



Meet Our Conference 2022 Presenters!

Following is a list of our presenters and a brief bio

Julie Chapko, Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada

Julie is known as the "people person" when it comes to museum practices and methodologies. After spending eight years at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, she learned that people are the core of a museum's experience and everyone has the right to feel welcome, safe, and enjoy their experience. Taking these practices and applying them to the new Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada she hopes to use the museum's mission in the everyday operations and help visitors fall in love with aviation.

Nicole Fletcher, Winnipeg Art Gallery

Nicole has been with the Winnipeg Art Gallery since 2010, joining in the Collections department in 2015. She completed her Master's Degree in History at the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg in 2017. She is interested in utilizing collections management as a resource for building community engagement with museums and collections.

Ervin Gerbrandt, 38 Service Battalion Combat Service Support Museum (CSS Museum)

Ervin served for seven years in the regular Canadian Air Force as an Airframe Tech and 22 years in the Canadian Army Reserve with the Lanark and Renfrew Scottish Regiment, the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, and the 17 (Winnipeg) Service Battalion for a total of 29 years. He joined the CSS Museum as a volunteer in 2015, following his retirement from his second career with Garda Security as the Security Manager at Great-West Life. He is a graduate of the AMM's *Certificate Program in Museum Practice*.

Sandra Klowak, Seven Oaks House Museum / Ross House Museum

Sandra Klowak is Chair of the Board of Directors for Seven Oaks House Museum and Ross House Museum, both located in Winnipeg on Treaty 1 Territory. She's grateful her passion for local history and material culture led her to be involved with these two amazing museums so rich in both. Sandra is also a visual artist who handcrafts custom keepsakes from hair in the historic style of Victorian Hairwork. By day, she works as the Operations Manager at the Exchange District BIZ.

Caroline Loewen, Alberta Museums Association

Caroline is the Communications Lead for the Alberta Museums Association (AMA). She is a curator, writer, and museum worker. She has over 10 years' experience working in museums in collections, programming, and curatorial. Prior to joining the AMA, she was most recently Curator at Lougheed House, where she focused on community participation and storytelling through exhibits. She is passionate about helping museums become more inclusive, accessible, and engaging spaces, where a diversity of voices and perspectives are included and valued.

Gilles Messier, Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada

Gilles is the Curatorial Projects Manager at the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada. He holds a degree in aerospace engineering from Carleton University and has extensive experience in history and science communication, being a regular contributor to the YouTube channels *Today I Found Out*, *Highlight History*, and *Our Own Devices*.

Terry Slobodian, Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada

Terry has been the President & CEO of the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada since June 2019. He has more than 20 years of international leadership experience in a variety of sectors, including as a Vice President of an Ontario university and as a foreign diplomat with the United Nations in Geneva and Moscow.

Dale Watts, 38 Service Battalion Combat Service Support Museum (CSS Museum)

Dale served in the Canadian Army Reserve for 27 years in the Artillery, Intelligence and Logistics Branches. He joined the CSS Museum in 2009 as a volunteer and has completed the AMM's *Certificate Program in Museum Practice* since, following a 40+ year career at RRC Polytechnic as an instructor, consultant, program developer/coordinator, and administrator.

Lauren Wheeler, Alberta Museums Association

Lauren Wheeler is the Strategic Services Director with the Alberta Museums Association (AMA). She has 20 years' experience working in and for museums in interpretation, programming, exhibition development, research, curatorial, and governance. She's been with the AMA since 2013 and previously administered the Recognized Museum Program and Grants Program. Lauren is passionate about supporting museums to reach their potential as inclusive, diverse, accessible places that represent and give authority to the many voices and experiences that make our communities unique.

There are a few presenters yet to be confirmed. This list is subject to change.