



TRANSITIONING

16th Annual Communication Graduate Caucus Conference
March 22-24, 2021 | Virtual – Carleton University

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Deadline for Submissions: December 15th, 2020

The 2021 conference theme, **TRANSITIONING**, encourages submissions that address the changing nature of our social, political, and geographical circumstances. Amidst a global pandemic, adaptability has become an integral skill. We have seen global human rights movements call for the concrete social and institutional change of political, judicial, and economic bodies. Long-term debates regarding the need to transition or adapt are particularly poignant today. Environmental and climate activists draw attention to the urgent need for energy and resource transitions; greater attention is being called towards long-standing demands from BIPOC communities for institutional transformation and system reform; and finally, the COVID pandemic has called greater attention toward the inequitable living and working circumstances of Canadians across the country, from issues of food and resource access to redefining the kinds of work that are considered “essential.” While these limitations expose new challenges to our lived realities, they also offer the opportunity to rethink the institutions, tools, expectations, and forms of knowledge that organize work and life. The transitional nature of our reality is rendered especially pervasive in this climate.

This conference invites exploration of the above themes. We are particularly interested in research that broadens understandings of labour, human rights, and communication and media practices in a transitional context. We invite intersectional perspectives that challenge dominant, and perhaps even stagnant, Western ideologies using bodies of knowledge that have been ignored or made invisible throughout history. Some potential topic areas for submissions include:

- The changing relationships between emergent technologies and labor
- Intersections between professional, care, and domestic labour in an era of remote work and study
- The effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on conceptions and uses of digital space
- Changing conditions in research and teaching practices arising from technological & societal shifts
- Varied academic approaches toward environmental changes and sustainability
- The emergence of institutional social consciousness in light of renewed anti-racism movements
- Changing consumer demands and their impacts on industries such as food, retail, and hospitality
- The shifting landscape of artistic production and consumption practices

Proposal Submission Format:

The CGC welcomes proposals for 15-minute individual presentations. These submissions may be co-authored. Submissions should include an abstract of 100-200 words, including the

author's full name(s), current academic affiliation, a short biography of 50-100 words, and contact information of the presenter(s). They should also include a brief description of the topic's relevance to the conference theme. We ask that submissions of paper proposals be submitted electronically to the CGC conference email address (cgctransitioningconference2021@gmail.com). Please complete and submit a proposal by **December 15th, 2020**. We also ask that each presenter submit a text script of their presentation by **March 15th, 2021** that will be made accessible to all attendees.

At the time of the synchronous conference, each speaker will give their presentation to a panel of attendees. Following each presentation, a 15-minute Q&A session will allow presenters to address questions raised by the live digital audience. Keynote presentations and opening/closing presentations will be conducted in the same format. Because presentations will take place on Zoom, we ask that presenters plan their presentations with this platform in mind.

Keynote Speakers:

The CGC Conference, **TRANSITIONING**, is pleased to announce that this year's conference will include two keynote speakers: David Nieborg from the University of Toronto, and Paul Taylor of FoodShare Toronto.

David B. Nieborg is an Assistant Professor of Media Studies in the Department of Arts, Culture and Media at University of Toronto Scarborough. He holds a PhD in Media Studies from the University of Amsterdam. Dr. Nieborg has published on the game industry, apps and platform economics, and games journalism. Currently, he is working on a co-authored book 'Platforms, Power, and Cultural Production' (Polity, 2020).

Paul Taylor is the executive director of [FoodShare Toronto](#), one of Canada's largest food security organizations. Growing up materially poor in Toronto, Paul has spent his life working to eliminate poverty, fighting for workers' rights, and standing up for the most marginalized.

Concluding:

The 16th annual CGC Conference will provide graduate students with the opportunity to present their work, collect valuable feedback from a range of related research communities, and to foster their own professional development. Our goal is to stimulate conversations between emerging scholars and professionals about respective and intersecting fields of research.

Upon acceptance to the conference, students are also encouraged to submit their full paper for the *Canadian Journal of Communication* Student Paper Prize by **February 1st, 2021**.

We look forward to reading your submissions!

Blue Dong, Britt Greening, Holly Tyson & Maddy Warlow

2020-2021 CGC Conference Co-Chairs, Carleton University

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<https://cgccarleton.ca/cgc-conference/>