

# Host C2UExpo 2027: Request for Proposals

## What is C2UExpo?

C2UExpo (Community-College-University Exposition) is the Canadian-led international conference providing space for both academics and communities to showcase community-campus partnerships that address local and global societal problems.

## Are you the next host of C2UExpo 2027?

Community Based Research Canada (CBRCanada) is seeking an academic institution, organization or alliance that has community-campus partnership experience and a passion for social innovation to host this much anticipated conference. Educational institutions, including colleges and universities, and community organizations, – singly or in partnership – are encouraged to submit proposals.



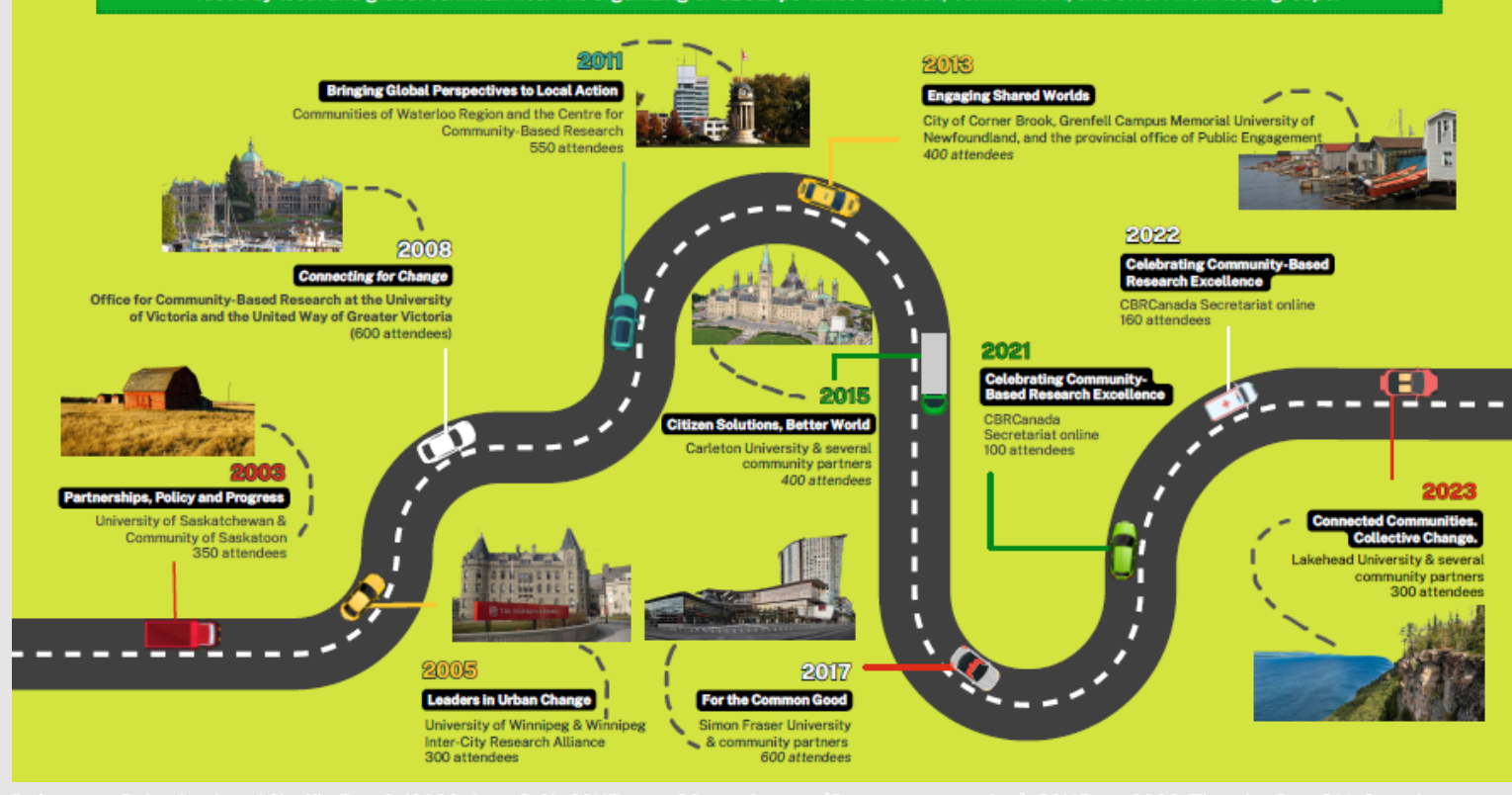
## About C2UExpo

C2UExpo explores and introduces creative ways of strengthening communities and transforming institutions through community-based research, service-learning, knowledge mobilization and other types of community-campus collaborations. Past conferences have drawn between 400-600 people from Canada and around the world who are passionate about the power of community-campus partnerships as a vehicle for societal change. Conference attendees are students, faculty, community leaders, researchers, educators, funders, practitioners, policy makers, and others invested in a broad range of projects addressing issues of high priority on the societal agendas and social innovation. Over 40% of conference delegates at previous conferences were community leaders and practitioners. The movement began in Canada as a response to individuals involved in community-campus partnerships that needed a forum to share experiences, strategies, and ideas.

Since 2003, there have been 9 in-person conferences that each addressed unique objectives, streams, and themes through a variety of session offerings and opportunities for dialogue (see the history poster below).

## C2UExpo: a 20-year journey

**C2UExpo is more than a conference. It's a national movement bridging community and university scholars.** C2UExpo (Community-Campus-Exposition) provides leadership and space to showcase community-campus partnerships addressing critical issues faced by local and global communities. The organizing of C2UExpo takes direction, commitment, and effort from local groups.



Reference: Ochocka, J. and Shafiq Dar, S. (2023, June 5-8). C2UExpo: a 20-year journey. [Poster presentation]. C2UExpo 2023, Thunder Bay, ON, Canada.

## Conference Planning

Due to the nature of the conference, it is appropriate to 'walk the talk' and plan and deliver C2UExpo through collaborative community-campus efforts. Funds need to be raised through sponsorship and grants - this is an entrepreneurial undertaking. The hosting organization(s) assume all responsibility for the conference organizing, including planning, fundraising and delivery with guidelines and support coming from CBRCanada and other organizations represented on the conference host selection committee.



### Key aspects of conference planning

- Management of programming including: objectives and themes, a call for proposals, a process for proposal review, and processes for presenter support
- Fundraising and budget management
- Management of planning committees, and fostering local, national and international collaboration throughout the process

## Proposal Guidelines

### 1 Conference Vision

Provide a brief description and rationale for a tentative overall theme that reflects emerging research interests and issues in the field of partnerships and community engagement.

### 2 Organizational Capacity

Show how your organization(s) will provide adequate infrastructure support to each of the key aspects of conference planning.

### 3 Experience and Leadership

Provide evidence of your organization(s)/members' experience regarding principles of community engagement in practice, applied to any form of community-campus engagement.

### 4 Location and Venue

Provide information about the proposed conference city of region and venue, including the rationale for holding the conference in that particular place. Please provide ideas of site visits and other links to online information.

### 5 Proposed Dates

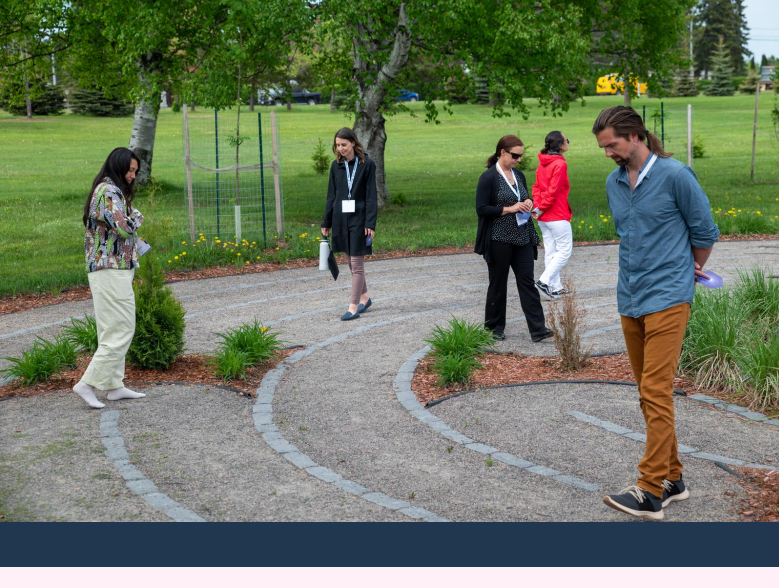
May is the proposed month for the conference, but April-June can be considered. Propose conference dates and your rationale.

## Format and Submission

Please submit a proposal with the above information (5 pages maximum).

In addition to your proposal, please include:

- Letter of commitment from your President(s) and/or Executive Director(s)
- Letter of commitment from key partner organizations
- Curriculum vitae of the conference leader(s)



### Key Proposal Criteria

- Experience in community-campus partnerships
- Commitment to social innovation and societal change
- Collaborative approach
- Entrepreneurial spirit

## Proposal Submission

Send your proposal to: the CBRCanada Secretariat by

**February 28, 2025**



[info@communityresearchcanada.ca](mailto:info@communityresearchcanada.ca)

The 10th C2UExpo will be hosted by *MacEwan University* with 30 partners in **Edmonton, Alberta, May 12-15, 2024**