



“Crossroads”

Call for Proposals

National Council on Public History Annual Meeting

Montreal, Quebec, Canada | March 23-26, 2022

If the last few years have shown us anything, it's that we are currently standing at a crossroads. We have all witnessed monumental changes in society that have fundamentally altered how we see one another, how we interact with each other, and how we will go forward together in the future.

Being at the crossroads allows us to reckon with the past while seeking solutions for repair and contributing to a more equitable society. As public historians, our work is critical in defining turning points, meaningful direction, and inspiring movement on paths toward progress.

Montreal is a city rich with diverse cultures, history, and art. Sharing borders with the US, Canada is an ideal locale to anchor discussions related to raising marginalized voices in reimagined narratives. This annual meeting will help create opportunities to reckon with and repair historical relationships, design experiences that enable groups to celebrate differences and similarities, and build tools and sustainable methods.



Aerial view of historic Montreal, courtesy of the Archives de la Ville de Montréal.

Questions to consider:

- In the wake of societal change and challenges, how must our narratives be reimagined?
- How can public historians be active participants in sustaining action?
- How can public history work with those who have been excluded to create a more inclusive field?
- What must we do to assist in the reckoning and the repair of past wrongs?
- How can public historians work across shared borders to amplify reimagined narratives?
- How can challenging the geographic, spatial, and linguistic borders of public history change how and what we do?
- What innovative work is occurring at the intersection of public history and public protest?
- How does our training as public historians affect how we engage with people living in neighborhoods and communities experiencing change?
- What are historical issues and themes that are under-represented? What are we not talking about and why?

Early Topic Proposals due

June 1, 2021

Full Proposals are due

July 15, 2021

Submit via

<http://bit.ly/NCPH2022>

NCPH strongly urges participants to dispense with the reading of papers and welcomes a wide variety of session formats. We encourage sessions that push past “show and tell” to share lessons learned, identify implications for future work, and invite substantive exchanges between presenters and audience.

Preference will be given to:

- Sessions that include traditionally underrepresented voices
- Sessions that consider public impact and the points of view of relevant collaborators

Proposals in French for a track of French-language sessions will be accepted. Due to uncertainty over COVID-19 and international travel, we are still considering virtual options. When you submit your final proposal, please let us know whether you anticipate being able to travel to Canada in March 2022 (or whether you would prefer to travel if international regulations allow).

PRESENTATION FORMATS MAY INCLUDE:

- **ROUNDTABLE (90 mins):** Roundtables are typically limited to 30 minutes of presentation, followed by 60 minutes of discussion and feedback. Presenters should bring targeted questions to pose to others at the table in order to learn from and with those attending.
- **STRUCTURED CONVERSATION (90 mins):** Sparked by a shared interest or need, these facilitated, participant-driven discussions are designed to encourage audience dialogue. Start with a provocative or problem statement and see where the conversation goes.
- **TRADITIONAL PANEL (90 mins):** At least three presenters, chair, and commentator.
- **COMMUNITY VIEWPOINTS (90 mins):** A project showcase that features a variety of stakeholder and collaborator perspectives.
- **PECHA KUCHA (90 mins):** Facilitators quickly move the session through a series of images or ideas. Typically a Pecha Kucha is a multiple-presenter activity where each presenter shows 20 slides in 20-second increments. Allow time for debriefing.

- **EXPERIENTIAL (90 mins):** Participants simulate, role-play, or play games to convey key principles and learning objectives.
- **POINT-COUNTERPOINT (90 mins):** A moderated discussion that offers opposing points of view in a debate format.
- **WORKING GROUPS (2 hrs):** In these seminar-like conversations between facilitators and up to 12 discussants, participants discuss questions raised by specific programs, problems, or initiatives in their own public history practice with peers grappling with similar issues. Before and during the meeting, working groups articulate a purpose they are working toward or a problem they are actively trying to solve and aim to create an end product(s). Proposals are submitted by facilitators; an open call for discussants will be issued for accepted working groups in late summer 2021. For more information, see <https://ncph.org/public-history-commons/working-group-discussions/>.

HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

See <http://ncph.org/conference/2022-annual-meeting> to submit your proposal.

Please note that topic proposals have a separate submission form than final proposals, as do working groups and workshops.

If you have questions prior to submitting your proposal, please email ncph@iupui.edu.

EARLY TOPIC PROPOSAL OPTION

Gather suggestions on a topic and look for collaborators/co-panelists by filling out a “topic-only” form online by **June 1, 2021**. Topics will be distributed to NCPH members via email and posted to ncph.org for feedback from the community and Program Committee. Respondents will contact the original submitter directly, helping to complete a proposal for the July deadline.

FINAL PROPOSAL DEADLINE

Submit your fully formed session, working group, individual paper, or workshop proposal online by **July 15, 2021**.

The Call for Posters and Call for Working Group Discussants will be forthcoming in the summer of 2021.