



2024 NeORA Annual Conference & Training “Micro Learning Lab at Canadore”

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

Location: Canadore College - Commerce Court Campus 60 Commerce Crescent, North Bay

7pm – 8pm	Registration, Facility Tour & Social Tour the new Canadore College Sports Dome! Bring active clothing & let's have some fun!	Canadore College – Commerce Court Campus
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Thursday October 10, 2024

Location: Canadore College 100 College Drive, North Bay

8am	Registration & Morning Refreshments
8:45am	Welcome & Learning Lab Overview
9am	<p>Building Inclusive Communities: Programming for Seniors, Marginalized Youth, and Newcomers</p> <p>This dynamic panel session will explore innovative approaches to designing inclusive recreation programs that meet the unique needs of seniors, marginalized youth, and newcomers. Discussion with expert panelists from diverse sectors, attendees will gain insights into overcoming barriers to participation, fostering a sense of belonging, and creating programs that empower and engage all community groups. Through success stories and real-world strategies, this session will equip you with the tools to design meaningful, accessible, and impactful programs that bring everyone into the fold!</p>
10:45am	Refreshment Break
11am	<p>Ontario Recreation Facilities Association <i>Terry Piche, Director, Training, Research & Development, ORFA</i></p> <p>This session will explore the operational side of the recreation industry. Safe and serviceable facilities, which do not always have walls, or a roof are a critical part of recreation services. This session will look at how recreation operations and programs intertwine and at times overlap while exploring the benefit of professional development accreditation.</p>
12pm	Lunch & Walk
1pm	NeORA Annual General Meeting



1:30pm	<p>Grants Unlocked: How Municipalities Turn Innovative Ideas into Funded Projects</p> <p>This session will explore how municipalities can successfully apply for grants by leveraging innovative ideas to meet community needs. Attendees will learn how to identify funding opportunities, craft compelling applications, and align projects with funding priorities. The session will showcase case studies of municipalities that have secured grants through creative approaches, including collaborative partnerships, sustainable initiatives, and unique program designs. Participants will gain practical tips for enhancing their grant applications and discover how innovation can unlock funding streams for municipal projects.</p>
2:45pm	<p>Refreshment Break</p>
3pm	<p>Come Rain or Shine: The Changing Role of Parks in Contemporary Canada</p> <p><i>Kendra Fortin, PRO, Research & Advocacy Support Specialist</i></p> <p>Research overwhelmingly supports the notion that physical and mental health are intricately intertwined, to such a degree that these dimensions of health can and should be addressed as one and the same. The urgency to improve and invest in public parks may seemingly pale in comparison to the compounding health crises of mental illness, substance use disorders, and sedentary lifestyles. However, the COVID-19 pandemic undoubtedly solidified parks as crucial infrastructure for fostering active living and community cohesion. More than a place to play, parks are spaces of community, political activism, exercise, respite, and so much more. Come rain or shine, the role of parks in contemporary Canada is changing. This discussion will challenge listeners to reimagine the future of parks in Canada and how they can be leveraged and integrated into the fields of social service, healthcare, and climate change mitigation.</p>
3:45 pm	<p>Let's Move and Play</p>
4pm	<p>Pickleball Problems: Serving Up Solutions from All Sides</p> <p>This session dives into the common challenges facing municipalities and the pickleball community and presents solutions from multiple perspectives. Featuring speakers from a local pickleball club, a municipal recreation department, and a provincial pickleball organization, we'll tackle issues like overcrowded courts, noise complaints, and facility wear and tear. Attendees will learn practical strategies for improving court management, resolving conflicts, and planning for future growth. Using real-world examples and collaborative problem-solving, this session will help you better serve your pickleball community and keep the game going strong!</p>
5pm	<p>Thanks for participating! Safe travels home. See you at the NeORA 2025 Conference in Parry Sound! Stay tuned!</p>