,

Nicola Katz
Communications Manager
Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

We would like to acknowledge that the Vancouver Campus of The University of British Columbia, where we gather for Congress 2019, is located on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the hən̓ q̓əmin̓əm̓ speaking xʷməθk̓ʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) people. We also recognize that this land houses the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre. We give heartfelt thanks to the x̕ʷməθk̓ʷəy̓əm people for welcoming Congress to their territory. Our gratitude extends to the Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish) and səl̓ílwətaʔɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations, who along with the x̕ʷməθk̓ʷəy̓əm people host Congress attendees on their unceded territories in what is now known as the city of Vancouver.
Key Details

LOCATION
The University of British Columbia
2329 West Mall
Vancouver, BC
V6T 1Z4

DATE AND HOURS
• June 1-7, 2019
• 8:00 AM until evening each day
• Dates, locations and times of specific events are in the online calendar of events and the onsite Congress Essentials guide—available in the Media Room—to assist you in planning your week.

MEDIA CONTACTS
The Congress media team is here to help. With over 5,000 papers being presented in one week, it can be difficult to know where to start. Let us know what topics you are interested in, and we can find the stories you are looking for.

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ACCREDITATION
Click here to become accredited using our online form.
Accreditation provides access to all Congress sessions, open events, and the on-site Media Room. Once on-site, you can register your attendance in the Media Room and do not need to go to the general Registration Desk.

If you’re unable to attend Congress in person, simply reach out to our media contacts for support. We can help set up telephone and Skype interviews, provide Congress researcher abstracts and share media releases.

MEDIA ROOM
Visit us in the Congress Media Room and tell us your beat. Staff and volunteers will connect you to the researchers and events that you want to cover.

Location: AMS Nest - NEST 2521 (located in the Congress Hub)

Hours:
June 1-6 - 9:00 to 17:00
June 7 - 9:00 to 12:00

Media services include a private interview room with phone line and Skype, computers, access to a database of researchers and abstracts, and staff and volunteers to assist media each day.

INTERNET ACCESS
Network name: Congress 2019
Password: Encore2019

SOCIAL MEDIA
Check out #CongreSSH to follow the conversation online.

Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences
TW @ideas_idees FB @ideas.idees

University of British Columbia
TW @UBC FB @universityofbc IG @universityofbc

And follow our student ambassadors on Twitter
Serena Chao @coriils
Sophia Yang @sophiaayangg
Dawson Franks @dawsonfranks
Events

**BIG THINKING SPEAKER SERIES**

The 2019 *Big Thinking* series will feature the arts as a platform to engage with scholarship in the humanities and social sciences. All *Big Thinking* events will be held in the Frederic Wood Theatre (see map page 11)

**ESI EDUGYAN**  
*Canadian novelist*  
**June 2 - 12:15 to 13:15**  
Join two-time Giller Prize winner Esi Edugyan in conversation with Minelle Mahtani as they discuss Edugyan’s fiction and issues of history, race, creativity, the nature of freedom, and voice. Who speaks for whom? Who listens? Who benefits? These questions will be springboards to talking about what/ whose stories get told, various kinds of storytelling, and artistic responsibility and accountability.

**SIMON BRAULT, O.C., O.Q.**  
*Director/CEO of the Canada Council for the Arts*  
**June 3 - 12:15 to 13:15**  
What is the price of reconciling freedom and responsibility in a changing democracy? The arts and culture are often conducive to creating spaces where discussions and encounters can take place, spaces which are increasingly rare in democracies bogged down with polarized opinions. These spaces rely on trust to ensure that the creative freedom of artists and the cultural rights of all citizens are exercised simultaneously and fully. Increasingly, the social responsibility of public organizations like the Canada Council for the Arts is linked to civic awareness, an understanding of society as a whole, a commitment to citizens and an ability to create spaces of trust. Join Simon Brault in a discussion on cultural citizenship, inclusiveness, equality and the price of change.

**STORYTELLING AND STRENGTH: VOICES FROM INDIGENOUS THEATRE IN CANADA**  
*Sylvia Cloutier, Margo Kane, Lindsay Lachance and Corey Payette*  
**June 5 - 12:15 to 13:15**  
This panel discussion brings together award-winning performers, writers, and directors to explore how their artistic process reconnects them with self, family and their cultural heritage and illuminates sometimes difficult questions. Panelists will discuss their artistry as a way to help express their identity and cultural practices, how they negotiate the inclusion of personal experiences in their projects, and how their work manifests their connections to their homelands and ancestral knowledges.

**DAVID SUZUKI AND IAN MAURO**  
*Beyond Climate: Science, storytelling and solutions*  
**June 4 - 19:00 to 21:00**  
Join two of Canada’s leading science and environmental communicators for a screening of their latest film, *Beyond Climate*, and engage with them in conversation about the role of film in research, community engagement, and solution-making. Addressing many of the pressing issues facing B.C. – from pipelines, liquified natural gas, salmon, and Indigenous rights – this film and *Big Thinking* event are timely contributions to the province and country as we grapple with climate change, the paramount issue of our time.

**STAN DOUGLAS**  
*Visual artist*  
**June 6 - 16:30 to 17:30**  
What does it mean to reconstruct moments of historical rupture through a modern lens? Join award-winning photographer Stan Douglas as he explores the boundaries of artistic expression in photographic depictions of the past. This presentation will examine artistic reconstructions of significant social moments that give a window to not only the past, but our perceptions of it. Come experience Douglas’ works of historical reconstruction and how they abandon 19th century photographic realism to make way for new perspectives of true historical events.

Stan Douglas is a visual artist who works in photography, video and theatre. Survey exhibitions of his work have been staged at major museums in North America and Europe and he is currently core faculty in the Graduate Fine Art Department of Art Center College of Design in Pasadena.
Exhibits, Discussions and Performances

The following is just a small selection of the many open events throughout Congress. See the full calendar, along with event locations, here.

PICTURE 'PERFECT': BLIND AMBITIONS
June 1-6 - 10:00 to 21:30 each day

A partnership between UBC’s Wingspan cluster and Kickstart Disability Arts and Culture, this project builds on the tidal waves of change and activism from disability artists, self-advocates, disability studies scholarship, and the human rights disability movements to explore the unique visions of artists with visual disabilities. Commemorating B.C.’s Accessibility Awareness month, we bring together noted artists with visual impairments and internationally renowned disability scholars for a week of ‘meditative mashups’ (http://wingspan.educ.ubc.ca/studio-live/). The exhibit mashups will present often unexpected profusions of colorful visions, rich textures, and imaginative creations by artists with visual disabilities whose work enticingly asks audiences, “Can you see, what I see?”

BEYOND WORDS: DICTIONARIES AND INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES
June 1-3 - 8:00 to 18:00 each day

This event is presented by the Canadian Language Museum. This exhibit highlights the complex relationship between Indigenous languages and dictionaries over several centuries, from word lists and dictionaries developed for exploration, colonization, conversion and assimilation purposes, to online language materials being developed by Indigenous communities to transmit the elders’ language knowledge to today’s youth.

UNLOAD: THEATRE WITH VETERANS
June 2-4 - 15:00 to 16:30 each day

“We all have things we need to unload,” says a military veteran in this 30-minute play portraying a powerful bond between two men who have respectively faced personal loss. When an actor asks his veteran friend to help him prepare to audition for the role of a soldier, they embark on a soul-searching journey to address difficult memories. Drawing on his ability to overcome challenges in and out of uniform, the veteran must guide the actor through an unspoken grief that has been haunting him for decades. The heart of the play invites audiences to witness a dramatized version of a group therapy model where individuals unload some of their ‘baggage,’ or trauma, to move forward with their lives. Filled with emotional truth and laughter, this moving and surprising play brings to life research on veterans transitioning home and the lived experience of civilians carrying trauma.
THE GALATEA PROJECT
June 2 - 16:00 to 17:00
June 4 - 14:00 to 15:00
Written for the Children of St. Paul’s acting company and staged before Queen Elizabeth, John Lyly’s Galatea (1588) is a play about two girls who fall in love. Set in Lincolnshire at the edge of a forest, upon land that is perpetually threatened by estuarial tides, this rarely seen play is also about climate change and human interaction with the environmental forces that both threaten and are threatened by human activity. The Congress presentation is a 45-minute Staged Reading that features a host of local professional actors and is produced in collaboration with Vancouver’s Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival. It will highlight the complex genealogy of some of Galatea’s most provocative themes, illuminating how early modern thinking on sexuality and the environment reaches forward.

THE SOCIOLOGY OF FOSSIL FUELS: A GLIMPSE INTO POWER, POLITICS AND INEQUALITY IN CANADA
June 3 - 15:30 to 17:00
Contentious politics plague the fossil fuel industry in North America. The Coastal GasLink pipeline in Northern British Columbia has met with opposition from Indigenous communities and many others in civil society, and the United States court system blocked the Keystone XL pipeline. Yet in both countries the federal governments continue to stand behind these projects. In the case of the Coastal GasLink project, our government is describing a $40 billion private investment to produce Canadian Liquid Natural Gas (to displace coal in Asia) as a boon to the environment. What are the social and environmental costs of fossil fuels? How do different actors in society bear the burden of these costs? How did we arrive at this moment, when private, fossil fuel companies have so much power over our governments?

SALAMANDER: CIRCLES, POOLS, FLOWS
June 3 - 12:00 to 15:00
Since May 2013, disabled people and their allies from around the world have climbed into pools and oceans together for Salamander workshops. We float together, enjoying complicated freedom, companionship and adventure. And we give ourselves to the pressures the waters exert on us. This workshop/participatory performance will happen in the pool (with some options to be part of the event from the pool’s side). Bring your swimming suit! We will engage in acts of caretaking and honoring, helping each other in and out of sensation and richness. If you are unsure if you can participate, just be in touch - we can likely find a way to support your participation in a form that is comfortable to you. After the water part (circa 30 minutes), we will gather nearby for communal writing and debriefing.

33 YEARS AFTER THE EMPLOYMENT EQUITY ACT: WHY ARE WE STILL HAVING THIS CONVERSATION?
June 3 - 15:30 to 17:00
Join leading experts as they discuss equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in the post-secondary sector, including what role do institutions play in change, how does intersectionality fit into this conversation, what is the path forward, and how can the made-in-Canada Athena SWAN program contribute to increasing EDI in this sector?
ROUNDTABLE: RECONCILIATION AS IF WOMEN MATTERED: COLONIALISM, PATRIARCHY, PRIVILEGE

June 4 - 12:00 to 13:20

If reconciliation is the priority issue for Canada’s governments, are Indigenous women’s particular experiences of the things for which we reconcile being taken into account? Participants will speak to some of the particularities of Indigenous women’s experiences with colonialism, and comment on how reconciliation discourse and propaganda functions to help or hinder Indigenous women.

Speakers:

• Fay Blaney, Private scholar, Aboriginal Women’s Action Network
• Shelagh Day, Private scholar, human rights advocate
• Isabel Altamirano-Jimenez, Professor of Political Science, University of Alberta

CLIMATE IMPACTS: OUR CHANGING ARCTIC ROUNDTABLE

June 5 - 10:30 to 12:00

Climate change is more advanced in the Arctic than anywhere else on Earth. It is also more visible there, because the difference between ice and water is just a fraction of one degree. But climate change is more than a matter of natural science. It affects the mental health of northerners, the cultural resilience of Indigenous peoples, efforts at reconciliation and self-government, and Canada’s relations with other states. This panel will examine the effects of climate change in the Arctic from the overlapping perspectives of Indigenous peoples, the social sciences, and the humanities.

Moderator: Michael Byers, UBC

Panel:

• Dalee Sambo Dorrough, International Chair, Inuit Circumpolar Council (climate change and Indigenous peoples)
• Anna Hudson, York University (climate change and culture)
• Tony Penikett, Simon Fraser University, and former Premier of the Yukon (climate change and Northern governance)
• Frédéric Lasserre, Université Laval (climate change and foreign policy)

CAN BIG DATA HELP FIX THE GENDER GAP IN CANADIAN MEDIA?

June 6 - 9:00 to 10:00

Depressing but true: the percentage of women quoted in some of Canada’s most influential news media has barely budged in 25 years. But Informed Opinions and researchers at Simon Fraser University are harnessing big data analytics to change that. Join Shari Graydon (Informed Opinions), Maite Taboada (SFU), and a special media guest to learn more about why male perspectives still outnumber women’s by a ratio of 3 to 1, what the consequences of the imbalance are, and how the new Gender Gap Tracker is motivating journalists to embrace the mantra of “what gets measured gets done.”
CULTIVATING KNOWLEDGE FOR CITIZENSHIP AND RULE IN DEMOCRACY

June 5 - 13:30 to 17:00

What kind of knowledge and character do citizens and statespersons need in a flourishing democracy? A dialogue between academics and practitioners will draw on the experience of UBC’s Summer Institute for Future Legislators to explore how to foster evidence-based policymaking, consensus-building, and ethical partisanship. This will be followed by practical exercises—media training, parliamentary simulations, role-playing—to showcase the experiential and experimental learning and mentoring that occurs in the Summer Institute. The program will end with a discussion of the role of public educational institutions as sources of ideas, evidence, and practical wisdom in politics.

13:30 - 15:00

Part 1 – A panel discussion with Carole Taylor, Preston Manning, Adriane Carr and Max Cameron, moderated by Kathryn Gretsinger.

15:00-17:00

Part 2 – The Summer Institute for Future Legislators: A demonstration of the use of role-playing and simulations, hosted by Gerry Baier.

PEDAGOGY HUB

June 1-6

A new feature for Congress 2019 will be the Pedagogy Hub, creating a physical and intellectual space for Circles of Conversation around teaching and learning, inviting crossover discussions among associations and disciplines. Programming includes: “anchor” talks, panels and interdisciplinary events on teaching and technologies, experience-based learning in infrastructure and curricula, events on current research in teaching large classes, teaching digital narratives, top five 2018 articles in pedagogy, and tours of the Emerging Technology Labs for teaching with virtual reality.
Frequently Asked Questions

Which associations are holding their annual conference at Congress 2019?
The 73 associations listed here are participating in Congress 2019.

Which events can I attend?
Accredited members of the media may attend all Congress sessions and all the events listed in the online calendar of open events as well as the lectures of all researchers who have opted into the Congress media outreach program, indicating that they wish to speak with media.

Which events are open to the public?
A. All the events listed in the online calendar of open events are open to the public.
Members of the public must obtain a complimentary Community Member Pass to attend Congress events.

How do I get to The University of British Columbia?
See the travel page for a list of transportation options.

I require accessible transportation and accommodation.
What services are available?
Together, the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and The University of British Columbia are committed to improving the Congress experience for attendees with disabilities and accessibility requirements. The full details about accessibility at Congress are posted here.

Where can I find information and videos from past Congresses?
Please visit the Federation’s website for information about previous Congresses and links to videos, blog posts and more.

Is there a Congress app?
Yes, there is! Go to your App Store and follow this process. Download the App "YourEvent-Powered by Zerista". Search for and select "Congress 2019" and download it. If prompted for a password, use "congressh".
Background Information

ABOUT CONGRESS
The Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences is the largest academic conference in Canada, and among the largest in the world. It brings together over 70 scholarly associations, each holding their annual conference under one umbrella. Now in its 88th year, this flagship event is much more than Canada’s largest gathering of scholars. Congress brings together academics, researchers, policy-makers, and practitioners to share findings, refine ideas, and build partnerships that will help shape the Canada of tomorrow.

Typically spanning seven days in late May and early June, and attracting over 8,000 attendees, Congress is organized by the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and hosted by a different Canadian university each year. The Federation, host university, scholarly associations and partners develop a full week of presentations, workshops, panels, public lectures, cultural events and receptions. It also features Canada’s largest academic trade show. The result? Luminaries, researchers, practitioners, policy-makers and students from across Canada and abroad meet, share ideas and engage in discussions that have direct importance for Canada and the lives of Canadians.

Congress programming is open to attendees, academics and non-academic audiences. From theatre research, literature studies and history to education, sociology and communications, Congress represents a unique showcase of scholarly excellence, creativity, and leadership.

THIS YEAR’S THEME
This year’s theme is “Circles of Conversation.” Amazing things happen when we break down barriers and make space for dialogue, debate, and dissent. Our theme reflects the need for conversations within and across communities, disciplines, and industries. Congress 2019 aims to foster and encourage circles of conversation among scholars, educators, students, political leaders, activists, and the public at large, so that people can speak with one another, listen and learn together. Specifically this year, the Big Thinking series will feature the arts as a platform to engage with scholarship in the humanities and social sciences.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
The University of British Columbia is a global centre for research and teaching, consistently ranked among the 40 best universities in the world – and top 20 public universities. Since 1915, the university has embraced innovation and academic rigour. UBC encourages its students, staff, and faculty to challenge convention, lead discovery, and explore new ways of learning.

Locally integrated and globally connected, the university has always been a place of community engagement. UBC creates an exceptional learning environment that fosters global citizenship, advances a civil and sustainable society, and supports outstanding research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada and the world. Among UBC faculty and alumni, you will find a number of Rhodes Scholars, Nobel Laureates, and three Canadian Prime Ministers.

The UBC campuses and operations are located on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Musqueam people (Point Grey campus), the Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil-Waututh peoples (Downtown Vancouver campus), and the Syilx Okanagan people (Okanagan campus).