



Creating Worlds Worth Living In:

The Fourth Conference of the Critical Suicide Studies Network (a.k.a. CritSui4)
www.criticalsuicidology.net

12 – 13 June, 2020

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

The Critical Suicide Studies Network presents an approach to understanding, theorising and intervening in suicide from alternative perspectives. Such perspectives have sought to find renewed, more critical ways of thinking about suicide to address and respond to suicide where traditional approaches have failed.

Such a beginning could not be more timely. Many working within suicidology have become frustrated by the limitations of dominant pathologising and medicalised approaches to suicide research and prevention practices. Believing that suicide research is in need of an ongoing critical re-thinking of its subject matter and a broadening of its disciplinary basis, Critical Suicide Studies investigates the social, philosophic, psychological, literary and cultural practices of making sense of suicide, taking into account how suicide is shaped by history, politics, identity, culture, media and power. As an approach, it works with service providers, communities and publics to develop nuanced but useful accounts of suicide that can help build bridges across theory and practice and affected communities.

This conference, the first to be held in North America, builds on prior Critical Suicide Studies conferences in Prague, Czech Republic (2016) and Canterbury, UK (2017) and Perth, AU (2018), brings focus to expanding our network, mobilizing critique for productive ends, and generating new collaborations and coalitions across our multiple sites of solidarity.

Call for Papers

We would like to invite scholars, practitioners, persons with lived experience, policy-makers and advocates to share their work and ideas through short paper presentations (15 minutes); workshops (90 minutes); or roundtable discussions (90 minutes). We seek to provoke dialogue across a range of topics explore exploring critical approaches to suicide and how these can foster changes in policy and practice.

We are particularly interested in sessions that address one or more of the following topics:

- Critical Suicide Studies & Ethics
- Lived Experience of Suicide & Bereavement
- Critical Methodologies & Theorizing
- Indigenous Knowledges & De-Colonizing Approaches
- Arts-Based Methodologies and Representations of Suicide
- Applied Approaches to Critical Suicide Studies
- Suicide and Social Justice

To submit, please send a 250-word proposal, title, and short biography to critsui4abstracts@cmha.bc.ca no later than 3 January 2020. Indicate whether you intend to present a paper; workshop; or roundtable.