

Research on Adolescents and Adults: If Not Now, When?

7th National Biennial Conference on Adolescents and Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

April 6 - 9, 2016 | The Hyatt Regency Vancouver | Vancouver, BC

Description

Although there have been thousands of published articles in FASD in general, there has been limited research *specifically* on adolescents and adults with FASD or on individuals across the lifespan. As those individuals diagnosed with FASD continue to age, the “need to know” across a broad spectrum of areas is becoming critically important for identifying clinically relevant research questions and directions. This is especially true for questions which answers have the potential to prevent the long-lasting effects of fetal alcohol exposure on cognition, behaviour, physical and mental health, addiction, immune function, and metabolism, and to improve quality of life.

Arising from the work of previous conferences and experience-based practices, there is a clear need to examine relevant global research (especially in areas that are new and emerging in animal models and both basic and clinical science), literature, programs and policies and the ethics surrounding them with implications for the future. What do the highlights of existing or emerging research tell us? Are the results transferable from country to country and/or from laboratory to real life? Are there clinical implications of results from any of these areas of which we should be aware? What are the changes in our thinking, practice and directions that will be required to improve outcomes? What are the ethical issues and implications for the future?

This interactive 2016 conference will provide an opportunity to be at the forefront of addressing these issues. We will leverage the experience of the diverse group of professionals, researchers, students, families and individuals with FASD who attend to stimulate the discussion of research, evidence for practice, models, and ideas to expand our knowledge of how we can sustain and enhance the lives of those with FASD.

Goals and Objectives

- Identify, explore and examine existing, new and emerging research and the implications for those with FASD, families and caregivers, systems and services
- Connect the identified needs of community workers, healthcare providers, and families with the research community
- Discuss emerging research findings and how they might better assist ethical policy and decision making and the development of integrated and collaborative approaches across systems
- Examine practice-based evidence, projects and programs to understand the potential connections to research and potential longitudinal studies
- Engage in knowledge exchange and dialogue through sessions, networking and the direct experience of those with FASD

Audience

The conference will be essential for those living or working with adults with FASD. It will also be of critical interest for those supporting adolescents with FASD and planning for their futures. It will be of particular interest to the following professionals/individuals noted below. And as always, we are honoured to have individuals with FASD as our guests.

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| • Administrators/Managers | • Government Officials | • Private/Public Funders |
| • Alcohol & Drug Workers | • Housing Officials/Providers | • Program Providers |
| • Corrections Workers | • Individuals with FASD | • Psychiatrists |
| • Counsellors | • Judges | • Psychologists |
| • Educators/Administrators | • Lawyers | • Researchers |
| • Elected Officials/Hereditary Officials | • Members of Faith Communities | • Social Service Providers |
| • Employment Services | • Mental Health Specialists | • Social Workers |
| • Ethicists | • Nurses | • Speech Language Pathologists |
| • Family Members | • Occupational Therapists | • Spouses/Partners |
| • Financial Planners | • Physicians | • Students |
| • First Nations, Metis and Inuit Communities | • Police Officers | • Vocational Rehab Service Providers |
| | • Policymakers | |

Hotel Information

The Hyatt Regency Vancouver | 655 Burrard Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6C 2R7 | +1.604.683.1234 | 1.800.421.1442
Please reserve your room under ‘Adults with FASD 2016 Conference’ at a special rate of \$165.00 + taxes until February 10, 2016 for single/double occupancy. The price will increase to \$173.00 after that date.

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Deadline for Submissions

Abstracts must be received on or before **September 11, 2015**, via the online submission form at interprofessional.ubc.ca. Submissions from students are strongly encouraged.

Format

3-hour half-day sessions or **90-minute sessions**

15-minute oral papers

Oral papers should be succinct presentations of innovative projects or research and should address a relevant conference topic area.

Posters

Posters will be displayed for the duration of the conference. Poster board size is 4'x8' (1.2x2.4m); all materials must fit within this space.

Requirements

Please include the following information: title, author(s), presenter(s), presentation level (beginner, intermediate or advanced), full address, phone number, email address, organizations, affiliations, a brief biography outlining your FASD experience (75 words max.), presentation summary including 2-4 learning objectives (500 words max.), format style (see above), primary topic area (see below). If you are submitting a 3-hr or 90-min session, please provide a brief 50-word description to be inserted into the program brochure if your abstract is accepted for presentation.

NEW for 2016: If you are submitting a 3-hr/90-min session or 15-min oral presentation, please describe how your presentation will address the following question: What question(s) has your work identified or what has arisen from your experience that research may be able to answer?

For presenters of accepted abstracts, the conference does not cover honoraria, accommodation, travel or other associated expenses. However, the primary presenter of 3-hour/ 90-minute abstracts will receive complimentary registration to the conference (~\$600 value). Additional presenters, including oral paper and poster presenters, will be asked to register. Presenters must be comfortable presenting and answering questions in English. Accepted presenters should presuppose prior audience knowledge of FASD.

Topic Areas

Submissions are encouraged in a wide variety of topics, as they apply to older adolescents and adults, including but not limited to the following topic areas. Please choose one primary category which best fits your presentation:

- Addictions
- Advocacy
- Assessment
- Case Management
- Community Collaboration
- Diagnosis
- Education
- Emotional Well-Being
- Employment
- Ethno-Cultural
- Family Support
- Financial Planning
- Health Care
- Housing
- Justice/Legal
- Leisure/Recreation/Friendship
- Mental Health
- Parenting
- Physical Health Issues
- Research
- Safety/Security
- Sexuality
- Social Services
- Spiritual
- Transition
- Trauma
- Treatment
- Other

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