Canadian Fertility
and Andrology Society

Fertility Reimagined:

Patients First, Progress Always

72nd Annual Meeting



September 17th - 19th, 2026
BMO Centre, Calgary, AB



Fertility Reimagined: Patients First, Progress Always

Table of Contents

04 | ABOUT CFAS / CFAS TEAM

06 | MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

07 | MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF CALGARY

09 | WELCOME FROM THE CFAS PRESIDENT

10 | BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
SPC MEMBERS & ADVISORY COUNCIL

11 | CFAS AWARDS

15 | CFAS GRANTS

17 | SPONSORS

20 | SPEAKER SCHEDULE

22 | PROGRAM SPEAKERS

45 | CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Canadian Fertility & Andrology Society

The CFAS is a multidisciplinary national non-profit society that serves as the voice of reproductive specialists, scientists, and allied health professionals working in the field of assisted reproduction in Canada.

Celebrating its 72nd year, the mission of the CFAS is to responsibly advance reproductive science and medicine in Canada through leadership, research, and guidance.

Through its multidisciplinary membership of nearly 1000, the CFAS aims to promote excellence in the field of assisted reproduction to the benefit of Canadians and children born of this technology.

www.cfas.ca

@cfas.scfa

info@cfas.ca

514-300-1333

Our Team



Emily McIntosh
Executive Director



Lorinda Jakubonis
Executive Assistant



Tanya Thibault
Communications Coordinator

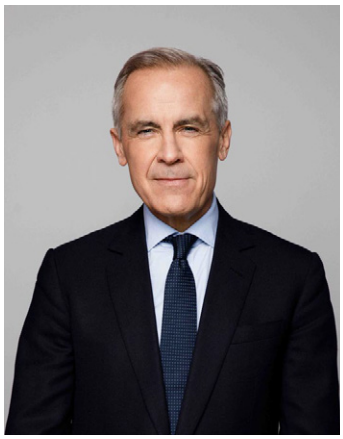


Melissa Ujvari-Lebel
Events Coordinator

Fertility Reimagined:
Patients First, Progress Always



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE



I would like to convey my warmest greetings to everyone taking part in the 2026 Annual Meeting of the Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society (CFAS).

This event offers experts in the field of assisted reproduction an important platform to share their best practices and expertise.
I am certain that delegates will make the most of this opportunity to explore the latest advancements in research and treatment options, and will appreciate the chance to connect with colleagues and peers from across the country.

I would like to thank the CFAS for hosting this event. You can take pride in your commitment to improving reproductive science and medicine in Canada.

I wish you all an insightful conference and a memorable stay in Calgary.

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., O.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada

Ottawa
2026

Calgary

Mayor Jeromy Farkas

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR FARKAS

On behalf of Calgary City Council, I would like to wish everyone attending the Canadian Fertility & Andrology Society's 72nd Annual Meeting a heartfelt welcome! What a privilege it is for Calgary to host your event and we are confident you will see why we are known for our hospitality.

Calgary is a vibrant and dynamic city with so much to see and do! As you attend the event, your focus will no doubt be on the program, but I invite you to spend your downtime exploring the city's diverse cultural experiences, culinary delights, and stunning landscapes.

I know you'll come to love this city so much and have a few recommendations: Enjoy biking and scenic walks through Calgary's many natural and developed park areas. We are home to Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre, where you can immerse yourself in Canada's musical heritage in the heart of downtown. For a breathtaking perspective, visit the iconic Calgary Tower, standing 191 meters tall and offering a stunning 360-degree panoramic view of the city.

During your stay, explore Calgary's vibrant neighborhoods. Each is unique and a place to experience Calgary's incredible food scene. From our rich ranching heritage and global culinary influences to sustainable farm-to-table dining and craft breweries, Calgary truly offers something for everyone.

My Council colleagues and I wish you a successful event and an unforgettable stay here in Calgary. Our sincere thanks to you for visiting and we invite you to come back again when you can stay longer!

Sincerely,

Jeromy

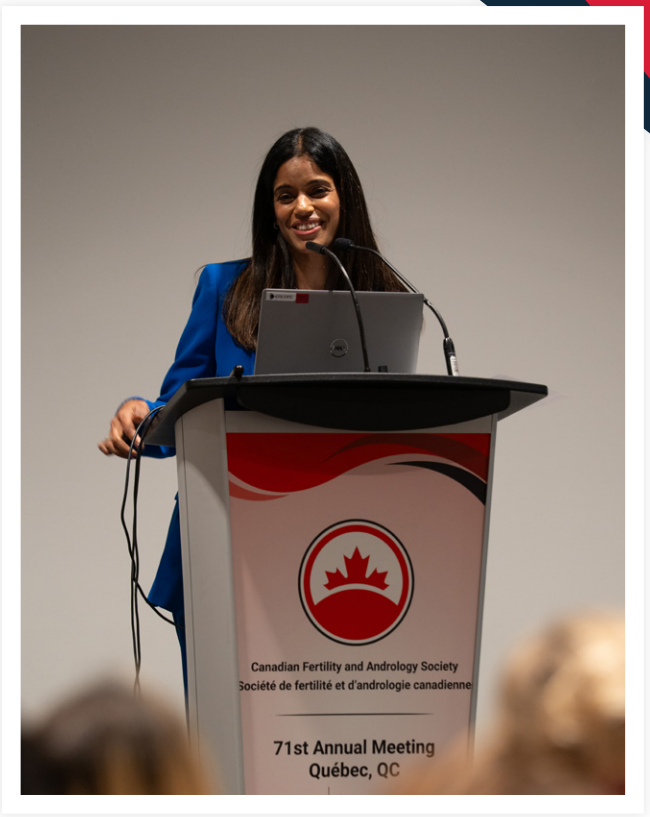
Jeromy Farkas
Mayor of Calgary

Historic City Hall, 700 Macleod Trail S.E., Second Floor | Calgary, AB, Canada T2G 2M3 | P.O. Box 2100, Station M, #8069
themayor@calgary.ca

Fertility Reimagined: Patients First, Progress Always



Welcome from CFAS President



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am incredibly honored and excited to step into the role of President for the Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society. It is a privilege to lead a community of professionals dedicated to helping individuals and couples build their families.

My theme for this year's Annual General Meeting is "Fertility Reimagined: Patients First, Progress Always". This isn't just a slogan; it's a commitment to placing the well-being and success of our patients at the heart of everything we do. In a rapidly evolving field like fertility care and assisted reproduction, progress is constant. My focus will be on ensuring that we harness the power of new technology and scientific advancements to drive better patient care, improve outcomes, and provide hope.

I invite you to join us for our Annual General Meeting in the beautiful city of Calgary. We have invited several distinguished speakers from Canada and around the world who will share their expertise on the latest innovations and technologies that are providing tangible benefits to fertility patients. This will be a fantastic opportunity for us to connect, share knowledge, and explore the latest advancements that are shaping our field.

I look forward to an engaging year ahead, and I am excited to work alongside all of you as we champion a future where every patient receives the best possible care.

Sincerely,

Prati A. Sharma

Dr. Prati A. Sharma
CFAS President 2025-2026

Board of Directors & SPC Members

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Prati A. Sharma, MD FACOG (OB/GYN, REI) - *President*

Dr. Mohamed Bedaiwy, MD, PhD, FACOG, FRCSC - *Vice President*

Dr. David Smithson, BCom MD FRCSC GREI MBA - *Treasurer*

Dr. Karen Buzaglo, MD, FRCSC, EGRI - *CPD Director*

Dr. Meivys Garcia, MD, FRCSC

Jason Au, BSc, MSc

Dr. Svetlana Madjunkova, MD, PhD

Daniella Dubois, BScN, BA, RN, MHS

Nicole Lee, RN, MHM

Dr. Paul Chang, MD, FRCSC - *Past President*

SCIENTIFIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Dr. Prati A. Sharma, MD FACOG (OB/GYN, REI), *President*

Dr. Mohamed Bedaiwy, MD, PhD, FACOG, FRCSC, *Vice President*

Dr. Karen Buzaglo, MD, FRCSC, EGRI, *CPD Director*

Dr. Francis Petrella, MD, FRCSC, *Andrology SIG Chair*

Jenny Wu, BMLSc, MSc, *ART Lab SIG Chair*

Blair Wexler-Singer, MSW, RSW, *Counselling SIG Co-Chair*

Shawn Winsor, MHSc, PhDc, *Ethics and Law SIG Co-Chair*

Shirley Eve Levitan, *Ethics and Law SIG Co-Chair*

Dr. Jennia Michaeli, MD, REI, *Fertility Preservation SIG Chair*

Dr. Karen Glass, MD, FRCS(C), FACOG, *Fertility Preservation SIG Past Chair*

Dr. Elias Dahdouh,MD, MSc, REI, *Genetics SIG Chair*

Dr. Alex Hartman, MD, FRCP(C), *Imaging and Reproductive Surgery SIG Chair*

Rebecca Robinson, *Leadership and Management SIG Chair*

Zeinab Makki,RN, BScN, *Nursing SIG Chair*

Dr. Laine Halpern Zisman, MA, MFA, PhD, *2SLGBTQ+ SIG Chair*

Anna Gorbunova, BSc, MSc, *Sustainability SIG Chair*

Dr. Chidambra D. Halari, MBBS, MSc, PhD, *Research in Reproductive Science SIG Co-Chair*

Dr. Anja Stojsin Carter, PhD, MSc, BSc, *Research in Reproductive Science SIG Co-Chair*

Emily McIntosh, *Executive Director*

CFAS Awards

Award of Excellence

Awarded to any individual who demonstrates tremendous dedication to advancing the field of Reproductive Medicine and Science.



2026 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE RECIPIENT

Dr. Keith Jarvi, MD, FRCSC(C)

The Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society (CFAS) is honoured to announce Dr. Keith Jarvi as the 2026 recipient of the Award of Excellence in Reproductive Medicine. This award recognizes CFAS members who have made outstanding contributions and demonstrated leadership in reproductive medicine and science through research, clinical activity, teaching, and service to the field.

Dr. Jarvi's work has advanced male reproductive health through translational research in prostate cancer biomarkers, male infertility genomics, and noninvasive diagnostics. His pioneering studies on TEX101 and other seminal plasma biomarkers have improved risk stratification in azoospermia and helped reduce unnecessary TESE procedures. As project leader on initiatives such as Genome Canada's Prostate Cancer Predict, he continues to bridge discovery and clinical care. Through rigorous science, innovation, and mentorship, Dr. Jarvi exemplifies the excellence and leadership this award was created to honour.

CFAS Awards

Carole Rhéaume Award

Given to a nurse who successfully enhances the patient experience or clinical practice or engages the public.



2026 CAROLE RHÉAUME AWARD RECIPIENT

Lisa Hogan, RN, BScN

The Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society (CFAS), with the support of EMD Serono, is honoured to announce Lisa Hogan, RN, BScN, as the 2026 recipient of the Carole Rhéaume Award. This award recognizes a registered nurse who has made a significant impact in enhancing the patient experience, advancing clinical practice, or engaging the public in reproductive health awareness, in memory of Carole Rhéaume, RN, a dedicated fertility nurse and patient advocate.

With 30 years of nursing experience, including 20 in labour and delivery and 10 in fertility care, Lisa has led initiatives to improve access, safety, and education in reproductive medicine. Her “Do You Know Your Fertility Potential?” campaign brings fertility awareness, baseline testing, and remote monitoring to rural and underserved communities through partnerships with universities, hospitals, and local health teams. Through webinars, community teaching, and innovative remote-care pathways, Lisa embodies the compassion, advocacy, and leadership that the Carole Rhéaume Award was created to celebrate.

CFAS Awards

Mathias Gysler Award

Awarded to any individual who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to enhancing access to fertility treatment for underserved or underrepresented populations, increasing the potential for treatment success in individuals facing barriers to care and advancing equity and inclusivity within the field of reproductive health.



2026 MATHIAS GYSLER AWARD RECIPIENT

Dr. Michael Dahan, MD, FACOG, FRCSC

The Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society (CFAS) is honoured to announce Dr. Michael Dahan as the 2026 recipient of the Mathias Gysler Award. Established to honour the memory and legacy of Dr. Mathias Gysler, this award recognizes CFAS members who have demonstrated exceptional progress in enhancing access to reproductive care or improving treatment success for individuals and groups who have historically faced barriers.

Dr. Dahan has devoted his career to expanding access to fertility care through committee work, guideline development, and innovative clinical approaches. He contributed to the Canadian HIV Pregnancy Planning Guidelines and to Quebec's publicly funded fertility programs, and has served on national and international access-to-care committees, including with ASRM. His pioneering work developing low-risk, ovulation-delay regimens for the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community has become standard of care for this underserved population. Through mentorship, editorial leadership, and scholarship focused on equity, Dr. Dahan embodies the values of compassionate, inclusive, and innovative reproductive medicine that the Mathias Gysler Award was created to celebrate.

CFAS Awards



2026 NUSING EXCHANGE AWARD RECIPIENT

Dr. Kelly Gray, RN, BSN, MSN, PhD(c)

The Canadian Fertility & Andrology Society (CFAS), with support from EMD Serono and in partnership with the British Fertility Society (BFS), is honoured to announce Dr. Kelly Gray as the inaugural recipient of the CFAS–BFS Nursing Research Exchange Award. This award supports a bilateral research exchange to advance nursing-led reproductive medicine research, harmonize best practices, and promote professional development in assisted reproductive technology (ART).

Dr. Gray is a nurse educator whose work focuses on patient education, quality improvement, and the integration of new technologies to enhance patient understanding and treatment compliance. She has presented numerous abstracts at CFAS, CASN, and PCRS meetings and has been an invited speaker on nursing research and education, including for the CFAS Nursing SIG. Her ongoing PhD studies and patient-first approach position her to strengthen international collaboration between Canadian and UK fertility nursing communities.

CFAS/BFS

Nursing Exchange Award

Presented in partnership with the British Fertility Society, this award recognizes an individual who demonstrates leadership in advancing ART nursing through cross-jurisdictional research, innovation, education, and collaboration. The award supports work that strengthens evidence, develops shared resources and guidelines, and contributes to the advancement of the field.

CFAS Grants

2026 TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENTS

Eitan Lenga	Analyzing Normal Developmental Directionality and Cleavage-Stage Arrest using RNA Velocity in Human Embryo Single-Cell RNA Sequencing
Mina Hmimas	(ABSTRACT 1445) Myo-Inositol Supplementation and Reproductive Outcomes in Women with and without Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS): A Systematic Review
Saadat Khan	(ABSTRACT 1526) The Neuropsychology of Fertility Treatment: Patient Experiences and Access Barriers
Olivia Fulton	(ABSTRACT 1447) The Influence of ART Treatment Planning on Body Image: Preliminary Results from a Qualitative Study
Emily Liu	Manual vacuum aspiration (MVA) for the management of early pregnancy loss (EPL) in the office setting

2026 SEED GRANT RECIPIENTS

The SEED Grant program is designed to foster collaboration across diverse disciplines and provide early-stage financial support for innovative research in reproductive health. These grants are intended to help researchers initiate new projects or generate preliminary data that can serve as the foundation for larger studies and future funding opportunities through major granting agencies.

Katherine Péloquin	A Multidisciplinary Multisite Needs Assessment of Difficult Communication in Medically Assisted Reproduction in Quebec
Haiyang Chang	Long-read whole-genome sequencing for Y chromosome and autosomal structural variant detection in male infertility
Laura A. Favetta	PFAS are linked to epigenetic modifications in follicular fluid and seminal plasma of IVF patients and ultimately correlate to fertility.

CFAS Grants

2026 SMART GRANT RECIPIENT

The SMART (Supporting Meaningful Analysis and Research in Technologies) Grant is designed to provide financial support for innovative research projects that explore critical issues in fertility and reproductive health—particularly those not currently funded by traditional granting agencies.

Debbie Montjean	Both Sides of the Equation: Integrating Sperm Quality into Interpretable IVF Outcome Prediction

2026 TRAINING GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Training Grant is intended to support research projects conducted by fellows in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (REI) programs that are formally accepted by departments within recognized higher education institutions. These grants aim to help fellows initiate or advance clinical or academic projects that contribute to the field of assisted reproduction.

Rebecca Eckler	Sexual Function and Behaviour in Women with Infertility and Assisted Reproductive Technology
Mahvash Shere	Impact of PCOS with or without metabolic syndrome on IVF embryo quality outcomes at a university-affiliated IVF Clinic.

2026 COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENT

The CFAS Community Grant is designed to support Canadian organizations that are driving positive change in reproductive healthcare. Applications are welcomed from non-profits, charities, academic institutions, and healthcare providers based in Canada. This grant provides funding for programs that improve access to fertility care, offer patient support, and promote education in the field of reproductive health.

Sarah Orton	Factors influencing fertilization, early embryonic development, and pregnancy related outcomes after Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) in a clinic setting.

Sponsorship Acknowledgment

The CFAS extends its sincere gratitude to our corporate sponsors for their generous support and commitment to advancing fertility care.

CHAMPION SPONSORS

EMD SERONO

FERRING PHARMACEUTICALS

PLATINUM SPONSORS

ORGANON

Sponsorship Acknowledgment

The CFAS extends its sincere gratitude to our corporate sponsors for their generous support and commitment to advancing fertility care.

GOLD SPONSORS

fertitech

CooperSurgical®

BRONZE SPONSORS

CAN-AM Cryoservices

YAD-TECH Inc.

American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM)

Medical Electronic Systems

Fairfax Crybank

Centogene Canada

Vitrolife Group



Fertility Reimagined: Patients First, Progress Always

Speaker Schedule

WEDNESDAY

September 16, 2026

CSIG/NSIG WORKSHOP

Leah Hughes, BScN, RN	9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Dr. Erika Kelley, PhD	10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Dara Roth Edney, MSW, RSW	1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Kristina Virro, HBa, MA, MSc, RHN, RP	2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

ART LAB SIG WORKSHOP

Debbie Venier, MS, TS(ABB), CLS	9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Carli Chapman, ELD (ABB)	10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Debbie Venier, MS, TS(ABB), CLS & Carli Chapman, ELD (ABB)	11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

2SLGBTQ+ SIG WORKSHOP

Rachel Epstein, PhD	1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Ana Luisa Santo	2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Makeda Zook	3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Freya Lyon	3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

L&M SIG WORKSHOP

Lindsay Clara, HBSW, MSW, RSW	1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Anda Fabrig, BA, BEd	2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

September 17, 2026

WOMEN'S CAUCUS BREAKFAST PANEL: PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Dr. Lucky Sekhon	MODERATOR
Kristen Tanche	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Tanya Driscoll	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Brianna Gill	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONY & SYMPOSIUM I

Elizabeth Carr	9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Dr. Paul Turek, MD	10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Dr. Francisco Arredondo, MD, REI, MPH	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION A: ART LAB SIG

Dr. Tim Carter	1:30 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.
Dr. Salah Abdelgadir, BVSc, MSc, PhD	2:10 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Dr. Mahmoud Aarabi, MD, PhD, MBA	2:50 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION B: RRS SIG

Dr. Marisa Bartolomei, PhD	1:30 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.
Dr. Sarah Kimmins, BSc, MSc, PhD	2:10 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Dr. Anja Pinborg, MD, DMSc	2:50 p.m.- 3:30 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION C: NSIG

Eilis Moody, BSc, MSc	1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Katie Smith-Parent, MBA	2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Dr. Miranda Fidler-Benaoudia, PhD	2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Dr. Haley Biryukov, BS, PhD	2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

... Continued September 17, 2026

CONCURRENT SESSION D: L&M SIG

Lisa Duran	2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

SCIENCE LIGHT

Dr. Eric Forman, MD, HCLD	1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

BASIC SCIENCE I & CLINICAL SCIENCE I

Oral Communication	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY
September 18, 2026

BASIC SCIENCE II & CLINICAL SCIENCE II

Oral Communication	9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

VAN CAMPENHOUT LECTURE & SYMPOSIUM II

Dr. Louise Hyslop	10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Dr. Kevin Doody, MD, HCLD	11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Dr. Kathleen O'Neill	11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION E: ANDROLOGY SIG & 2SLGBTQ+ SIG

Dr. Alyssa Newman, PhD	1:30 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.
Dr. Lara Des Roches, MD	2:10 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Dr. Jesse Ory, MD, FRCSC	2:50 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION F: E&L SIG AND GSIG

Dr. Alan S. Penzias, MD	1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Dr. Amber Cooper, MD, MS	2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Jan Marin	2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Dr. Louise P. King, MD, JD	3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION G: CSIG

Dr. Vasanti Jadva, PhD, BSc	1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m.
Dr. Loree Johnson, PhD, LMFT	2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION H: FPSIG

Dr. Stine Gry Kristensen, PhD	1:30 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.
Dr. Leena Nahata, MD	2:10 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Dr. Karen Glass, MD, FRCS(C)	2:50 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION I: IRS SIG

Dr. Ally Murji, MD, MPH, FRCS(C)	1:30 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.
Dr. Steve Lindheim, MD, MMM	2:10 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Dr. John Petrozza	2:50 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

STATE OF THE ART LECTURE

Dr. Paula Amato, MD	5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

DEBATE

Dr. Alexander Lagunov, PhD, BSc, MSc	5:45 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
Dr. Gary Nakhuda, MD, BSc	5:45 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

SATURDAY
September 19, 2026

JOHN COLLINS LECTURE

Dr. Alejandro Chavez-Badiola, MD, PhD	8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Michelle Flowerday, LL.B	9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Dr. Shruthi Mahalingaiah, MD, MSc	9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

PANEL

Dr. Nigel Pereira, MD, FACOG, ALS/ELS (ABB)	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Dr. Noor Ladhani, MD, MPH, FRCSC	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 16

Preconference Workshops

ROOM:
210/211

9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

NSIG/CSIG

Fertility & Mental Health:

Exploring Effective Screening And Communication Tools For Client-Centered Care

Leah Hughes is a Registered Nurse based in Calgary, Alberta, with a background in mental health, addictions, and fertility care. She holds a Bachelor of Applied Science from the University of Guelph and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Toronto. After beginning her career at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) in Toronto, Leah relocated to Calgary, where her work in a fertility clinic highlighted the need for greater mental health support for individuals experiencing infertility. She currently works in psychiatric emergency services and harm reduction. Leah is passionate about improving mental health outcomes through education, advocacy, and patient-centered care.



Leah Hughes, BScN, RN

Registered Nurse

ROOM:
210/211

10:30 - 12:00 p.m.

NSIG/CSIG

Strategies/non-medical tips & tricks to share with patients

Dr. Erika Kelley is a Clinical Psychologist in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center and an Associate Professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Following postdoctoral training in Women's Health and PTSD at Stanford University and the VA Palo Alto Medical Center, her work has focused on perinatal mental health, reproductive trauma, infertility, and female sexual health. She also serves in leadership and editorial roles within reproductive and sexual health organizations.



Dr. Erika Kelley, PhD

Clinical Assistant Professor at CWRU School of Medicine

Wednesday, September 16

Preconference Workshops

ROOM:
210/211

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

NSIG/CSIG

Clinical Strategies for Hard Conversations

Navigating Complexity, Uncertainty, and the Age of AI with Fertility Patients

Dara Roth Edney, MSW, RSW, is a social worker, psychotherapist, and founder and Clinical Director of Informed Fertility, a counselling practice specializing in infertility, pregnancy loss, family building, and third-party reproduction. With more than 20 years of experience, she has supported intended parents, donors, surrogates, and donor-conceived adults. Dara facilitates support groups, speaks at conferences and community events, and teaches at Wilfrid Laurier University, where she developed its first fertility counselling course. She is a past Chair of the Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society's Counselling Special Interest Group and a Board member of Donor Conception Canada.



Dara Roth Edney, MSW, RSW

Founder, Clinical Director, Reproductive Counsellor at Informed Fertility

ROOM:
210/211

2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

NSIG/CSIG

Nourish, Move, Restore:

A Holistic Approach to Clinician Wellness

Kristina Virro is an award-winning Registered Psychotherapist who is committed to reshaping how we think about therapy and mental health. Her clinic, Fresh Insight, offers psychotherapy to people of all ages and backgrounds so that they can feel less stuck, more empowered, and hopeful. Kristina's knowledge and passion have made her a sought-after expert, with her insights being featured in media outlets like Buzzfeed, CP24 Live, Canadian Living, and other podcast, TV, and radio shows. When she isn't at work, she can be found knitting her 900th pair of socks and forcing affection on her cats.



Kristina Virro, HBa, MA, MSc, RHN, RP

CEO & Founder, Registered Psychotherapist at Fresh Insight

Wednesday, September 16

Preconference Workshops

ROOM
209

ART LAB SIG

Embryo SOS: Troubleshooting Tools of the Trade

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Debbie is an embryologist with more than 30 years of experience in IVF and co-founder of WEST (World Embryology Skills and Training). She holds a Master's degree in Reproductive Physiology from UC Davis and is certified through AAB and licensed in California. Her expertise includes ICSI and embryo biopsy, and she has trained embryologists through workshops worldwide. Debbie taught embryology and genetics at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for 10 years, developing an applied embryology course that helped launch many careers in the field. She serves on reproductive medicine boards and committees and is an international educator and speaker.



Debbie Venier, MS, TS(ABB), CLS

CEO and Co-Founder of WEST

ART LAB SIG

Adverse Events: Common Pitfalls

10:00 – 11:00 a.m

Carli Chapman is the Regional Laboratory Director at Kindbody and has more than 35 years of experience in Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART). She holds a BSc from Louisiana State University and is recognized for her expertise in laboratory management, quality assurance, protocol development, and team leadership. A past President of both the Society for Reproductive Biologists & Technologists and the College of Reproductive Biology, Carli remains active in ASRM and SART leadership initiatives. Her current interests include the use of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies to improve IVF laboratory workflow, outcomes, and patient care.



Carli Chapman, ELD (ABB)

Regional Laboratory Director at KindBody

ROOM
209

ART LAB SIG

Embryology Escape Room

An interactive lecture by Debbie Venier & Carli Chapman

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 16

Preconference Workshops

ROOM: 209

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

2SLGBTQ+ SIG

Queering The Fertility Clinic

An Interactive Discussion Exploring Real-Life Accounts Of Patient Experiences

Rachel Epstein (PhD) is a longtime 2SLGBTQ+ parenting activist, educator and researcher and was the founding coordinator in 2001 of the LGBTQ Parenting Network in Toronto. She is editor of the anthology, Who's Your Daddy? And Other Writings on Queer Parenting and completed a doctoral dissertation on 2SLGBTQ+ people's experiences in fertility clinics. From 2015-2017 Rachel was a Banting postdoctoral fellow at Brock University, conducting research on 2SLGBTQ+ family conflict and reconfiguration. Currently Rachel works as a fertility counsellor, facilitator, mediator, filmmaker and wedding officiant.



Rachel Epstein, PhD

Fertility Counselor

ROOM: 209

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

2SLGBTQ+ SIG

Navigating Disability & Neurodivergence In Fertility Care For 2SLGBTQ+ Patients

Ana is a Registered Behaviour Analyst who works with adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She holds degrees in Psychology, Disability Studies and Music. Since beginning her own path to parenthood in 2018, she has advocated for greater inclusion in the 2SLGBTQ+ fertility landscape. She is a founding member of 2SLGBTQ+ Family Building Canada and has served on Mount Sinai's 2SLGBTQ+ Fertility Advisory Committee for eight years. Her recent Ontario Arts Council-funded project, Here, Hold My Grief, created space for queer people without children to explore and share grief connected to their family-building journeys.



Ana Luisa Santo

Behaviour Analyst

Wednesday, September 16

Preconference Workshops

ROOM: 209

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

2SLGBTQ+ SIG

Panel: Insights from Donor Conceived People: 2SLGBTQ+ Family Building



Makeda Zook

Health Promotion and Education Officer at Action Canada for Sexual Health and Rights

Makeda Zook was born in Vancouver in 1986 to her two lesbian feminist moms. She was raised in a mixed-race family surrounded by anti-oppression politics and her OWLs (Older Wiser Lesbians). Makeda grew up in Toronto going to dyke marches and being encouraged to talk about her feelings. She currently works in sexual health promotion for a feminist NGO.



Freya Lyon

LGBTQ+ Advocate and Digital Creator of The Queer Mama

Freya is a second generation queer parent, donor conceived in the 90's with two mums, now raising her own donor conceived children with her wife. She creates content about donor conception and queer families online, and regularly speaks at events focused on fertility and family making, sharing her journey of meeting her donor as an adult and the way queer families have evolved.

Wednesday, September 16

Preconference Workshops

ROOM: 208

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

L&M SIG

Enhancing Trust, Transparency, & Patient Engagement In Fertility Care

Lindsay Clara, MSW, RSW, is a Social Worker specializing in reproductive and perinatal mental health, with a focus on infertility, pregnancy after infertility, pregnancy loss, and the transition to parenthood. In addition to her clinical work, she has contributed to the development of psychoeducational fertility programs for patients and healthcare professionals, including evidence-informed resources, workshops, and initiatives that strengthen mental health support within fertility care. Lindsay is passionate about advancing compassionate, integrated approaches to reproductive medicine and supporting individuals and families throughout their family-building journeys.



Lindsay Clara, HBSW, MSW, RSW

Registered Social Worker at Fortitude Wellness Journey

ROOM: 208

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

L&M SIG

Supporting Emotional Boundaries

Anda Fabrig (She/Siya) is queer Filipina educator, born and raised in Mohkinstsis (Calgary, Alberta). She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and a Bachelor of Education specializing in inclusive education from the University of Calgary. Anda has dedicated her life and practice to anti-oppressive education within school systems, community, and with her various clients as she moved into adult education and consulting. Anda has worked with organizations and non-profits focusing on foundational 2SLGBTQIA+ knowledge, anti-racism, and strategy planning. As the Alberta Operations Lead with Shades of Humanity, Anda has been able to combine her unique positionality, lived experience, and education to help others become compassionate and empathetic individuals.



Anda Fabrig, BA, BEd

DEI Consultant & Project Manager at Shades of Humanity Consulting

Thursday, September 17

Conference Workshops

BREAKFAST PANEL

Women's Caucus Breakfast

Patient Experience Panel (Organon) with moderator: Dr. Lucky Sekhon

PERCHERON E
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.



Dr. Lucky Sekhon

Fertility Doctor & Author

Dr. Lucky Sekhon is a board-certified reproductive endocrinologist, infertility specialist, OB/GYN, and author of the national bestselling fertility guide, The Lucky Egg. She practices at RMA of New York and is an Assistant Clinical Professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Through her clinical practice, research, and public advocacy, Dr. Lucky is dedicated to closing the fertility knowledge gap. She co-hosts the women's health podcast Call Your Doctor and is a regular contributor to NBC News and the Today Show.



Kristen Tanche

Dehcho First Nations' Regional Health & Wellness Director

Kristen Tanche is Liidlii Kue First Nation, Dehcho Dene, and of Canadian Settler and Icelandic descent from Fort Simpson (Liidlii Kue), Northwest Territories. Drawing from her own fertility journey in the Northwest Territories and Alberta, she is passionate about improving access to fertility care and amplifying the voices of Indigenous and Northern communities. Kristen holds a degree in Social Work, is completing her Master of Social Work at the University of Victoria, and previously served as Regional Health & Wellness Director for Dehcho First Nations, leading initiatives in Indigenous health, wellness, and advocacy.



Tanya Driscoll

Senior Process Safety Specialist at Watchmen Industrial Safety Experts Ltd.

Tanya Driscoll is an engineering professional specializing in Process Safety and Risk Management in the oil and gas industry. Following an 11.5-year infertility journey, she became a passionate advocate for fertility patients and equitable access to care. Tanya is a founding director of the Fertility Alberta Advocacy and Outreach Association and currently serves as Employer and Patient Advocacy Director. Through her work, she collaborates with patients, healthcare professionals, employers, and policymakers to advance awareness, accessibility, and compassionate fertility care across Alberta.



Brianna Gill, RN

Registered Nurse

Brianna Gill is a registered nurse, wife, and proud mother to her daughter, Marley, who joined their family through IVF and surrogacy in 2024. Diagnosed with MRKH syndrome at age 16, Brianna has firsthand experience navigating uterine factor infertility. After four egg retrievals, two surrogates, and eight embryo transfers, she and her husband welcomed their daughter. Brianna is passionate about raising awareness of MRKH and infertility while advocating for compassionate, patient-centered fertility care and supporting others on their path to parenthood.

Thursday, September 17

Opening Ceremony & Symposium I

ROOM: CHAMPION BALLROOM A

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

ALBERT YUZPE LECTURE

First US IVF baby

44 Years After the Petri Dish: From Experiment to Empowerment

Elizabeth Carr is the first baby born through in vitro fertilization in the United States. A lifelong advocate for fertility patients and reproductive rights, she works to advance awareness, education, and access to care. Elizabeth has presented internationally, including at the United Nations, ASRM, ESHRE, and RESOLVE, and has been featured in outlets such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, TODAY, and Good Morning America. Drawing on her experience as a journalist, speaker, and patient advocate, she helps make complex fertility issues accessible to patients, families, healthcare professionals, and policymakers.



Elizabeth Carr

U.S. IVF baby #1. Patient Advocate, Keynote Speaker & Author

ROOM: CHAMPION BALLROOM A

10:30 -11:30 a.m.

SYMPOSIUM I

A Short History of Sperm & Why They Matter

Based in Beverly Hills and San Francisco, Dr. Turek is an internationally recognized expert in men's sexual and reproductive health. He completed his medical training at Stanford University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Baylor College of Medicine. He has authored more than 200 publications advancing the understanding and treatment of male infertility and reproductive health. A past president of both the American Society of Andrology and the Society of Male Reproduction and Urology, Dr. Turek is a sought-after speaker, educator, and advisor on men's health issues.



Dr. Paul Turek, MD

Founder and Medical Director of The Turek Clinic

Thursday, September 17

Opening Ceremony & Symposium I

ROOM: CHAMPION BALLROOM A

11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONY & SYMPOSIUM I

From Vikings to Visionaries

What Harald Bluetooth and Alexander the Great Teach Us About Building IVF Networks

Dr. Francisco Arredondo is a reproductive endocrinologist, entrepreneur, and healthcare leader. After graduating summa cum laude from the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Studies School of Medicine, he completed advanced training in reproductive medicine, public health, and business management at institutions including the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University. Dr. Arredondo founded and grew a network of fertility centers before serving as Chief Medical Officer for one of North America's largest fertility networks. Today, he focuses on expanding access to fertility care through innovative healthcare ventures and low-cost fertility centers in Mexico.



Dr. Francisco Arredondo, MD, REI, MPH

Founder & Chief Medical Officer at Pozitivf Fertility



Thursday, September 17

Concurrent Session A: ART Lab SIG

ROOM: PERCHERON BALLROOM AB



Dr. Tim Carter

PhD - Biomedical Sciences

1:30 – 2:10 p.m.

The IVF Lab:

A Field Service Perspective

Tim Carter is a molecular biologist and scientific consultant with expertise in genetics, reproductive medicine, and IVF laboratory technologies. He holds a Bachelor's in Molecular Biology and Genetics and a PhD in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Guelph. His research has resulted in numerous peer-reviewed publications, including a paper in Nature Biotechnology, and a patented method for telomere length analysis. Following five years as Scientific and Technical Director at Fertitech Canada, he now works as an independent scientific consultant.



Dr. Salah Abdelgadir, BVSc, MSc, PhD

Chief Scientific Officer at The Fertility Partners

2:10 – 2:50 p.m.

Quality Systems & Compliance with the Safety of Sperm & Ova Regulations

Dr. Abdelgadir is Director of Laboratory Operations for The Fertility Partners, supporting laboratory excellence across its network. He has extensive experience in andrology and embryology in both Canada and the United States and is certified as a Clinical Laboratory Director by Canadian and American professional organizations. Dr. Abdelgadir has mentored and trained numerous embryologists and andrologists throughout his career and holds advanced degrees from Oregon State University.



Dr. Mahmoud Aarabi, MD, PhD, MBA

Associate Professor at University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

2:50 – 3:30 p.m.

Reimagining Carrier Screening:

From One-Size-Fits-All to AI and Genomic Precision

Dr. Mahmoud Aarabi is Associate Professor of Pathology, Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and Medical Director, UPMC Cytogenetics Laboratories. He is Past-Chair of the ELSI Committee at the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and co-author of ACMG carrier screening guidelines. His research focuses on equitable access to reproductive genetic testing and uses population genomic data and AI tools in research and clinical care.

Thursday, September 17

Concurrent Session B: Research in Reproductive Science SIG

ROOM: PERCHERON BALLROOM CD



Dr. Marisa Bartolomei, PhD

Professor of Genetics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

1:30 – 2:10 p.m.

Optimizing Assisted Reproduction

Outcomes Using a Mouse Model

Director of the Center for Women's Health and Reproductive Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, Dr. Bartolomei is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and an internationally recognized leader in reproductive biology. Her research focuses on genomic imprinting, germline reprogramming, and the epigenetic effects of assisted reproductive technologies.



Dr. Sarah Kimmins, BSc, MSc, PhD.

Associate Professor at McGill University

2:10 – 2:50 p.m.

Decoding the Sperm Epigenome:

From Environmental Exposure to Infertility Diagnosis

Professor Sarah Kimmins holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in the Epigenetic Inheritance of Disease and is a professor at the Université de Montréal and Adjunct Professor at McGill University. Her research focuses on how the paternal environment influences sperm health, embryo development, and the intergenerational transmission of disease risk. An internationally recognized leader in reproductive epigenetics, she has received numerous awards for her research and translational contributions. Professor Kimmins is also Founder and CEO of HisTurn, a company advancing personalized approaches to male fertility diagnostics.



Dr. Anja Pinborg , MD, DMSc

Professor and Medical Director at the Fertility Clinic, Copenhagen University Hospital, Rigshospitalet

2:50 – 3:30 p.m.

How IVF Procedures Shape the Offspring Health and the Epigenome?

Dr. Pinborg is Professor and Medical Director of the Fertility Clinic at Copenhagen University Hospital and an internationally recognized expert in reproductive medicine. She has authored more than 380 peer-reviewed publications and numerous book chapters and books. A former president of the Nordic Fertility Society and past member of the ESHRE Executive Committee, she has held several international leadership and editorial roles in reproductive medicine.

Thursday, September 17

Concurrent Session C: Nursing SIG

ROOM: PERCHERON BALLROOM FG



Eilis Moody, BSc, MSc

Nurse Consultant at Newcastle Fertility Centre

The Role of The UK Fertility Nurse Consultant

Autonomy, Advocacy and Advanced Nursing Practice

A fertility nurse since 1994, she is an advanced practice Nurse Consultant specializing in fertility care, surrogacy, and mitochondrial donation. An award-winning educator, researcher, and advocate, she lectures at universities and serves on the executive committees of the British Fertility Society and the UK and Ireland Senior Infertility Nurses Group.

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Voices of Oncofertility:

Bridging Advocacy, Research and Reality in Fertility Preservation

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.



Katie Smith-Parent, MBA

Leader of Bus. Dev. for Sustainable Operations at Spartan Controls

Katie Smith-Parent is a breast cancer survivor and advocate for women's health and oncofertility awareness. She co-led the Next Generation Committee for the OWN.CANCER fundraising campaign and champions access to surveillance, oncofertility care, and women's health services. She leads Sustainable Operations Business Development at Spartan Controls and is dedicated to improving patient care.



Dr. Miranda Fidler-Benaoudia, PhD

Clinical & Descriptive Cancer Epidemiologist, Dept. of Cancer Epidemiology & Prevention Research

Dr. Miranda Fidler-Benaoudia is a clinical and descriptive cancer epidemiologist with Alberta Health Services and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Calgary. Her research focuses on improving care, experiences, and outcomes for survivors of childhood, adolescent, and young adult cancers across the cancer continuum. She also conducts cancer research in Canada and globally.



Dr. Haley Biryukov, BS, PhD

Director, Sustainability Reporting at ATB Financial

Haley Biryukov is a corporate sustainability professional with a background in academic research, holding a PhD in Biology from the University of Calgary. Since 2024, she has served as the Director of Research and Grants on the Board of Fertility Alberta. Drawing on her lived experience after facing an early-stage cervical cancer diagnosis and a subsequent surrogacy journey to build her family, Haley is a dedicated advocate for advancing fertility research and advocating for equitable access to fertility care across the province.

Thursday, September 17

Science Light

ROOM: CHAMPION BALLROOM A



Dr. Eric Forman, MD, HCLD

Medical and Laboratory Director at the Columbia University Fertility Center

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

The STAR System:

AI-Guided Detection and Recovery of Rare Sperm in Azoospermic Patients

As Medical and Laboratory Director at Columbia University Fertility Center, Dr. Forman oversees both clinical and laboratory operations while caring for patients seeking fertility treatment and preservation. He has published more than 75 peer-reviewed articles in assisted reproductive technology and serves as an Associate Editor of Fertility and Sterility. Dr. Forman is widely recognized for his research on preimplantation genetic testing and elective single embryo transfer, which has helped shape IVF practice and guidelines worldwide.

Thursday, September 17

Concurrent Session D: Leadership & Management SIG

Gen Z, Millennials, & Boomers

Oh My! Navigating Today's Multi-Generational Workplace

Lisa Duran is an author, speaker, and leadership consultant focused on developing people-centered leaders in healthcare. Author of Strong Enough to Listen, she brings more than a decade of executive leadership experience, including serving as a CXO for Inception Fertility and Chair of ARM through ASRM. With 12 years in the family-building industry, she helps organizations and leaders create meaningful impact for their teams and patients.

ROOM: PERCHERON BALLROOM HI



Lisa Duran

Founder of LD Consulting

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Friday, September 18

Van Campenhout Lecture

ROOM:
CHAMPION
BALLROOM A

10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Mitochondrial Donation: The UK Experience

Dr Louise Hyslop joined Newcastle Fertility Centre in 2005 as a trainee and has progressed to Consultant Embryologist with a lead role in research and innovation. She is named on the clinic HFEA licence as a Mitochondrial Donation Practitioner and is the lead Embryologist for the Mitochondrial Donation programme. She is also an Honorary Senior Lecturer at Newcastle University and has a long-standing research interest in developing treatments to reduce the risk of women passing on mitochondrial DNA disease to their children.



Dr. Louise Hyslop

Consultant Embryologist at Newcastle Fertility Centre





Friday, September 18

Symposium II

ROOM: CHAMPION BALLROOM A

11:15 – 11:45 a.m.

How do High Performance Laboratories Function

Kevin Doody, MD, is an OB/GYN, reproductive endocrinologist, and co-founder of CARE Fertility in Texas. Known to patients as "Dr. Kevin," he and his wife, Dr. Kathy Doody, founded the practice in 1989 and later co-created effortless IVF®. Dr. Doody has held numerous leadership roles in reproductive medicine, serving on the RESOLVE Physicians Council and within the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology (SART), including as President. In 2020, he received the ASRM Suheil J. Muasher Distinguished Service Award for contributions to reproductive medicine and patient care. Board certified in Obstetrics & Gynecology and Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility, Dr. Doody is recognized for his commitment to innovation and excellence in fertility care.



Dr. Kevin Doody, MD, HCLD

Co-Founder of CARE Fertility

ROOM: CHAMPION BALLROOM A

11:45 – 12:15 p.m.

Uterus Transplant

Reimagining Fertility Through Innovation, Iterative Refinement, and Research

Dr. Kate O'Neill is Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at the University of Pennsylvania. She completed residency at Washington University in St. Louis and fellowship training at Penn, where she joined the faculty in 2017. That year, she established Penn's uterus transplant program, where she serves as Program Director. An NIH-funded physician-scientist, her research focuses on advancing understanding of endometrial biology and uterine disorders. Her work bridges translational research and clinical care, with emphasis on innovative technologies and novel therapies for complex reproductive health challenges.



Dr. Kathleen O'Neill, MD, MSTR

Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology Division of Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility University of Pennsylvania

Friday, September 18

Concurrent Session E: Andrology SIG & 2SLGBTQ+ SIG

ROOM: PERCHERON BALLROOM AB



Dr. Alyssa Newman, PhD

Senior Research Scholar at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics

1:30 – 2:10 p.m.

Banking on Choice

How the Black Sperm Donor Shortage Shapes Queer Family Formation

Alyssa M. Newman is a Senior Research Scholar at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics and Assistant Professor of Sociology at Georgetown University. Her research focuses on assisted reproductive technologies, racial health disparities, and medical mistrust. Previously, she held fellowships at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics and Harvey Mudd College. She earned her PhD in Sociology, with an emphasis in Black Studies, from the University of California, Santa Barbara.



Dr. Lara Des Roches, MD

GREI Fellow at McMaster University

2:10 – 2:50 p.m.

Canadian Trans Female Sperm Parameters Prior To Gender Affirming Hormone Therapy

Dr. Des Roches is an REI, trained for fellowship and residency at McMaster University, and Master of Healthcare & Biomedical Ethics through the University of Leeds. She is an advocate for LGBTQ2S+ fertility care & an active researcher in the field. Dr Des Roches identifies within the LGBTQ2S+ community, pronouns she/her. She is a proud mother of two donor conceived children and can often be found at local parks and adventuring abroad with her family.



Dr. Jesse Ory, MD, FRCSC

Male Infertility Specialist at Dalhousie University

2:50 – 3:30 p.m.

Separating Evidence from Assumptions

Gender Affirming Hormone Therapy and Sperm Cryopreservation

Dr. Jesse Ory is a fellowship-trained andrologist and male infertility specialist at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He leads male reproductive health services in Atlantic Canada through his work with Atlantic Fertility, with a special focus on fertility preservation in transgender/nonbinary individuals and in prepubertal males. He is committed to advancing evidence-based reproductive health care and improving fertility outcomes for patients across Atlantic Canada. When not in the operating room he can usually be found tending to his chickens or exploring Nova Scotia's coastline with his two young children.

Friday, September 18

Concurrent Session F: Ethics & Law SIG & Genetics SIG

Genetics Conundrum

ROOM: PERCHERON BALLROOM CD

The Clinical, Ethical and Legal perspectives of abnormal PGT-A results

The Moving Target: How "Abnormal" Has Evolved (and Been Overcalled) Across PGT-A Generations

1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Dr. Alan Penzias is a board-certified reproductive endocrinologist and infertility specialist with more than 30 years of experience in care and research. He is Associate Professor at Harvard Medical School, Director of the REI Fellowship Program at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Northeast Regional Medical Director for IVIRMA North America. A past president of the New England Fertility Society and former ASRM Practice Committee Chair, he has authored more than 250 scholarly works.



Dr. Alan S. Penzias, MD

Northeast Region Medical Director at IVIRMA

Advances & Controversies in PGT Amidst Increasing Lawsuits: What Should We Do

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Amber R. Cooper, MD, MS, is Chief Medical Officer of Genomics and Laboratory Sciences and Medical and IVF Practice Director at Kindbody St. Louis. Board certified in Obstetrics & Gynecology and Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility, she trained at Washington University in St. Louis. Dr. Cooper is internationally recognized for advancing AI and automation in fertility care to improve access and outcomes.



Dr. Amber Cooper, MD, MS

Chief Medical Officer of Genomics and Laboratory Sciences at Kindbody

Legal Perspective

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Jan's practice focuses on professional negligence, with particular interest in fertility negligence and birth injury litigation. She is one of the only lawyers in Canada specializing in fertility negligence. Jan serves on the Ontario Trial Lawyers Association Board and chairs the Canadian Premature Babies Foundation. She volunteers with Pro Bono Ontario and has been ranked in Best Lawyers in Canada and Lexpert since 2022.



Jan Marin

Senior Associate at Gluckstein Lawyers

Ethical Perspective

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Louise P. King, MD, JD, is Assistant Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology at Harvard Medical School and a surgeon in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Trained in law and medicine, her work focuses on medical ethics, informed decisions, assisted reproduction, and equitable access to advanced gynecologic care. She is a frequent educator on these topics.



Dr. Louise P. King, MD, JD

Assistant Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology at Harvard Medical School

Friday, September 18

Concurrent Session G: Counselling SIG

ROOM: PERCHERON BALLROOM FG

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Family Functioning & Child Adjustment in Families Formed Using Third Party Reproduction

Vasanti Jadva is Professor of Family Psychology at City St George's, University of London, and holds honorary positions at the University of Cambridge and University College London. Her research focuses on the wellbeing of parents, children, surrogates, and donors in families created through assisted reproduction. She leads the Reproduction and the Family Research Group, which studies donor conception, surrogacy, diverse family forms, and LGBTQ+ parenting in the UK and internationally.



Dr. Vasanti Jadva, PhD, BSc

Professor of Family Psychology at City St Georges

ROOM: PERCHERON BALLROOM FG

2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Rethinking Stress & Health Equity

Weathering as a Potential Stressor in Reproductive Mental Health

Dr. Loree Johnson is a licensed therapist specializing in reproductive mental health, trauma, and grief. Her work focuses on the impact of cumulative stress on Black individuals and marginalized communities, informing her advocacy, publications, and training on culturally responsive care. She is a Clinical Fellow of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and serves on the American Society for Reproductive Medicine's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.



Dr. Loree Johnson, PhD, LMFT

Owner of Loree A. Johnson

Friday, September 18

Concurrent Session H: Fertility Preservation SIG

ROOM: PERCHERON BALLROOM H



Dr. Stine Gry Kristensen, PhD

Head of Laboratory of Reproductive Biology at Rigshospitalet

1:30 – 2:10 p.m.

Ovarian Tissue Transportation & Centralized Cryobanking

Dr. Stine Gry Kristensen is a biologist, senior scientist, and Head of the Laboratory of Reproductive Biology at the University Hospital of Copenhagen, Denmark. She has more than 16 years of experience in fertility preservation and ovarian tissue cryopreservation for girls and young women through the Danish Fertility Preservation Program. Dr. Kristensen serves as Basic Science Officer for ESHRE's Special Interest Group on Fertility Preservation and is a member of the Executive Board of ReproUnion.



Dr. Leena Nahata, MD

Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at The Ohio State University College of Medicine

2:10 – 2:50 p.m.

Fertility Considerations In Sickle Cell Disease

Leena Nahata, MD, is a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at The Ohio State University College of Medicine and founding Medical Director of the Fertility and Reproductive Health Program at Nationwide Children's Hospital. A board-certified pediatric endocrinologist, she is Associate Division Chief for Research for the Division of Endocrinology. As an NIH-funded principal investigator at the Abigail Wexner Research Institute, Dr. Nahata leads and collaborates on clinical studies focused on improving reproductive and psychosocial outcomes for pediatric populations at risk for infertility, with a focus on fertility-related communication and decision-making.



Dr. Karen Glass, MD, FRCS(C)

Director of Fertility Preservation at CReATe Fertility Centre

2:50 – 3:30 p.m.

Fertility Preservation in Patients with Atypical Endometrial Hyperplasia and Endometrial Cancer

Dr. Karen Glass is Director of Fertility Preservation at CReATe Fertility Centre, Associate Professor at the University of Toronto, and staff physician at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and Women's College Hospital. A specialist in reproductive endocrinology and infertility, she is recognized for her work in fertility preservation for oncology patients. Dr. Glass has held leadership roles with both ASRM and CFAS and has contributed to research, education, and advocacy in oncofertility.

Friday, September 18

Concurrent Session I: Imaging & Reproductive Surgery SIG

ROOM: PERCHERON BALLROOM I



Dr. Ally Murji, MD, MPH, FRCS(C)

Associate Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology at University of Toronto

1:30 – 2:10 p.m.

Cesarean Niche and Fertility

Dr. Murji is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology at the University of Toronto and Head of the Division of Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery. Following residency training at the University of Toronto, he completed fellowship training in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery at McMaster University and earned a Master of Public Health from Harvard University. An internationally recognized researcher, Dr. Murji has published more than 120 peer-reviewed papers and leads an award-winning research program focused on women's health, advanced pelvic surgery, endometriosis, reproductive surgery, and robotics.



Dr. Steve Lindheim, MD, MMM

Professor at the Department Obstetrics & Gynecology at Wright State University

2:10 – 2:50 p.m.

Advancing Online Education

ASRM MAC 2021 and the Evolution of Interactive Learning Widgets

Dr. Steven Lindheim is Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Program Director of the Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility Program at Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine. Board certified in both Obstetrics & Gynecology and Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility, he completed fellowship training at the University of Southern California and holds a Master of Medical Management from Tulane University. Dr. Lindheim is a recognized expert in assisted reproduction with more than 100 scientific publications. His research focuses on IVF, PCOS, endometriosis, reproductive ethics, and translational genomics.



Dr. John Petrozza, MD

Reproductive Endocrinologist & Surgeon, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School

2:50 – 3:30 p.m.

Beyond the Embryo:

Building High-Performance Teams in Modern Fertility Care

John C. Petrozza, MD, is a reproductive endocrinologist, surgeon, and educator at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. A nationally recognized expert in infertility, fibroids, pelvic pain, and minimally invasive reproductive surgery, he has led major clinical programs, including the MGH Fertility Center and the MGH Integrated Fibroid Program. Dr. Petrozza is a past President of the Society of Reproductive Surgeons and has contributed extensively to national guidelines, surgical education, and research advancing reproductive medicine and patient care.

Friday, September 18

State of the Art Lecture

ROOM: CHAMPION BALLROOM A



Dr. Paula Amato, MD

Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology, School of Medicine at Oregon Health and Science University

5:00 - 5:45 p.m.

Emerging ART:

Reimagining the Future of Reproduction

Dr. Paula Amato is a double board-certified OB/GYN and Reproductive Endocrinologist and Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology at Oregon Health & Science University, where she serves as Director of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility. She was President of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine from 2023–2024. Dr. Amato specializes in infertility, polycystic ovary syndrome, and menopause care. Her research focuses on innovative reproductive technologies, infertility treatment, and ovarian aging, with a commitment to helping patients build their families.



Fertility Reimagined: Patients First, Progress Always

Friday, September 18

Debate: PGTP How Far Do We Go?

ROOM: CHAMPION BALLROOM A

5:45 - 6:15 p.m.

Dr. Alex Lagunov (con) vs Dr. Gary Nakhuda (pro)



Dr. Alexander Lagunov, PhD, BSc, MSc

Director of Lab Technology and Training at CCRM Fertility

Alexander completed his undergraduate and graduate studies at McMaster University and has spent his career helping launch and grow IVF and genetics laboratories across North America. He has served as Laboratory Director of CCRM Toronto/Hannam Fertility since its inception in 2014 and is currently Director of Lab Technology and Training for the CCRM network. Alex is actively involved in clinical research and has published widely in assisted reproductive technology. He previously chaired the CFAS ART Lab Special Interest Group and currently serves on the CFAS Board of Directors.



Dr. Gary Nakhuda, MD, BSc

Chief Medical Officer at The Fertility Partners

Dr. Nakhuda is a board-certified reproductive endocrinologist and co-founder and co-director of Olive Fertility Centre in Vancouver. His clinical interests include polycystic ovarian syndrome, fertility preservation, recurrent pregnancy loss, and preimplantation genetic testing. He actively researches implantation failure and has led multiple clinical trials aimed at improving fertility care. Dr. Nakhuda trained at Columbia University Medical Center, where he completed his residency, fellowship, and faculty appointments, and has published more than 20 research articles and book chapters.

Saturday, September 19

John Collins Lecture:

ROOM: CHAMPION BALLROOM A



Dr. Alejandro Chavez-Badiola, MD, PhD

Founder & Chief Medical Officer of Conceivable Life Sciences

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

The IVF Lab Is Changing. All at Once.

Dr. Alejandro Chavez-Badiola is an OB/GYN and Reproductive Endocrinologist recognized internationally for his work in fertility medicine, artificial intelligence, and automation. After training at the Hewitt Fertility Centre in the United Kingdom, he returned to Mexico and founded Hope IVF, one of the country's leading fertility centers. In 2018, he founded IVF2.0, a pioneering AI company focused on improving IVF outcomes and expanding access to fertility care. Dr. Chavez-Badiola is widely published and is dedicated to using technology and innovation to help more individuals and families achieve their reproductive goals.



Michelle Flowerday, LL.B

Founder & CEO of Flowerday Fertility Law

9:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Patients First

How Law Enables Better Fertility Care

Michelle Flowerday is a Canadian fertility lawyer and Founder of Flowerday Fertility Law, a practice dedicated to supporting individuals and families through surrogacy and third-party reproduction. She advocates for intended parents, surrogates, donors, and members of the infertility, 2SLGBTQIA+, and single-parent communities. In 2025, she founded Plaid Fertility Law, an innovative platform designed to streamline the fertility agreement process and improve access to legal services. Michelle is a respected speaker and recognized authority on surrogacy, donor conception, and fertility law in Canada.



Dr Shruthi Mahalingaiah, MD, MSc

Associate Professor at Harvard T.H. Chan School

9:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Exposomic Impacts on Fertility Outcomes Across Natural and Assisted Reproduction

Dr. Shruthi Mahalingaiah is an Associate Professor of Environmental, Reproductive, and Women's Health at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and a reproductive endocrinologist at Massachusetts General Hospital. Her research focuses on how environmental and lifestyle factors influence reproductive health, gynecologic disease, and fertility. She is internationally recognized for her work on polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), environmental exposures, and women's health across the reproductive lifespan. Dr. Mahalingaiah also serves on the leadership team of the Apple Women's Health Study.

Saturday, September 19

Panel

ROOM: CHAMPION BALLROOM A

11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Optimizing ART:

Clinical Pregnancy, Live Birth, and Perinatal Outcomes in Fresh and Frozen Embryo Transfers



Dr. Nigel Pereira, MD, FACOG, ALS/ ELS (ABB)

Clinician Investigator at Mount Sinai Fertility

Dr. Nigel Pereira is a reproductive endocrinologist, clinician-investigator, and Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Mount Sinai Fertility and the University of Toronto. Fellowship-trained at Weill Cornell Medicine, he has additional expertise in embryology and andrology, contributing to innovative IVF treatment protocols. His clinical interests include diminished ovarian reserve, PCOS, reproductive surgery, complex IVF procedures, and reproductive imaging. Dr. Pereira has published more than 125 peer-reviewed articles and serves in editorial and leadership roles within reproductive medicine organizations.



Dr. Noor Ladhani, MD, MPH, FRCSC

Maternal-Fetal Medicine specialist at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

Dr. Ladhani is a Maternal-Fetal Medicine specialist at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre with clinical and research interests in the care of people with multiple medical disorders of pregnancy, as well those delivering at early gestations or a history of preterm birth and stillbirth. She has trained in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Toronto, MFM at the University of Toronto, and in Public Health at Harvard University.



Fertility Reimagined: Patients First, Progress Always

Conference Schedule

WEDNESDAY

Breakfast **225/226**	8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Preconference Workshops	9:00 - 12:00 p.m.
Lunch Room **225/226**	12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Preconference Concurrent Sessions	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Nurse Award Ceremony	4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Registration	7:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Exhibits	9:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Breakfast **Champion Ballroom BC**	8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Women's Caucus Breakfast **Percheron E**	8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Opening Ceremony & Symposium I	9:00 - 12:30 p.m.
Lunch **Champion Ballroom BC**	12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Concurrent Sessions	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Health Break **Champion Ballroom BC**	3:30 - 4:00 p.m.
Poster Presentation **3rd Floor Foyer**	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Cocktail Reception **3rd Floor Foyer**	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Schedule at a Glance by Speaker - pages 20/21
Lecture descriptions and speaker bios - pages 22 to 45.

FRIDAY

Registration	7:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Breakfast **Champion Ballroom BC**	8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
CARTR Report **Champion Ballroom A**	8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Health Break **Champion Ballroom BC**	10:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Van Campenhout Lecture & Symposium II	10:30 - 12:30 p.m.
Lunch **Champion Ballroom BC**	12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Concurrent Sessions	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Health Break **Champion Ballroom BC**	3:30 - 4:00 p.m.
Poster Presentation **3rd Floor Foyer**	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
State of the Art Lecture / Debate	5:00 - 6:15 p.m.
President's Dinner **The Big Four Roadhouse**	7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Breakfast **Champion Ballroom BC**	8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
AGM (members Only) **Champion Ballroom A**	8:00 - 8:30 a.m.
Lectures	8:30 - 10:00 a.m.
Poster Presentation **3rd Floor Foyer**	10:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Health Break **Champion Ballroom BC**	10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Panel & Closing Ceremony **Champion Ballroom A**	11:30 - 12:30 p.m.
Lunch **Champion Ballroom BC**	12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Thank You for Attending

72ND ANNUAL MEETING

Fertility Reimagined: Patients First, Progress Always

STAY IN TOUCH:

www.cfas.ca

info@cfas.ca

@cfas.scfa

514-300-1333

73RD Annual Meeting

September 23rd - 25th, 2027

Preconference on September 22nd, 2027

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, ON