

Sustaining Writing in a Time of Crisis CASDW/ACR's 2024 Call for Proposals

The [Canadian Association for Studies in Discourse and Writing/Association canadienne de rédactologie](#) (CASDW-ACR) enthusiastically invites proposals for presentations, roundtables, or workshops for its 2024 conference. We invite proposals engaging all topics related to writing studies and discourse studies, and other fields that are relevant to the study of discourse and writing, such as:

- multiliteracies
- L2 language writing
- doctoral writing
- undergraduate writing
- scholarly communication
- writing in the professions
- technical writing
- writing and the scholarship of teaching and learning
- rhetorical genre studies
- rhetorical theory
- rhetorical analysis
- discourse analysis
- writing centre theory and practice
- communication
- applied linguistics
- literacies studies
- writing assessment
- and/or the pedagogy of professional and technical writing

We are especially interested in receiving submissions that address this year's conference theme: ***Sustaining Writing in a Time of Crisis***. Inspired by Congress 2024's focus on [Sustaining Shared Futures](#), we invite you to explore how the act and study of writing might thrive in a time of great change. With all the technological, environmental, geopolitical, and economic emergencies on the horizon, how can writing and discourse studies remain vital, and what role might they play in helping us navigate these challenges? As a starting point, we offer the following questions for consideration:

- What role can writing and writing studies play in local and global sustainability movements?
- How does writing sustain individuals and communities in times of crisis and uncertainty?
- What value does the rhetoric of "sustainability" have for confronting current global crises?
- How are Indigenous authors using writing to sustain cultural and linguistic knowledge?
- How can we create a sustainable future for writing and discourse studies?
- How can our fields adapt to and/or incorporate technological advances?
- What is the value of (teaching) writing when generative AI can execute many writing tasks?
- How can prioritizing diversity in our field help to sustain writing studies?
- How do we sustain organizations like CASDW in times of increasing austerity?
- How can students develop sustainable writing practices that persist beyond the semester?
- How can writing instructors sustain energy in the face of job conditions that lead to burnout?
- What does sustainable writing instruction look like for exploited international students?
- How can we sustain students who are neurodivergent or living with disabilities?

[Proposal Submission Form](#)

[More information over the page...](#)

Types of proposals welcomed

Research presentation (15-20 minutes followed by a Q&A with the audience)

Presentations on innovative approaches to teaching and assessment in writing and discourse studies (15 minutes followed by Q&A with the audience)

Roundtable discussion on a topic of major interest (3-7 presenters, 1 hour including Q&A with audience)

Workshop leading participants through a significant discussion or learning activity, on a topic significant in our fields of research and/or teaching (1 hour, interactive with audience)

5-minute lightning presentation, highlighting one significant question, problem, or idea in our field

How to submit a proposal

DUE DATE

Proposals in English or French of up to 300 words, plus references, are due **by 15 January 2024**.

WHAT INFORMATION TO INCLUDE

In your proposal, please describe the scholarly or teaching context surrounding your work, the study or argument you plan to discuss, the type of evidence or examples you will show, and why the ideas you will present are significant and of interest to this association.

If you are proposing to showcase an approach to teaching or assessment, please show how you plan to contextualize your approach in current research.

If you are proposing a roundtable discussion, please indicate what specific expertise and perspective each presenter will bring.

If you are proposing a workshop, please outline the activities you will lead and explain why the topic is likely to be significant for our members.

HOW TO SUBMIT

To submit your proposal, complete this [submission form](#) and paste the text of your proposal into the form. The submission form will request the following information:

Your name, preferred pronouns, and contact information, and those of any co-presenters

The title of your proposal

Your status as student, faculty member, or independent scholar, and any university you are affiliated with

Whether you plan to present in person or remotely

(Optional) Whether you are a student who identifies as Black, Indigenous, or as a person of colour, so that we may plan to waive your conference registration fee

(Optional) Whether you will require certain accommodations in order to present and participate in the Q&A discussion

[Proposal submission form](#)

[More info about the 2024 conference over the page...](#)

About the 2024 CASDW-ACR Conference

IN-PERSON LOCATION

As part of Congress, our conference will take place at McGill University, which is situated in the heart of downtown Montréal, a city famous for its food and its cosmopolitan urban culture. It is within easy walking distance of Montreal’s Number 1 [subway line](#).

DATES

Our three-day conference will be held **Saturday, June 15th to Monday, June 17th, 2024**. We are planning for three days of featured speakers and conference sessions, with ample breaks and opportunities for conversation and community-building. There will be no concurrent sessions; this will allow us to make sure that participants joining remotely can access all presentations.

MODE: AN EXPERIMENTAL NEW SIMPLIFIED HYBRID

Our 2023 hybrid conference brought together in-person and virtual participants in shared, fully synchronous dialogue. York University and Congress hosts supported the virtual dimension of our conference with technology and staff expertise. We enjoyed an array of wonderful presentations, and it was fantastic to bring our community together in full hybrid style.

Feedback after the 2023 conference indicated that our membership is dedicated to making our meetings accessible, including by supporting virtual presentations and attendance. But members also expressed frustration about the slow pace and stilted conversation in hybrid Q&A sessions – particularly when we only have a few microphones. Also, Congress 2024 at McGill University is not supporting hybrid sessions: it is almost entirely in-person, and associations that wish to offer a virtual dimension must do so with their own technology, expertise, and budget. (CASDW/ACR is rich in linguistic and rhetorical expertise, but we have very modest material means.)

So this year, we’re trying something slightly different:

While participants may present and attend presentations in-person or virtually (like last year), there will be two asymmetrical ways to participate in the Q&A sessions following each presentation: Q&A sessions will be divided into two conversations – one in-person, one online – with the potential for later feedback from one to the other. We hope to get the best out of each mode’s inherent upsides, and allow all presenters and participants to be heard, while avoiding some of the downsides of hybrid. Virtual participants will pay a reduced registration fee.

In-Person Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Join us at McGill University in Montréal from June 15th-17th, 2024, and take part in Congress 2024● Present simultaneously to in-person and online audiences● Attend all presentations● Enjoy a free-flowing conversation with other in-person participants during Q&A session
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relay your questions to virtual presenters asynchronously ● Partake of in-person social events and some catering
Virtual Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Join us online from June 15th-17th, 2024 ● Present simultaneously to in-person and online audiences ● Attend all presentations ● Enjoy a moderated online conversation, by speaking or writing in the chat, with other virtual participants during the Q&A sessions ● Relay your questions to in-person presenters asynchronously ● Partake of online social events

FEES

In order to participate in the conference, all conference participants will need to pay CASDW-ACR 2024 membership fees and the CASDW-ACR 2024 conference registration fee. In-person participants will also need to pay a third fee, the Congress registration fee.

Current CASDW-ACR membership fees are

Regular membership \$50

Student (with student ID)/retired/unsalaried membership \$35

[See the CASDW/ACR website for membership information](#)

CASDW-ACR 2023 conference registration fees will depend on whether you are joining in person or virtually:

	In person as part of Congress at McGill University		Virtual
Employed full-time	\$ 110		\$ 50
Post-doc or employed seasonally, part-time, or on contract	\$ 30		\$ 20
Student, K-12 educator, retired, or unemployed	\$ 20		\$ 0
BIPOC student	\$ 0		\$ 0

Congress [registration fees](#) are:

	Early-bird registration (by March 31)	Regular pre-conference registration (up to June 11)
Employed full-time	\$210	\$255
Post-doc or employed part-time/on contract	\$160	\$205
Student, K-12 educator, retired, or unemployed	\$80	\$105
Black or Indigenous student	\$0	\$0

For more information, please contact:

- Dr. Sarah Banting, CASDW-ACR VP and Conference Convenor, sbanting@mtroyal.ca
- Dr. Joel Heng Hartse, CASDW-ACR President, joel_hengharts@sfu.ca

[Proposal submission form](#)