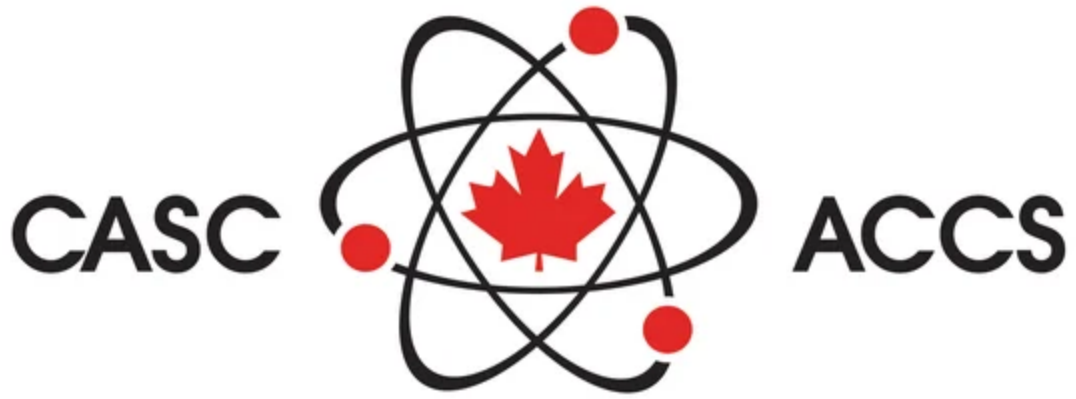


[View this email in your browser](#)



Dear Siena,

What a remarkable time we've just shared together.

Our annual conference reminded me why this network is so vital! The energy in the room, the ideas exchanged, the connections rekindled and newly formed. Congratulations to all our **CASCADE Award recipients** whose work inspires us and elevates science engagement across the country. And to our colleagues in Laval: we're already counting down to next year's gathering in your beautiful city.

As we move into summer, many of us will shift into reflection and planning mode. This is the season for big thinking about what worked, what's next, and how we can better serve our communities. I want to share a few things on the horizon that I hope will energize your planning.

Science Literacy Week returns this fall, and we're eager to see how your centres will spark curiosity and conversation in communities from coast to coast to coast. Our **Research Task Force** continues its important work, and we look forward to sharing updates on how evidence and insight will shape our collective future. We're also preparing to launch **new programs** designed specifically for our membership. Stay tuned for details.

For those attending the **ASTC conference**, we hope you'll join us at the **Canada Night Dinner**, always a highlight and a chance to reconnect with colleagues from across the country. And please mark your calendars for our **Annual General Meeting** on September 24. This is your opportunity to hear updates, ask questions, and help guide the direction of our association.

There is much to look forward to. As you enjoy the longer days ahead, I hope you carry with you the warmth of our community and the knowledge that together, we are building something meaningful.

Thank you,
Dr. Marianne Mader
CEO, CASC



Join us for the fourth and final gathering in our TRC reflection series – ***TRC Calls to Action: 10 Years Later***. If you were unable to attend the first two, don't worry! You can begin right where you are.

Our final gathering takes place on Friday, June 19 at both 9 am ET and 9 AM PT where we will have a meaningful discussion about **where we need to go from here**.

We will be joined by Carrienne Agawa, who will scribe our conversation and create a piece of art that illustrates our discussion and commitment to Truth and Reconciliation going forward.

We hope you'll join us and start your day with this deep reflection and respectful dialogue on this important subject.

[Click here to register to attend.](#)

CASC Impact Evaluation Exchange



The CASC Impact Evaluation Exchange provides a quarterly opportunity for members to learn from one another and directly influence change within the ISL sector. With a focus on social impact, the Exchange aims to bring Canadian research to the forefront, identify key impact indicators and evaluation tools, and collectively advance our understanding of societal impact across the ISL sector.

This opportunity is open to CASC members who are involved in, or interested in learning more about, evaluation, strategic thinking related to indicators and outcomes, strategic planning, impact measurement, and sector-wide benchmarking.

Participants can expect to:

- Learn from peers about unique impact indicators used across the network
- Access and provide live feedback on Research Taskforce initiatives
- Contribute input toward shaping broader network and societal surveys (e.g., ASTC, StatsCan)
- Strengthen the case for their organization's community impact

Register for this exciting opportunity.



> Moments Captured at CASC 2026

It was amazing to see you all in Sudbury! We want to share some of the photos we captured of all of us together. Check out photos from the conference [here](#).

> Watch the main events

For those wanting to get the recap or for those who were not able to join us this year, you can watch the highlights along with the photos above, or watch them [here](#).

> CASC 2027: Save the date!

Next year's conference will be hosted by our friends at Musée de la Santé Armand-Frappier, in partnership with the Montreal Science Centre and Cosmodome. We hope to see you in Laval June 8-10, 2027. Stay tuned for more information about proposal submissions and early bird registration.



> Meet the 2026 CASCADE Award Winners!

The 2026 CASCADE Awards took place during the CASC Conference in Sudbury, ON on Thursday, April 30. We are excited to announce the winners of the 2026 CASCADE Awards!

Category 1: \$1M and over

- **WINNER: Centre des sciences de Montréal** - Nanualuk : Expédition Nordique (MSC)
- **Ontario Science Centre** - Ontario Science Centre Satellite at CF Sherway Gardens
- **Telus World of Science Edmonton** - Northern Coding Academy
- **Supply + Demand** - L'homme qui plantait des arbres : un récit immersif

Category 2: \$250,000 to \$1 million

- **WINNER: Musée de l'ingéniosité J. Armand Bombardier** - Ma région, ma mobilité
- **Flying Fish & Science World** - Artemis Adventure with LEGO® Bricks
- **Science North** - Nature Exchange

Category 3: \$50,000 to \$250,000

- **WINNER: Telus Spark Science Centre** - Paws, Claws and Stars
- **Exploration Place** - Explorations Gallery
- **Centre des sciences de Montréal** - Fabrik2 – défis créatifs / Fabrik2 – Creativity Factory

Category 4: \$50,000 and under

- **WINNER: Saskatchewan Science Centre** - Girls+ in STEAM
- **Science North** - Northern Med Talks

Emerging Professional

- **Clémentine Sarica** - La Maison Léon-Provancher

Exceptional Program/Project Leadership

- **Kaitlin Richard** - Science North

Outstanding Career Achievement

- **Jay Brown** - Flying Fish

We want to acknowledge all of the incredible nominees, each of them highlighting the incredible work happening across the CASC network.

Next year's CASCADE Awards will take place at the 2027 CASC Conference in Laval, QC, hosted by le Musée de la santé Armand-Frappier. Stay tuned on our website for more opportunities to highlight the work of your organization and colleagues.



Science Literacy Week is back! We are incredibly excited to announce that Science Literacy Week will be happening from October 4-11, 2026. Science Literacy Week is a week-long invitation to notice, wonder, and explore the science woven through everyday life.

This year, our theme reflects on our annual conference: Curiosity Unleashed! Curiosity isn't about having answers — it's about trying, tinkering, and learning from the unexpected. We invite everyone to unleash their curiosity this year.

Make sure to check out our **beautifully updated website**, and stay tuned for more opportunities to register your event and resources!

CASC Communities of Practice

CASC's Communities of Practice are a great way to connect with other CASC members to learn about topics that matter to our community.

Below is a brief description of the CoPs we offer. We invite you to join any of our communities of practice that are relevant to you and your work.

Please send us an email at info@casc-accs.com and let us know which group you'd like to join. If you're not sure which community of practice is best for you, let us know and we'd be happy to help.

> Educators and Programmers CoP

CASC has begun the important work of strategic planning for our future. Through various interactive workshops, we will undergo deep reflection and research to ensure the next 10, 20 and 30 years of CASC reflect the reality of our members and meet the needs of our evolving sector.

We are working closely with Dr. Melanie Goodchild and Joshua Cubista from the Indigenous Knowledge Systems Lab at Shingwaul Kinooaage Gamig to facilitate this process, and we want to hear from you!

To ensure the voice of our members is included in our future direction, **we are hosting a Vision and Strategy Workshop during the Educators and Programmers Community of Practice on Tuesday, June 16 at 3 pm ET/12 pm PT.**

Please mark your calendars and join us. If you require a meeting link, please reach out to Merrill at merrill.m@casc-accs.com.

Join the email list

> Science Connection CoP

Next Meeting: From anti-vax to vaccine advocate - Lessons in rebuilding trust

Date: Thursday, June 4 2026 at 2 pm EST

Presenter: Lydia Greene (LPN)

In this workshop Lydia Green, Licensed Practical Nurse (LPM) and vaccine advocate, will discuss how she became anti-vax despite having a career in STEM and what changed her mind after a decade of holding that position. She will share her lived-experience and insights on how trust in science can be lost, but also regained. From dismissed worries as a parent, to finding support in online communities, the path of a former anti-vaxxer holds many lessons for science outreach organizations wanting to rebuild trust and reconnect with disengaged communities and individuals.

Learn more and register [here](#).

Join the CoP

From ScienceUp First, an initiative of CASC

> Finally Seen: Watch the Recording

In case you missed it, our collaborative panel event *Finally Seen: From Diagnosis to Daily Life* took place on May 7th, and it was a truly special evening.

The hybrid event brought together over 200 people, in person and online, for an affirming conversation exploring how neurodivergence and mental health intersect in women across the lifespan. Panelists spoke to experiences in healthcare, relationships, and everyday life, and the response from the room (and the chat!) was deeply moving.

As Dr. Yona Lunsky, Scientific Director of the CAMH Azrieli Adult Neurodevelopmental Centre, reflected afterward: the event was about opening doors to people who too often find them shut, and doing it thoughtfully, with care.

The recording is now available on the **CAMH YouTube channel** — we hope you'll watch, share, and pass it along to anyone who might need to hear it.

Finally Seen was created in collaboration with CAMH, CAMH womenmind™, Women's Health Research Cluster, CAMH Azrieli Adult Neurodevelopmental Centre, and ScienceUpFirst supported by funding from the Government of Canada

> University of Alberta Features ScienceUpFirst Work in New Misinformation Course

We're excited to share that the University of Alberta's new online course, EXSPH 2210: Fighting Misinformation in Public Health, draws heavily on materials from ScienceUpFirst, including podcast episodes from co-founders Timothy Caulfield.

The course is designed for public health professionals and engaged citizens who want to recognize, evaluate, and counter health misinformation. It's a great resource for anyone looking to build stronger, more empathetic communication skills in the face of growing misinformation challenges, and it's FREE!

Check it out at coned.ualberta.ca

Members spotlight

> Digital Museums Canada awards more than \$2 million in funding to museums and Indigenous organizations

Digital Museums Canada (DMC) is pleased to announce an investment of more than \$2 million in 19 new online projects. Developed by museums, heritage, cultural and Indigenous organizations from across Canada, these new immersive and community-focused digital projects will offer unique and captivating content to online audiences from coast-to-coast-to-coast.

This year, 19 organizations have been awarded funding across the Community Stories and Digital Projects streams. The innovative projects touched on a diverse range of topics, including Indigenous heritage and language revitalization, immigration, mental health and community health care, gardening and agriculture, diasporic stories, fine art, 2SLGBTQIA+,

and classic Canadian literature. A full list of awarded projects, with descriptions provided by each organization, is available here through [Community Stories](#) and [Digital Projects](#).

> **Prairie Climate Education & Resilience Program Outreach**

Attention teachers! The Prairie Climate Education and Resilience Program is a free school-based initiative led by [Break The Divide](#) (BTD), a non-profit that helps young people navigate the emotional and social impacts of climate change. Through interactive sessions, the program supports students in grades 7-12 in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba in building resilience, understanding climate emotions, and taking action in their communities. [Sign your classroom up today!](#)

> **Free Webinar: Explore Ontario's Energy Transformation with Ontario Science Centre!**

Ontario is undergoing a major energy transformation. Join [Ontario Science Centre](#) experts, in partnership with [OPG](#) and [WATTNEXT](#), for a **free**, interactive webinar on **Tuesday, June 9** from **1 p.m. – 2 p.m.** Find out what's driving it and where we are headed next! Learn about the big ideas behind the transformation and get resources that you can use in your work and community. Participate in Ontario's exciting energy future by registering [here](#) today!

> **Ontario Science Centre: Broken ground on their future home!**

The Ontario Science Centre has officially broken ground on their future home on Toronto's waterfront!

On track to open in 2029, the new Ontario Science Centre will be a dynamic destination at Ontario Place, designed to spark curiosity and bring science to life for visitors of all ages.

[Learn more.](#)

Opportunities

> **Natural Curiosity - The Birds of Anishinaabe Aki Returns: Ecology and Language**

[Natural Curiosity](#) and the [Outdoor Learning School and Store](#) are offering another ***Birds of Anishinaabe Aki*** online session. Join Joseph Pitawanakwat, Andrés Jiménez, and Junaid Khan (Creators Garden Birds) for a continued exploration of the deep ecological knowledge held within Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe language) bird names. In this new session, the presenters will introduce different bird species than those discussed previously, offering insights into how Anishinaabemowin reflects relationships, responsibilities, and the roles these beings play within the natural world. Whether you're joining for the first time or returning from the previous session, this gathering offers new teachings, perspectives, and relationships to learn from.

Date & Time: Tuesday, June 16th, 2026, 5:00-6:30 PM ET

Cost: Free for Indigenous participants, sliding scale for all.

[Register here.](#)

> **Natural Curiosity - SUPER early bird registration is NOW OPEN for the “4 Seasons of Indigenous Learning” 2026-2027 Course!**

Registration is now open for the “4 Seasons of Indigenous Learning” course. This year's course features an incredible group of **Indigenous presenters**.

This self-paced online course begins in October, and runs until May. It includes:

- 5 hours of self-paced online learning (certificate provided)
- Monthly virtual presentations (certificate of attendance provided)
- Access to the presentation recordings until Sept 30, 2027
- \$25 towards accessing Indigenous learning resources

The Natural Curiosity community can use this 25% coupon code: **4Seasons25%**

If you have already taken Season 1, or have a strong foundation of knowledge, we invite you to join us for **Season 2: Learning from the Land**, created by Natural Curiosity, in partnership with OLSS and Reconciliation Education.

The Canadian Association of Science
Centres is a registered charity.
(# 87543 9861 RR001)

[Make a donation](#)

[Visit our website](#)

OUR MISSION

CASC empowers a national network of organizations who champion Science and Innovation by making science approachable, relevant, and accessible.

OUR VISION

Canada has a thriving science and innovation culture of engaged citizens.



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