

STAN 2021: Call for Session Proposals



Submission Deadline: November 3, 2020

Conference to be held on February 23-25, 2021

We invite you to join us at the 2021 Science & Technology Awareness Network (STAN) Annual Conference, which will be held virtually. We hope to welcome over 100 delegates from across the country. The three-day Conference will include engaging and interactive sessions, panels, and keynote speakers. Opportunities to network with your Canadian peers will be offered throughout the program. STAN's Annual General Meeting will be built into the proceedings.

This year's STAN Conference theme, ***#STANdtogether*** will be an opportunity to network and recharge. We aim to adopt a lens of hope, collaboration, and to highlight the resiliency of our members in the face of adversity.

The goals of the Conference are to connect with your peers, gain insights and compassion, and share a vision for the future. We hope new partnerships will emerge as we ***#STANdtogether*** through these challenging times.

With your experience and expertise, we can jointly develop a unique conference experience.

Below are the details to help you prepare your conference session proposal.

Secondary themes

In order to support the growth and development of both attendees and the field at large, STAN encourages the development of session proposals that keep science literacy at heart. We are hoping to create a vision of the future of Canadian STEM.

These may include sessions that are focused on one or more of the following areas, as examples:

- Innovative thinking
- Partnering for success
- Inclusivity best practices
- The role of our sector in encouraging diversity in STEM and contributing to equity and social justice
- Community engagement and outreach
- Engaging the next generation of STEAM leaders
- Science literacy, education, and awareness
- Promoting mental health within and through STEAM
- *...and any project or program you're working on that relates to sparking curiosity in the sciences!*

Suggested Formats

Typical formats in the past have included (see below for definitions):

- Keynotes
- Panel Discussions:
 - Traditional
 - Fireside-chat style
 - Ignite Session (aka rapid-fire learning, lightning talks, or PechaKuchas)
- Breakout sessions (we will provide the technological platform to implement virtual breakouts):
- Virtual interaction is encouraged (polling, use of online chat, etc. - we will offer support)

Tech details

- STAN will set up and host Zoom sessions for all presenters. Meeting and Webinar formats are both available (but meeting is recommended as it provides more opportunity for connection). Virtual breakout rooms capability is available and STAN can implement it for you.
- STAN will work with you to incorporate some base level of interactivity to your session (for example, interactive polling/ word clouds to warm up the audience and to wrap up your session). We will provide the technology to do so, to provide some level of uniformity throughout the conference. You are welcome to incorporate other interactivity tools in your session and the conference committee will be happy to brainstorm with you.

We are especially interested in innovative approaches to your presentation or session. Add a trivia aspect, interact with our delegates, encourage critical thinking, or task everyone with an action item. What will our delegates be able to take away and share with their peers after our event?

All sessions will be assumed to last approximately 75 minutes unless otherwise indicated in your proposal).

Keynote: A single presenter discussing a primary interest to the assembly, designed to arouse enthusiasm and action. (60 minutes + Q&A = 75 minutes)

Traditional Panel: A structured session with three to four presenters in a moderated panel discussion. (60 minutes + Q&A = 75 minutes)

Fireside-chat: A free-flowing session with 2 or 3 people who discuss their work and ideas on a particular topic, in an informal interview-style chat. Questions can be taken from the audience throughout.

Ignite Session: In this format, multiple speakers present in the same track under a strict set of guidelines designed to keep the information flowing. For example, a session might feature five speakers with each one scheduled for ten PowerPoint slides

and ten minutes to present their ideas. The result is a fast-paced session that changes topics several times to keep the audience on their toes.

Roundtable: A Roundtable is a 60-minute group discussion on a precise theme among up to 10 participants in a virtual breakout room. Roundtable presenters should bring targeted questions to post to participants at the table in order to learn from and with those attending. The presenter is also asked to summarize and conclude on the subject at the end of the session (5-10 minutes).

SELECTION CRITERIA

All proposals are reviewed by the STAN Conference Planning Committee using the following criteria (detailed descriptions provided below):

1. Fits well into Conference theme, and links to at least one secondary theme
2. Demonstrates curiosity, innovation, strategic thinking, playfulness, and/or a vision of the future of Canadian STEM
3. Offers meaningful learning outcomes and/or professional development
4. Present diverse perspectives and ideas
5. Encourages cross-discipline collaboration and networking
6. Engages the audience and/or incites critical thinking

Timeline

Call for Proposals: November 3, 2020

Presenters confirmed to attend: Nov 25, 2019

Questions? [Contact us.](#)

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Submit a document with the following information, by email to stanrsst@gmail.com before end-of-day November 3, 2020.

Name of session leader (who is submitting the proposal) and Organisation

Contact info (email, address)

Session Title

Session Description and Format

Session Duration

Tech requirements or questions (see call for proposal for more details)

Theme connections

Learning Outcomes and Interactivity

Number of presenters/ participants

Name of presenter(s) and organisations or affiliations

Positions or titles

Are any of your presenters people who:

- ☐ have not previously presented at a STAN Conference
- ☐ are youth or students (high school, college, or university)
- ☐ identify as First Nation, Métis and/or Inuit
- ☐ identify as members of the LGBTQ2S+ community
- ☐ identify as members of a racialized group
- ☐ identify as persons with a disability(ies) or differently-abled

Session Details

Provide an outline explaining how you will coordinate the session with your speakers prior to the conference. A Session Leader is responsible for communicating with the STAN Conference Planning Committee, ensuring that the speakers are confirmed, that the session is coherent as a whole with a clear strategic intent, and for successfully meeting the conference objectives as outlined in the proposal.

Agreement:

- ☐ As a session leader or participants, I/we agree to register and pay to attend STAN 2020.
- ☐ I will provide STAN with an electronic copy of my presentation and/or handouts to share with the membership online.
- ☐ I agree to have my session recorded and shared with conference registrants.
- ☐ If my proposal is accepted, I have the necessary organisational approvals to attend the conference.

Signature