

FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY RETIREES

EN FRANÇAIS

<https://curac.ca/fr/conference/congres-2026>



At the Inn at the Quay, New Westminster, BC

MAKING CONNECTIONS

**2026 Annual CURAC Conference | Hosted by the SFU Retirees Association
MAY 20-22, 2026 | INN AT THE QUAY | NEW WESTMINSTER**

All retirees from Canadian colleges and universities are invited to attend **your** national conference, held this year in New Westminster, BC. *An online-only registration is available.*

From the welcome reception Wednesday evening until lunch on Friday, you'll enjoy informative presentations, hearty food and refreshments, and ample opportunity to join old friends and make new ones. *Simultaneous French translation available for most sessions.*

Plan to attend the "Making Connections" conference to hear inspiring stories and practical tips to help you make the best of your retirement years. You'll make connections with both new ideas and new people, and perhaps even discover renewed satisfaction and purpose in your retirement. **Registrations are now open at:**

curac.ca/en/conference/2026-conference



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We are grateful to work and gather on the traditional and unceded lands of the Qayqayt, kʷikʷəłəm (Kwkwetlem), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), and səliwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) First Peoples.

Conference Agenda

Speakers

- **Dr. Jo-ann Archibald**, Q'um Q'um Xiem, Professor Emeritus, UBC Faculty of Education, on Indigenous Storywork: Connecting Heart, Mind, Body and Spirit
- **Dr. Don Shafer**, Founder, Roundhouse Radio, on how intentional, compassionate dialogue can repair relationships, foster belonging, and strengthen democracy
- **Dr. Stephen Collis**, Department Chair, English, SFU; finalist for the Governor General's Award for poetry, and recipient of the Writers' Trust of Canada Latner Poetry Prize
- **Dr. Dave Lidstone** and **Andrea Smith** (Langara College Association of Retirees), Just Duets
- **Darren Schemmer**, Board Chair, Catalyste+, on how the group sends (mostly retired) volunteers to over 30 countries

Panels

- Newsletter editors — tips, sharing ideas, triumphs and mistakes
- Retiree association benefits and CURAC affinity partners

Conference Hotel

Rooms at the Inn at the Quay are available for reservation now at \$249 / \$269 per night, and all rooms have guaranteed water views of the Fraser River. Conference attendees can receive this rate for the nights of May 18–23, 2026.

To book at these rates, call 604-520-1776 or 1-800-663-2001 and request the CURAC Conference block. *Cancellations received after April 6, 2026, will incur a charge.*



About CURAC | curac.ca

The **College and University Retiree Associations of Canada** (CURAC) is a non-profit federation of retiree associations from post-secondary institutions across Canada. Its objectives include:

- coordinating activities that promote communication among member associations
- sharing information, and providing mutual assistance
- speaking publicly on issues of concern to the over 24,000 retirees who are represented by the federation



About SFURA | www.sfu.ca/retirees

The **Simon Fraser University Retirees Association** was established in 1997 to connect retired SFU faculty and staff members, both socially and with the institution.

SFURA serves as a forum for discussing education and promoting higher education. It also aims to support the University externally, encourage retiree volunteering, and advocate for retirees' needs to the University.

Today, SFURA includes 1,600 SFU retirees.