

NO MUSEUM IS AN ISLAND:  
MOBILIZING RESOURCES,  
BUILDING CAPACITY

**VANCOUVER 2018**

CANADIAN MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 04 • 9-12

## CALL FOR PAPERS 2018

### No Museum is an Island: Mobilizing Resources, Building Capacity

The late Stephen E. Weil has long been considered one of the museum community's most insightful (and frequently wittiest) commentators. His 1980 essay entitled *No Museum is an Island* is just as relevant if not more so today than almost 40 years ago. If Canadian museums and galleries once stood as islands, distanced from the turmoil of the world around them, the situation in which they find themselves today is very different. Many museums feel like they operate in a vacuum in a fragmented sector where it is difficult to sustain best practices. There is much reinventing and far too little sharing. Smaller museums feel distanced from larger institutions and there is no question that all museums are feeling financial pressures. While arguably there are localized successes there appears to be as many missed opportunities. It seems we are in the hands of serendipity and the chance of who is working where. It is time to change!

**CMA 2018** will strive to address the difficult questions and challenging issues facing Canada's museums and galleries at every turn.

- Who should provide the critical resources needed for the museums of the 21st century?
- How will museums successfully mediate between their traditional missions and mandates to better serve the future while addressing the insistent demands of the present?
- How will museums strengthen their capacity without compromising their basic museum goals and objectives?
- How do we collaborate, both internally and externally, to reach our objectives?

In April 2018 we'll come together in beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia. The National Conference Planning Committee invites you to help build the conference's thought-provoking content by submitting a session proposal by Thursday, May 25. Take advantage of new learning formats and think creatively as you develop your proposal to share training and ignite conversation. With your experience and innovation, rich, diverse and exciting sessions and topics will emerge.

Below are the details about preparing your submission.

## PANELS AND WORKSHOPS MUST FIT WITHIN THE FOLLOWING STREAMS

- Education, Interpretation and Programming
- Collections Management and Conservation
- Digital and Information Technologies
- Visitor Services and Audience Engagement
- Leadership and Museum Management

## SESSION FORMATS

The 2018 National Conference Planning Committee will accept proposals for the following session formats:

- **Panel:** Consists of three or four speakers, who present for up to 20 minutes each, relative to the session theme; facilitated by a moderator.
- **Case study:** Consists of one or two persons, usually from the same organization, and focuses on one actual situation, program or project, the decision-making process involved, its implementation, the possible outcome(s), and lessons learned.
- **Or something completely different?** Original session formats are welcome! Please include a brief explanation of your proposed format with your session proposal.

*Cross-disciplinary panels or presentations are particularly welcome.*

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Priority will be given to proposals that are relevant to the key themes (above), are clear and well developed, and confirm a commitment from the presenters to deliver a high-quality, thought-provoking session. Proposals will not be accepted if they appear to be a show and tell session or product/service endorsements.

**Please note: The CMA is unable to provide speakers with:**

- **travel funds;**
- **honoraria;**
- **allowances; or**
- **free registration!**

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**EMAIL YOUR PROPOSAL, NO LATER THAN **MAY 25, 2017** TO: [sramsd@museums.ca](mailto:sramsd@museums.ca)**

*Only proposals sent to [sramsd@museums.ca](mailto:sramsd@museums.ca) will be reviewed by the 2018 Planning Committee.*

**QUESTIONS?** Please contact Sue Ann Ramsden — [sramsd@museums.ca](mailto:sramsd@museums.ca)

# CALL FOR PAPERS 2018: Canadian Museums Association National Conference 2018

Please be sure to complete all fields to ensure proper processing.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Proposer's name:

Title:

Institution/Organization:

Address:

City:

Province & Postal Code:

Phone & Email:

## SESSION PROPOSAL

Please complete this form entirely; it **MUST** be accompanied by a concise, 150-word summary of your proposed session. **ONLY complete proposals will be considered.**

**SESSION TITLE:**

**KEY THEME:**

**SESSION FORMAT:** [  ] Panel [  ] Case study [  ] Other

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE:**

**TARGET AUDIENCE:**

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:** *Please attach as a one pager.*

## PRESENTERS

**All moderators and panelists must agree register and pay to attend CMA 2018 otherwise they cannot present.**

**MODERATOR** Please indicate name, institution, email, phone and language that they will speak during their presentation:

1.

**PANELISTS** Please indicate name, institution, email, phone and language that they will speak during their presentation:

1.

2.

3.

4.

## COPIES & RECORDINGS:

[  ] I agree to provide a copy of our presentation (e.g. White paper or PowerPoint) to the CMA Secretariat by March 13, 2018.

[  ] I agree to have my session recorded. Note: Unless specifically requested by the presenters, all sessions held during the CMA Conference may be recorded. Presenters and moderators will be asked to sign a release form prior to the CMA Conference.