



Call for Papers

The Program Committee invites proposals for individual papers and panels on any aspect of public management, governance, and policy. We encourage proposals in both of Canada's official languages. Graduate students and non-academics are also invited to present their research at the conference.

Theme

Divides and Paradoxes in Public Administration: Challenges or Opportunities?

This year's CAPPAA conference will be held as part of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, May 31 to June 2, 2020. While opened to all areas of research, we encourage the submission of papers and panels related to Congress' overall theme, which addresses the broad concept of bridging divides (<http://www.congress2020.ca/about#theme>).

In public administration, divides are often thought of as paradoxes. These paradoxes are embodied in the management of our public institutions and in the public policies they produce. They are present in the divides between elected representatives and administrators (e.g., decision making v. implementation), between government as an employer and public servants as employees (e.g., control v. decentralization), and between government and the social actors interested in and targeted by public policies (e.g., bureaucratic expertise v. co-production). In short, paradoxes are pervasive in the practice and study of public administration and are an important area of inquiry. Submissions that focus on these paradoxes are especially encouraged, although any other suggested topics are welcome.

As the conference is being hosted by Western University's Local Government Program (LGP), we also strongly invite participants to submit papers that focus on municipal and other local governments.

Submissions

Panel Proposals

Panel proposals should consist of three or four papers addressing the conference theme or a common problem. They should be submitted by one individual on behalf of the full panel.

Submissions should include:

1. the names, positions, and institutional affiliations of panel members (maximum 100 words);
2. a description of the panel theme/focus (150 words maximum); and
3. an abstract for each paper (250 words).

Individual Papers

Individual paper proposals should explore theoretical, methodological, or empirical issues related to public management, governance, policy, and/or the conference theme. Submissions should include:

1. the scholar's name, position, and institutional affiliation (maximum 100 words); and

2. an abstract (250 words) of the proposed paper. The program committee will assemble individual papers into panels.

Joint CAPP/CPA Workshop

Public Administration Facing Political Divides

In partnership with the Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA), we are also inviting paper proposals for a joint workshop that will be held as part of the conference. This workshop explores how public administration in Canada is being affected by divisions of race, colonialism, gender, nationality, religion, and class. These divides can be felt both in the day-to-day management of public administration and in the issues to which public policies are called upon to respond. More details about the workshop's theme can be found at the end of the call for papers.

The workshop agendas will be put together from responses to both CPSA's and CAPP's calls for papers. Proposals for the workshops should include:

1. the name, position, and institutional affiliation of the scholar (maximum 100 words); and
2. an abstract (250 words) of the proposed paper.

Key Dates

All proposals should be submitted as a doc, docx, or pdf file via e-mail to conference@cappa.ca by Friday, January 10, 2020. Questions should be directed to the same address.

Notifications of acceptance will be sent by the program committee by Friday, February 21, 2020. All invited presenters must respond with a notice of intent by Monday, March 9, 2020 and register for the CAPP conference/Congress by the early-bird registration deadline of Tuesday, March 31, 2020.

Additional Information on the Joint Workshop:

WORKSHOP 10

TOPIC: Public Administration Facing Political Divides

ORGANIZER

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The ideal type of public administration, as we understand it in Canada, suggests that it should be politically neutral and serve the government (and to some extent, serve Parliament). While we do not dispute the importance of a politically neutral public administration, we recognize, as Donald Savoie (2003) clearly shows, that it is not immune to political and social pressures, the sources of which may come from within public administration or outside of it. These pressures can both reveal and generate political and social divides. Building on the theme of this year's CPSA conference, this workshop explores how public administration in Canada and the policies it implements are responding to the various political divides that are affecting them. These divides can be felt both in the day-to-day management of public administration and in the issues to which public policies are called upon to respond.

This workshop is intended as a moment to reflect on these divides and the actions that public administration undertakes either through programs or internal rules, or through its public policies. This workshop seeks to address both traditional and emerging or even latent cleavages. The objective is to show how public administration is far from being a disembodied technical machine of the society from which it stems, but rather constitutes an entity that plays an important social role

by recognizing political divides and deconstructing them to better understand them and provide solutions implemented both in the very structure of public administration and in society.

Possible themes for papers and panels may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Public Administration and Indigenous Issues
- Public administration and political divides in the digital sphere
- Public administration and traditional divides
- Public administration and emerging divides
- The role of public policies in managing political divides

