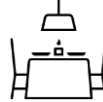


Theme Based Content!



Conference content will focus on four research themes: Theme 1: Clinical and Translational Health, Theme 2: Biomedical and Basic Sciences; Theme 3: Population and Public Health; and Theme 4: Humanities and Social Sciences



Join us at NOSM University!

The conference will take place in rooms MSE107 and MSE119. A selection of in-person posters will be available for viewing in the lobby of the HSERC building.



Wednesday, June 3, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.



NOSM University

935 Ramsey Lake Road, Sudbury, ON

Video Poster Presentations Available on NOSMtv!



- Watch the video posters on the NOSM U YouTube channel NOSMtv.
- Link to individual video posters included at the end of the agenda.



REGISTRATION FEES!

- Non-Learner In Person - \$100
- Learner In Person - \$50
- Non-Learner Virtual - \$25
- Learner Virtual - FREE



REGISTER NOW!

Visit the Conference Website for complete details!



Wednesday, June 3, 2026		NOSM University Sudbury, ON	
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration <i>MSE Lobby</i> Poster Set-Up <i>HSERC Lobby</i> Sponsorship Booth Set-Up <i>MSE Lobby</i> BREAKFAST <i>HSERC 109</i>		
9:05 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.	Opening Remarks & Opening Prayer <i>WebEx / MSE 107</i> <i>Dr. Michael Green, Dr. David Marsh, and Nookomis Julie Ozawagosh</i>		
Oral Presentations (WebEx and In Person)			
	<u>Theme 2: Biomedical and Basic Sciences²</u> <i>Session Chair: Dr. Chris Verschoor</i> MSE 107	<u>Theme 1: Clinical and Translational Health¹</u> <i>Session Chair: Dr. James Crispo</i> MSE 119	Equity-Orientated Training Workshop⁷ with the Dr. Gilles Arcand Centre for Health Equity <i>(in person only)</i> HSERC 105
9:55 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.	Dr. Richa Verma Microbial Ligand Production for Selective Indium Recovery	Diya Grover Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS) Exacerbation In The Setting Of COVID-19	
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Mitchell Slobodian Metabolism of Polyethylene terephthalate by a Novel Bacterial Consortium Produces Valuable By-Products	Dr. Emmanuel Abara Small Cell Carcinoma of Prostate A 35 year Experience in a Northern Ontario Urology Practice	
10:35 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.	NUTRITION BREAK <i>HSERC 109</i> Poster Viewing <i>HSERC Lobby, NOSM University YouTube</i>		
Oral Presentations (WebEx and In Person)			
	<u>Theme 2: Biomedical and Basic Sciences²</u> <i>Session Chair: Dr. Chris Verschoor</i> MSE 107	<u>Theme 3: Population and Public Health³</u> <i>Session Chair: Dr. James Crispo</i> MSE 119	



<p>10:55 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.</p>	<p><i>Cameron Hourtovenko</i> Effects of High-Dose Gestational Irradiation on Fetal Brain Development: Structural and Transcriptomic Insights</p>	<p><i>Dr. Jenna Meagher</i> Quality Control Audit: How well does the North Bay Regional Health Center Outpatient Eating Disorders Program Comply with Provincial Quality Standards</p>	<p>Equity-Orientated Training Workshop⁷ with the Dr. Gilles Arcand Centre for Health Equity <i>(in person only)</i> HSERC 105</p>
<p>11:15 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Ashtyn Mowbray</i> Investigating the Molecular and Histological Effects of Low-Dose Radon Exposure in Mice</p>	<p><i>Sydney Gill</i> Co-Developing a Culturally Responsive Health Literacy Profile for Northern Ontario Communities</p>	
<p>11:35 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.</p>	<p><i>Jaume Puig</i> Global Consistency of Biological Responses to Sub-Terrestrial Low-Background Radiation Environments: The Global Underground Yeast (GUY) Project</p>	<p><i>Meagan McGaughey</i> Exploring the Impact of Plastic Surgeon Shortages Among Patients and Plastic Surgeons in Northern Ontario</p>	
<p>11:55 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Nico Simon</i> The Role of Retinol Saturase in Cellular Bioenergetics</p>	<p><i>Dr. Aruba Nurullah</i> Intended Practice Setting of Current General Surgery Residents</p>	
<p>12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.</p>	<p>LUNCH HSERC 109</p> <p>Hallway Conversations (In Person Only)</p> <p>Poster Viewing HSERC Lobby, NOSM University YouTube</p> <hr/> <p>Partners in Research Lunch⁶ with the Dr. Gilles Arcand Centre for Health Equity: <i>Building Capacity in Patient-Oriented Research: Advancing Health Equity in Northern Ontario</i> HSERC 105, 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.</p>		
<p>1:50 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Keynote Address⁵ WebEx / MSE 107</u></p> <p><i>Beyond the Map: Equity in Cancer Clinical Trial Access and Financial Toxicity in Northern and Rural patients</i></p> <p><i>Presenter: Dr. Lacey Pitre</i></p> <p><i>Session Chair: Dr. Sujeenthara Tharmalingam</i></p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Oral Presentations (WebEx and In Person)</p>			
<p><u>Theme 2: Biomedical and Basic Sciences²</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Session Chair: Dr. Alex Moise</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">MSE 107</p>		<p><u>Theme 3: Population and Public Health³</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Session Chair:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">MSE 119</p>	



2:55 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.	Robert Dingley Utilizing Fluorescent Probes to Measure NO, CO, and H ₂ S Production in Live Cells	Shrid Dhungel Caregiving in Rural Ontario
3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Dr. Gustavo Ybazeta Wastewater-informed early warning of inpatient outbreak risk using hospital inpatients and machine learning	Douglas Newhouse Assessing AI-NORTH: The Outcomes of Building a Research, Education, and Community Engagement Network for Inclusive and Ethical Artificial Intelligence (AI) Innovation in Northern Ontario Health Systems
3:35 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.	NUTRITION BREAK HSERC 109 Poster Viewing HSERC Lobby, NOSM University YouTube	
Oral Presentations (WebEx and In Person)		
	<u>Theme 2: Biomedical and Basic Sciences²</u> <i>Session Chair: Dr. Alex Moise</i> MSE 107	<u>Theme 3: Population and Public Health^{3/}</u> <u>Theme 4: Humanities and Social Sciences⁴</u> <i>Session Chair:</i> MSE 119
3:55 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.	Dr. Karolina Czajka Persistent Oral Candida Infections: Clinical Presentation and Antifungal Resistance in Older Northern Ontario Adults.	Dr. Banibrata Roy Future Trends and the Economic Burden of Dementia in Manitoba: Comparison with the Rest of Canada and the World
4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Lindsay Yu Investigating cell-specific DNA-damage responsive long non-coding RNA (lncRNA)	Amos Tunji-Ajayi The Diabetes Connections Initiative: Co-designing a model of care for improving diabetes prevention and treatment with First Nations communities in Canada through empowerment, autonomy and ownership for health and wellbeing
4:35 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.	Michael Reich Investigating Genetic Drivers and Therapeutic Reversal of Multidrug Resistance in <i>Candidozyma auris</i>	Dr. Jessica Jurgutis What Is Socially Accountable Research? Mapping the Landscape Through a Scoping Review
4:55 p.m. – 5:10 p.m.	Emma Mageau Investigating the Molecular Mechanisms of Therapy Resistance in Colorectal Cancer	Dr. Kerri Delaney Evaluating Obesity Care Competencies and Teaching Strategies Among Canadian Medical Students
5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.	Awards, Closing Remarks & Prayer WebEx / MSE 107 Dr. Sujeenthar Tharmalingam and Nookomis Julie Ozawagosh	



Session Learning Objectives

Theme 1 – Clinical and Translational Health¹

Research Priorities: Cardiovascular ♦ Cancer ♦ Surgery ♦ Primary Care

1. Describe current research in cardiovascular, cancer, surgery, and primary care.
2. Identify strengths and limitations of cardiovascular, cancer, surgery, and primary care research.
3. Assess and analyze cardiovascular, cancer, surgery, and primary care research and potential impact on clinical practice.

Theme 2 – Biomedical and Basic Sciences²

Research Priorities: Environmental Health ♦ Physiology, Biological Systems and Functions ♦ Disease Process, Diagnostics and Therapeutics

1. Describe current research in environmental health, physiology, biological systems and functions, disease process, and diagnostics and therapeutics.
2. Identify strengths and limitations of environmental health, physiology, biological systems and functions, disease process, and diagnostics and therapeutics research.
3. Assess and analyze environmental health, physiology, biological systems and functions, disease process, and diagnostics and therapeutics research and potential impact on clinical practice.

Theme 3 – Population and Public Health³

Research Priorities: Chronic Disease ♦ Rural Medicine ♦ Health Services ♦ Social Determinants of Health

1. Describe current research in chronic disease, rural medicine, health services, and social determinants of health.
2. Identify strengths and limitations of chronic disease, rural medicine, health services, and social determinants of health research.
3. Assess and analyze chronic disease, rural medicine, health services, and social determinants of health research and potential impact on clinical practice.

Theme 4 – Humanities and Social Sciences⁴

Research Priorities: Indigenous Peoples' Health ♦ Francophone Health ♦ Health Professions Education

1. Describe current research in Indigenous Peoples' health, Francophone health and health professions education.
2. Identify strengths and limitations of Indigenous Peoples' health, Francophone health and health professions education research.
3. Assess and analyze Indigenous Peoples' health, Francophone health and health professions education care research and potential impact on clinical practice.

Keynote Address⁵

1. Oncologic Clinical Trials in the Northeast: How do we choose them, how do we open them and do patients really benefit from this access?
2. Investigator-led trials in Oncology: How do we develop them, how do we fund them and do patients really benefit from this access?
3. Geographic equity in Clinical trials: More tribulations than trials really...
4. What is financial toxicity? Can we estimate the financial burden faced by our Northern cancer patients and can we compare it to our Southern counterparts effectively?



Partners in Research Lunch⁶ with the Dr. Gilles Arcand Centre for Health Equity

1. Develop an understanding of the basic principles of patient-partnered/community-oriented work
2. Learn key insights into how to effectively build and foster meaningful relationships in partnered research
3. Understand strategies for co-creating and producing at each stage of the research cycle.

Equity-Orientated Training Workshop⁷ with the Dr. Gilles Arcand Centre for Health Equity

1. Define social accountability in research and explain its relevance across disciplines and contexts.
2. Identify strategies for meaningful partnership engagement, including co-design and participatory approaches.
3. Apply health equity principles to research design and implementation.
4. Evaluate ethical considerations and power dynamics in researcher–community relationships.
5. Develop knowledge mobilization plans that ensure findings are accessible and useful to research partners.
6. Create an action plan to integrate socially accountable practices into their own research projects.

Poster Exhibitions

Online on NOSMtv – the NOSM University YouTube Channel with a selection available in person in the HSERC Lobby

Station #	Poster Title
Theme 1 – Clinical and Translational Research¹	
---	Dr. Emmanuel Abara - Genitourinary Injuries in Abdomino-pelvic Surgery
---	Ayesha Abubakr - In Silico Modeling of Phage-Based Nanocarrier A20FMDV2-T4 for Targeted NSCLC Therapy
---	Amanda Bakke - Differences in Mental Healthcare Utilization Among Children and Youth in Ontario: Interrupted Time-series Analysis of Population-based Data Abstract
1	Caden Caputo - Hypoxia-Mediated Radiation Resistance in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer: The Role of HIFs and PHD2
---	Noah Dickinson - The Development of Patient-Specific Circulating Tumor DNA Assays for the Prediction of Human Colorectal Cancer Relapse
---	Kassandre Kelly - Functional Validation of Candidate Genes Associated with Radioresistance in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer
---	Taylor Laframboise - Effects of Natural Background Radiation on Oxidative DNA Damage, Gene Expression, and Carcinogenesis in Human CGL1 Cells
2	Chelsea Leduc - Investigating the Role of ZEB2 and TRNAU1AP Upregulation in Radiation Resistance of Triple Negative Breast Cancer Cells
---	Robin Noyce - Impact of Adding Slow-Release Oral Morphine During Methadone Induction on Patient Retention: A Retrospective Cohort Study
---	Similoluwa Olufowobi - Investigating the Molecular Mechanisms Underlying Radiation Resistance in Colorectal Cancer Cells
---	Maxwell Robinson - Advancing contextualized analytics in a Northwestern Ontario learning health system by using machine learning to improve diabetes healthcare.
---	Christopher Rosso - Dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase (DPYD) genetic testing and treatment with 5-fluoropyrimidines in cancer patients: Prevalence of variants with decreased activity and chemotherapy outcomes
---	Paige Stevenson - ANHP OHT "Screening and Prevention On Time for Cancer (SPOT-Cancer)": Strategy to Increase and Enhance Cancer Screening in the ANHP OHT Region
3	Kelvi Toskovich - Thunder Bay Regional On-Call Cardiology Support Service Utilization Analysis Of: Call Indications, Community Expertise, and Resource Limitation
---	Flore Van Leemput - Understanding the Influence of Homeostatic Dysregulation on Immunotherapy-Related Toxicity in Older Adults with Cancer
Theme 2 – Biomedical and Basic Sciences²	
4	Yamamah Al-Jumaili – Northern Ontario Candida Isolates Showcase Strain-Specific Transcriptional Responses Play a Role in Azole Resistance
---	Aditya Barot - Microbial Responses to Germanium Stress for the Identification of Selective Germanium-Binding Ligands
---	Asma Bilgasem - Current Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAATs) for Candida Species Identification: A Systematic Review of Diagnostic Performance
---	Barack Chengula - Investigating the Impact of Age-related Chronic Inflammation and Epigenetic Alterations on Monocyte Function
---	Ronan Derbowka - miRNA as Biomarkers of Radiation Exposure

5	Chibike Ijomah - From Bench to Bedside in Northern Ontario: Expanding Clinical Validation of a Rapid LAMP-Based Assay for Fluconazole Resistance in Candida
---	Amanda Keursten - Bioremediation and Sequestration of Gallium from Mining Tailings using <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>
---	James Lee - Catecholamine Biosynthesis and Regulation in PC12 Cells: The Effects of Androgen and SRY
6	Merveille Madeda - Deregulated ATRA signalling: role of DHRS3 in osteogenesis
7	Anu Nair - Rapid Point-of-Care Detection of Fluconazole-Resistant Candida in Oral Candidiasis
8	Aria Pourham - Radiation Effects of Radon Exposure on Gut Microbiome Composition and Ileal Histology in Wild-Type and p53 Heterozygous Mice
---	Lexi Ransom - Urban-Rural Differences in Sustainable Perioperative Practices: A Pilot Study Using the CASCADES Scorecard in Northern Ontario
9	Hayden Reaume - Investigating the role of naturally-occurring ionizing radiation - implications in health and regulatory policy
---	Dr. Brian Ross - Sacrament, Ritual Containment, and Healing: Santo Daime Practice and Implications for Psychedelic-Assisted Psychotherapy
---	Dr. Gerusa Senhorinho – Green Microalgae Cultivated in Extreme Environments Exhibit Anticancer Potential Against Breast and Ovarian Cancer
---	Hafsa Siddiqui - Valence-Dependent Effects of Visual Arousal on Auditory Detection
10	Emma Stringer - Exploring Epithelial Cell Response to Ionizing Radiation Exposure and Potential Mitigation Strategies for Gastrointestinal Injury
---	Félix Tubin - Cranial polyneuropathy and severe disseminated herpes zoster in immunocompromised patients
---	Gerardo Vazquez Del Angel - Modeling Low-Dose TNF Conditioning in Monocytes: Implications for Inflammaging
---	Dr. Gustavo Ybazeta - Wastewater integrated surveillance for cancer risk signals in Northern Ontario
Theme 3 – Population and Public Health³	
---	Mohamed Alzahrán - Assessing the Financial Impact of Medically Necessary Travel for Rural Northern Ontario Residents
---	Angelina Curwin - Emergency Department Management of Substance Use Disorder: A PRISMA Compliant Systematic Review
---	Dr. Elaine Laberge - Two Projects Examining Health, Mental Health, and Empowerment in a Northern Canadian City
---	Emilie Labranche - Examining regional physician practice patterns to inform workforce planning in Northern Ontario: a population-based study using administrative data
---	Dr. Nancy Lightfoot - Does silica exposure in minerals industry underground workers increase the risk of rheumatoid arthritis?
11	Taylor McCharles - A Qualitative Case Study of Interprofessional Education for Health Professional Students and Practitioners who Treat Rheumatoid Arthritis in Northern Ontario
---	Meagan McGaughey - Isolation Precautions and Emergency Department Time to Inpatient Bed: A Quality Improvement Study
---	Josh McGonegal - An Evaluation of Follow-Up Care Practices for Adult Childhood Cancer Survivors in Ontario
12	Dr. Amaka Odega – Impact of the Rapid Access Addiction Medicine (RAAM) Clinic on Hospital Utilization Trends Among Patients with Substance Use Disorders in Sault Ste. Marie
---	Emily Pynn - Understanding Burn Injury Management in Northern Ontario Emergency Departments
---	Dr. Brian Ross - Equity and Readiness in Healthcare Artificial Intelligence: Perspectives from Rural and Remote Northern Ontario



NORTHERN HEALTH RESEARCH CONFERENCE

---	Angelica Uy - Development of a CQI Dataset for Unhoused Patients as Part of a Learning Health and Social Services System
Theme 4 – Humanities and Social Sciences⁴	
---	Dr. Brian Ross - Strengths and Resilience During Medical Education: Cross-Cohort Findings
---	Allison Jones - AI Scribes in Clinical Medical Education: A Threat or Opportunity to Learning the Art of Medicine
---	Cassandra Whymark - Mapping Community Research Networks for Health Equity: A GIS & Social Network Analysis of Northern Ontario’s Nourishing Health Education Coalition