



Canadian Association for the History of Nursing  
Association Canadienne pour l'histoire du nursing

Nursing Humanities and Historical Imaginations: Exploring the Context and Politics of Nursing  
Across Time, Place and Medium

York University, Toronto, Ontario

May 29-31, 2026

DRAFT PROGRAM

**Friday May 29 | vendredi 30 mai**

**17:00 Registration**

**18:00 – 19:30**

**Welcome**

**Hannah Panel | Conference Hannah**

History, Nursing and Indigenous Health

Cheyenne Joseph  
Christine Fiddler

**Saturday May 30 | samedi 13 mai**

**8:30 – 9:00 Registration**

**9:00 – 10:00 Session 1: Finding the Nursing Story**

**Chair:**

*“The White Cap Catalogue”*

Ruth Thompson

*“Stories from the Edges: A Personal Narrative Project to Honour Everyday Nursing History”*

Kim English

*“Eliciting a Narrative: The Contribution of a Peer Professional”*

Lynn Hamilton

**9:00 – 10:00 Session 2: Representations in Nursing History**

**Chair:**

*“Scénariser le soin : comment fictionnaliser le vécu des soignant.e.s et des patient.e.s pour déconstruire les discours dominants en santé mentale?”*

Emily Landry-Lajoie

*“Lighting Order: Visual Culture, Sanitary Ideology, and the Construction of Nursing Identity in the Crimean War”*

Elizabeth Ahern

*“Fictionalizing Nursing History: The Sisters of Service and the Spanish Flu Epidemic in 1918 Toronto”*

Lucia Gagliese

**10:00-10:15 Break | pause**

**10:15-11:15 Session 3: Narratives in Nursing**

*“Narratives as Resistance and Recognition in Nursing Practice”*

Jennifer Dunn

*“Making Nursing Legible: Reflective Writing, Caring Science, and Professional Visibility in Contemporary Nursing Education”*

Janelle Adsit, Kimberley Perris

*“What Does Cultural Safety Mean now?”*

Yamu ?akiñ nuhu, Kwik-ga, Sara Daigle-Stevens

**10:15-11:15 Session 4: War & Nursing**

*“The Price of Commitment: Nurses in the International Brigades and the Spanish Civil War (1936-39)”*

Sioban Nelson, Cinta Sadurni-Bassols, Gloria Gallego Caminero

*“An Accounting of War: A Canadian Military Nurse’s First World War Expense Record”*

Suzanna Wagner

*“Nursing Sister Clare Gass’s Visual War: Picturing the First World War”*

Andrea McKenzie

**11:15-11:30 Break | pause**

**11:30-12:30 Session 5: Untold Histories**

*“Whispers of Care in the Shadow of a Pandemic: Exploring the Untold Journeys of Gay Male Nurses during Canada’s HIV/AIDS Crisis (1981–1998)”*

Sandra Harrison

*“What’s Lamont Got to Do With It?: An Early Site of Negotiated Racial Inclusion in Canadian Hospital-Based Nursing Education (1925-1955)”*

Emily Kaliel, Helen Vandenberg, Letitia Johnson

*“Unravelling the Sanitized Timeline: Re-weaving Indigenous Narratives to Unlearn the History of Nursing”*

Lesla Fox

**12:30-1:45 Lunch**

**1:45-3:05 Session 6: Nursing Specialization**

*“Boundaries of Care: Maternalism, Visitation, and Professional Politics in Cold War German Pediatric Nursing”*

Christoph Schwamm

*“Surgical Team Culture, Gendered Power, and the Historical Violence of the OR”*

Jennifer Dunn

*“A New Beat: Cardiac Care Nursing at Vancouver General Hospital, 1955-1959”*

Sarina Heidari

*“De convoité à évité : l’évolution des CHSLD québécois et du concept de milieu de vie”*

Fannie Dupont

**1:45-3:05 Session 7: Rethinking Nursing Politics**

*“Nurse Activism in Canada: Historical Perspectives and Leadership Imaginations for the Future”*

Michelle Danda and Sheryl Zentner

*“Imagining Youth Mental Health Nursing Across a Century: Historical Contexts and Philosophical Shifts in British Columbia, 1900–Present”*

Sheryl Zentner and Claire Pitcher

*Nurses and Pageantry: Performing the Past, Performing Profession”*

Lydia Wytenbroek & Kyra Philbert

**3:05-3:20      Break | pause**

**3:20-4:20      Session 8: Nursing, Health and Colonialism**

*“Public Health Nursing in the Yukon”*

Alistair White

*“Migrant Histories, Colonial Legacies: Filipino Nurses, Canadian Health Care, and Imagining Anti-Racist Futures”*

Michelle Danda and Sheryl Zentner

*“Inventing Arctic Hysteria”*

Jessica Casey

**3:20-4:20      Session 9: Nursing, Gender and Empire (or International)**

*“Professional Image of Rockefeller Foundation Fellows from Brazil in Toronto: a transnational history (1939-1945)”*

Camila de Freitas Lima, Luciana Barizon Luchesi

*“From Fellowship to Leadership: Iranian Nurses on the Move”*

Mohadeseh Saki

*“Empires, Epidemics, War and Empathy: The Untold Story of Nurses in Ottoman Palestine”*

Ronen Segev

**18:00 Dinner**

**Sunday | dimanche**

**8:00 Breakfast | Rafrachissements**

**9:00-10:00 Session 10: Care Providers & Caregiving**

*“Nursing: An Ambivalent Feminist Object”*

Matty Hemming

*“The Seal of Saint Elizabeth: Care of the sick poor and female spirituality in Northern Europe in the high Middle Ages”*

Sioban Nelson

*“Feeding and Weighing: The History of Devices and 'Visual History' of Infant Nutrition in Paediatric Nursing at the Beginning of the 20th Century”*

Karen Nolte

**10:00-10:15 Break**

**10:15-11:15 Session 11: Teaching Humanities in Nursing**

*“Humanities Elective in Nursing”*

Geraldine Gorman, Shirley Stephenson, Patricia Walsh

*“ Teaching Plans for Nursing History in São Paulo, Brazil (2021): A Documentary Analysis of Institutional Practices in Undergraduate Nursing Education ”*

Luciana Barizon Luchesi and Carla Cristina da Cruz Almeida Lima

*“Documenting Nursing and Healthcare History Through Mapping”*

Sally Ellis Fletcher

**11:30 Closing Remarks  
Student Award**

## Special Thanks



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