

**Canadian Disability Studies Association -
Association Canadienne des Études sur l'Incapacité (CDSA-ACEI)
2016 Conference**

Energizing Communities

**Saturday, May 28- Monday, May 30, 2016
University of Calgary, Calgary AB, Canada**

***This conference is organized as part of the 2016 Congress of the
Humanities and Social Sciences.***

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS: December 7, 2015

“Community stands for the kind of world which is not, regrettably, available to us—but which we would dearly wish to inhabit and we hope to repossess” (Bauman, 2001, p. 3).

Our communities exist in classrooms, work places, the streets, cyberspace, public spaces, institutions, and hospitals. We have scholarly communities, activist communities, athletic communities, artistic communities, and more. We enact communities with other disabled, Deaf, and mad people, allies, families, and workers; and they are forged through academic, artistic, activist, athletic, historic, institutional, and online connections. We energize our communities in many ways: through crip labour, mad love, desire, needs for connections, and investments in futurity. At the same time, we think critically about how the requirement to energize reflects a neoliberal, ableist logic.

This year’s “Energizing Communities” theme reflects the University of Calgary’s commitment to community engagement at local, regional, national, and international levels as well as the city of Calgary’s position as the centre of Canada’s energy industry. We think with and interrogate this industry for its social, economic, and environmental affects in has on our communities. Read more about this year’s Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities here: <http://congress2016.ca>.

This year's theme is one that can be taken up by and challenged through disability studies, Deaf studies, and mad studies. The Canadian Disability Studies Association-Association Canadienne des Études sur l'Incapacité (CDSA-ACEI) invites abstracts for panels, papers, workshops, and artistic contributions that reflect on the meaning of community and interrogate the many ways we energize, contribute to, build, and live within our disability, Deaf, mad communities, and the other communities of which we are a part. We also invite submissions that trouble the normative terms through which the act of energizing is often defined.

CDSA-ACEI is pleased to announce that the conference program will feature a keynote presentation by Dr. Claudia Malacrida. Dr. Malacrida is a Board of Governors Research Chair and Professor in Sociology at the University of Lethbridge in Canada. She is the author of several books on disability, health, and the body, including *A Special Hell: Institutional Life in Alberta's Eugenic Years* (University of Toronto Press), *Mourning the Dreams: Miscarriage, Stillbirth and Early Infant Death* (Left Coast Press), *Sociology of the Body: A Reader* (Oxford University Press), and *Cold Comfort: Mothers, Professionals and ADHD* (University of Toronto Press). Malacrida is currently engaged in two research projects. *Eugenics to Newgenics in Alberta* explores the continuities and disjunctions between historical eugenic actions and current responses to disabled people's sexuality and reproduction. *Childbirth and Choice* examines the cultural, structural, moral, social, and discursive contexts that both constrain and produce women's childbirth experiences.

CDSA-ACEI calls for works that examine the following question:

How have our communities been energized and shaped by our scholarship, activism, arts practices, histories, and geographic locations?

Prospective presenters may want to consider the following questions:

- What are the current occupations, tensions, fissures, and points of interest in disability, Deaf, and mad studies and struggles?
- What are the current occupations, tensions, fissures, and points of interest that result from placing disability, Deaf, and mad studies in sustained tension, conversation, conflict, or collaboration with anti-

- racist, anti-colonial, feminist, queer, trans, and/or anti-capitalist studies and struggles?
- How do we create and participate in communities on Aboriginal territories, reserves, and unceded land, particularly in the context of the 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Report?
 - How have our communities been affected by, and responded to, segregation and institutionalization in asylums, residential schools, prisons, special education classrooms, labour camps, and displacement, both historically and contemporarily?
 - How do energy industries and their political, social, and environmental impacts produce disability or debility (Puar, 2012)? How can we celebrate and cultivate disability, Deaf, and mad pride alongside a political critique of those political, economic, and social conditions that disproportionately kill, injure, disable, and debilitate persons already marginalized by racism, colonialism, and capitalism?
 - In what ways do policies establish and shape the possibilities for our communities? How do bureaucracies affect our ability to commune?
 - How might disability, Deaf, and mad communities help us imagine a futurity in Canada, particularly in light of the recent Carter decision on physician-assisted suicide?
 - How are we energizing concepts of desiring disability, “intimate citizenship” (Liddiard, 2013; Plummer, 2003), crip sexuality, mad love, etc.?

Works and works in progress may take the form of reflections, empirical studies, statistical analyses, theorizing, cultural critique, methodological developments, professional or pedagogical interventions, and artistic, activist, and performance pieces.

We invite abstracts that reflect disability studies, Deaf studies and mad studies perspectives, as well as those that engage points of connection and contradiction with other critical fields of study and struggle. Abstracts that demonstrate a connection to the theme “Energizing Communities” will be prioritized. This year’s conference aims to advance disability, Deaf, and mad studies and culture by reflecting on our scholarly fields, professional pursuits, and artistic and activist interventions.

This call for abstracts also extends a special invitation to community members and undergraduate students to submit abstracts for works and works in progress. Instructors, professors and community leaders are encouraged to share the call with their students, colleagues and comrades, and co-submit where appropriate. Submissions are peer-reviewed by panels composed of university and college faculty and students and community members.

All submissions must identify which of the following thematic streams their abstract falls into:

1. Open Calls for Submissions

Abstracts that share explorations within the fields of disability studies, Deaf studies, and mad studies or that adopt these perspectives but may not directly relate to the overarching conference theme of “Energizing Communities.”

2. Historical Communities

This theme broadly explores the ideas and institutions that have historically shaped possibilities for communities. We welcome submissions exploring historical perspectives of disability, Deafness, and madness as they relate to:

- Institutionalization/incarceration and de-institutionalization/de-carceration (e.g., custodial, residential, and community-based long term care)
- Historical policies and practices, including eugenics and “Newgenics” (Malacrida, 2015)
- Colonization, imperialism, and war
- Residential schools and hospitals, treaty claims and struggles, and the Truth and Reconciliation Tribunal and Report
- Religion and spirituality

3. Enacting Communities, Enacting Alterities

This theme broadly explores ways of enacting communities in the spaces

and places we occupy. We welcome submissions exploring disability, Deafness, and madness as they relate to:

- Phenomenology and interpretive imaginings
- Utopias and dis/dystopias
- Work (e.g., employment; workplace accommodations; educational; skills and professional development programs for disabled, Deaf, labeled, and mad workers)
- Institutionalization/incarceration and de-institutionalization/decarceration (e.g., custodial, residential, and community-based long term care)
- Family
- Healthcare (e.g., policies, practices, and subversions)
- Early childhood and youth
- Education policies and practices
- Alberta and Prairie Life
- Sexuality and intimate citizenship
- Cyberspace, virtual realities, and online communities
- Neurodiversity communities, politics, and movements
- Artistic, activist, and athletic communities
- Indigenous communities
- Communities of disabled, Deaf, and mad people of colour
- Communities of disabled, Deaf, and mad queer and trans folks
- Translational relationships including themes of family, diaspora, home, immigration, refugees, and stateless bodies

4. Framing Communities

This theme broadly explores the various ways that we name, contextualize, recognize, archive, and take account of our communities. We welcome submissions exploring disabled, Deaf, and mad people and communities as they relate to:

- Archiving and virtual access
- Identification and dis-identification (e.g., passing)
- Language
- Policies and administrative practices

- Geographic organization (e.g., (trans)national communities, cosmopolitanism)
- Curating and programming
- Intersectional communities (e.g., people of colour communities, anti-racist communities, queer communities, religious or faith communities, and so on)
- Setting activist agendas

5. Disruptive, Ruptured, and Productive Energies

This theme broadly explores the violences, tensions, fissures, progressions, victories, and crippling/crippled possibilities within our communities. We welcome submissions exploring and troubling various energies and ways of energizing communities, including:

- Communal/inter-community tensions
- Environmental sustainability/sustainable development
- Environmental racism, environmental impairment, and debility (particularly connected to the oil and energy industries)
- Securitization and/or militarization
- Ethics and bioethics
- Neoliberalism, privatization, and reform
- Knowledge translation, mobilization, and exchange
- Desire, crip love, and mad love
- Crip time
- Crip/crippled practices, processes, policies, and communities
- Disabled life after the Carter Decision (e.g., access to life and end of life care)
- Energizing Futurities

Submission Guidelines:

Submit a **completed submission template form, including a 50-word description of what the presentation is about, and an anonymized abstract with title in a separate Word document** enclosed via email

attachments to cdsa.acei@gmail.com by **December 7, 2015**. The subject line should read, "CDSA-ACEI proposal for Energizing Communities."

Please check our website (www.cdsa-acei.ca) and Facebook page for upcoming announcements about conference bursaries for students and community members.

Abstract Guidelines:

Session formats are 60-90 minutes in length. There will be 2-4 papers per session and each paper will be 15-20 minutes in length, depending on the number of papers within the session. Please indicate in your submission if you require an accommodation for more presentation time.

Authors can submit multiple abstracts, but only one individual paper in which the author is listed as first author will be accepted for inclusion in the conference program. If more than one abstract for an individual paper is accepted that lists an individual as first author the author will be informed and asked to choose which one will be included. Submitters may have multiple submissions accepted if the other submissions take the form of a workshop, and/or performance, or if the submitter is listed as a second author on individual papers.

Individual Papers – Individual presentations will be placed alongside 2-3 other panellists who share a similar focus. A submission must include a paper title and a **250 word abstract**; the abstract should consist of the following:

- Stated purpose and relevance to one or more of the conference themes
- Significance of the proposal to the field
- Relevant literature to support your abstract
- Explicit use of critical approaches, frameworks, theories, perspectives, and/or concepts
- Description of how the work was done
- Contributions to research, theory, activism, advocacy, or social change
- 4-5 key words that describe your abstract
- Details of audio-visual needs (e.g., DVD, LCD projection and/or VHS)

Panels (3-4 persons) – People submitting a panel abstract are asked to identify and submit proposals around a central topic, theme, or approach. The abstract should include the following:

- All information as stated in the *Individual Paper* section as appropriate
- **A panel title and a 100 word abstract** that illustrates the coherence between each of the panel presentations
- **Individual presentation titles and 250 word abstracts** for each individual presentation

Workshops – Interactive sessions organized around a central theme. People submitting workshops should include:

- All information as stated in the *Individual Paper* section as appropriate
- **Workshop title and a 350 word abstract**; the description of the workshop's objectives and content should be as specific as possible

Performances – This may include poetry reading, dance, a viewing or an installation (art work, poetry, zine, etc.). We will do our best to provide a suitable space but please be prepared to improvise! Abstract should include:

- All information as stated in the *Individual Paper* section as appropriate
- **A performance title and a 350 word abstract**; the description of the performance content should be as specific as possible

Submission Template

Author(s) name(s):

Affiliation(s)/Organization(s):

Email(s):

Address(es):

Biographical Note(s) (100-150 words per author):

Thematic Stream:

Format: (1) Individual Paper; (2) Panel; (3) Workshop; (4) Performance; (5) Podcast

Title of Presentation(s):

50 word description of what the presentation is about (abbreviated abstract):

Language of Presentation (ENG/FRE/ASL/LSQ):