

# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

## Panel Session

### Healthy Places and Healthy People: Sharing Knowledge, Promoting Health, Sustaining Environments

As Part of the **Environmental Studies Association of Canada (ESAC)** conference  
Congress of the Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences  
University of Waterloo/Wilfrid Laurier  
**May 30<sup>th</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2012**

As our understanding of health and environmental challenges around the globe becomes more complex, peoples and ecosystems are increasingly interacting in ways that affect the health and well-being of humans, animals, plants, and ecosystems. The complexity of these health challenges demand collaboration and transdisciplinary thinking among communities, health practitioners, policy makers, and researchers from the environmental, social, health, and natural sciences. Indeed, there are many fruitful opportunities for knowledge sharing, education, and research and policy innovation from these partnerships and more emphasis needs to be placed on uniting often-disparate disciplines and approaches to grapple with environmentally-based health challenges.

Recognizing the need to bring together diverse stakeholders to grapple with complex health issues of humans, animals, plants, and ecosystems, this session aims to connect researchers and practitioners from the environmental, social, health, and natural sciences in dialogue, reflection, and debate to highlight the latest research, innovations, and practice that work at the intersection of environment, health, and well-being. This panel is an excellent opportunity to share knowledge, methods, approaches, and experience around the ways in which ecosystems and environment impact health and well-being, and the implications for human health *and* ecosystem health in the context of global change.

Possible topics for this panel session may include, but are not limited to:

- The opportunities for interaction and enhancement among environmental, social, health, and natural sciences
- The intersection of environmental studies and health sciences
- The challenges and opportunities emergent from working in transdisciplinary teams on environment and health issues
- The impacts of environmental change on the health and well-being of peoples, plants, animals, and ecosystems
- Supporting and speaking on behalf of the health needs of humans, animals, plants, and ecosystems
- Challenges posed by global capitalist-industrial development for the health and well-being of humans and more-than-humans
- Transdisciplinary approaches for thinking and knowledge-sharing to mitigate the inequality of environmental health impacts

We invite submissions from researchers, practitioners, and policy makers who unite environment and health from all disciplinary, theoretical, and methodological perspectives, geographical regions, rural or urban locales, built or natural environments, and peoples and populations. We particularly encourage submissions that illuminate challenges *and* recommend thoughtful and effective research, policy, and health programming response from environmental studies and health sciences perspective and/or consider *both* human health *and* the health of animals, plants, and ecosystems. Community-based, participatory research projects that explore the interrelations between environmental and human health from a transdisciplinary approach are highly encouraged.

Abstracts of 250 words should be submitted to Ashlee Cunsolo Willox ([ashlee@uoguelph.ca](mailto:ashlee@uoguelph.ca)) **AND** Sherilee Harper ([harpers@uoguelph.ca](mailto:harpers@uoguelph.ca)) by **February 20, 2012** by **11:59 EST**. Abstracts should include: Name and contact information of the author(s), including institutional affiliation and email address; A brief introduction and background to the topic of study; The theoretical framework or research questions, methodology or practice used; The main conclusions; *and* Implications of research and/or recommendations for policy.

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