



CARA National Conference

May 10–13, 2026

Sheraton Airport Conference Centre, Richmond, BC

SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2026

8:00 AM – 6:30 PM | Badge Pick Up and Conference Assistance | Registration

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Research Finance Workshop | Britannia B

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Implementing Indigenous Cultural Safety and Co-Creation in Research Administration | Elmbridge

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM | College Best Practices | Cedarbridge

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM | External Research Awards: A Collaborative Strategy Workshop | Richmond

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM | New Administrators Workshop | Westminster

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM Fuel Your Fire: Staying Motivated and Resilient at Work | Britannia C

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM | Lunch on Own

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM | Seeing with New Eyes: How to Use Science Communication to Strengthen Research Administration | Cedarbridge

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM | Canada Research Chairs Administration: Building Capacity and Community | Britannia B

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM | Managing Change in Research Administration: Preparing for the Future | Westminster

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM | From Principle to Practice Implementing Equitable Research Partnerships in Global and Indigenous Contexts | Richmond

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM | Horizon Europe | Elmbridge

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM | First Timers Agenda Review | Elmbridge

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM | First Timers Reception and Meet the Board | Britannia

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM | Welcome Reception | Britannia

MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026

7:00 AM – 6:00 PM | Badge Pick Up and Conference Assistance | Registration

7:30 AM – 8:15 AM | Buffet Breakfast | Britannia

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM | Keynote | Leading Through Transformation: Building Resilient, Tech-Enabled, and Inclusive Research Administration Careers | Britannia

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | Tri-Agency Update | Britannia

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | NSERC Update | Britannia

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | How to Negotiate and Survive Problematic Clauses | Cedarbridge

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | How to Bake Up a Prize-Winning Grant Proposal | Elmbridge

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | Program Pilot to Support Revitalizing Research Administration | Richmond AB

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | Mission Possible: Developing Strategies That Work | Westminster 2/3

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | SSHRC Update | Britannia

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | Into the Unknown: One Hospital's Journey | Cedarbridge

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | Building Respectful Research Agreements with Indigenous Communities | Elmbridge

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | Navigating the Administration of Community-Based Research | Richmond AB

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | Generative AI for Grant Review | Westminster 2/3

12:15 PM – 1:30 PM | Lunch and AGM | Britannia

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM | The Tri-Agency Grants Management Solution | Britannia

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM | Streamlining Research Management Systems | Cedarbridge

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM | The Cumming School of Medicine RISE Program | Elmbridge

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM | Tool or Trend: Gauging Uptake and Usefulness | Richmond AB

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM | Development of a Responsible Research Assessment Framework | Westminster 2/3

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM | Communication & Change: Evolving how we support institutions through the funding opportunity lifecycle. | Britannia

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM | Comparative Models of Centralized Research Project Management | Cedarbridge

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM | The Power of Mentorship to Fuel People and Teams | Elmbridge

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM | Journey to Coordinated Research Data Services | Westminster 2/3

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM | WorkTribe | Cedarbridge

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM | Persistent Identifiers for Projects and Awards | Elmbridge

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM | Building a Research Security Framework | Richmond AB

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM | Isn't That Data "Public"? What's the Big Deal? | Westminster 2/3

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM | President's Reception (by invitation) | Cedarbridge

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM | Reception | Britannia

6:30 PM – 9:30 PM | Gala Dinner and Awards | Britannia

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

6:30 AM – 7:30 AM | CARA Walk and Talk | Sheraton Front Desk

7:30 AM – 8:15 AM | Buffet Breakfast | Britannia

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM | Back to the Future for Careers in Research Administration | Britannia

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | NSERC/SSHRC Finance Update | Britannia

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | Vendor Showcase – Part 1 | Cedarbridge

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | Bridging Knowledge Across Contexts | Elmbridge

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | Diving Deep into Research Support Fund Administration | Richmond AB

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | Team Empowerment = Amazing Results | Westminster 2/3

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | Hype-Busters: Backing Away from the AI Post-Q | Britannia

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | Vendor Showcase – Part 2 | Cedarbridge

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | CFI Post Awards Research Administration | Elmbridge

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | Strategic Adoption of Generative AI | Richmond AB

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | Launching a Community of Practice | Westminster 2/3

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | CFI Update | Britannia

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | The Art of Presenting | Elmbridge

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | From Campus to Corporate | Cedarbridge

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | Mitacs: Transforming Processes | Westminster 2/3

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM | Finance Conversation Stream: Overhead and Administration | Richmond AB

12:15 PM – 1:30 PM | Buffet Lunch | Britannia

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM | Role of Research Offices in Research Communications | Britannia

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM | Civic Innovation Lab Case Study | Cedarbridge

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM | Strengthening Research Capacity Through Internal Chair Programs: Lessons from UBC Okanagan | Elmbridge

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM | Mitacs Plus: Inside the New Application Portal | Westminster 2/3

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM | Building Better Budgets | Richmond AB

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM | Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education | Britannia

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM | Advancing Trial Access Through 3CTN's CRAFT Framework | Cedarbridge

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM | Navigating the Complexities of Hiring Research Staff | Elmbridge

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM | Resource Resilience: Specialized Research Administration | Richmond AB

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM | Research Revenue | Westminster 2/3

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM | CFI Post-Award Requirements | Britannia

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM | Elevating Research Support through Faculty and Central Offices | Elmbridge

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM | The Research Administration and Research Management Certificates | Cedarbridge

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM | Evaluation of the Role and Career Path of Research Administrators | Westminster 2/3

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM | Financial Reporting Conversation Stream | Richmond AB

4:15 PM – 6:00 PM | Felting Project Party | Britannia

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026

6:30 AM – 7:30 AM | Morning Activity | Sheraton Front Desk

7:30 AM – 8:15 AM | Breakfast | Britannia

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM | Headshot Salon | Britannia Foyer

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM | NSERC Open Access| Britannia

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM |Vendor Showcase #3 | Cedarbridge

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM | Building Bridges Across Borders and Disciplines | Elmbridge

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM | Work Smarter, Not Harder: AI for Research Administration | Richmond AB

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM | From Data Silos to Insight: Building a Research Performance Dashboard from Scratch| Westminster 1

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM | Transforming Research Administration | Westminster 2/3

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | Utilization of Research Analytics and AI Technologies | Britannia

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | Re-Visioning Equity in Research Administration | Cedarbridge

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | Lessons Learned: Multi-Institution Research Networks | Elmbridge

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | Increasing Cross-Disciplinary Research | Westminster 1

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | Mitacs Post-Award Challenges and Solutions | Richmond AB

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM | From Invisible Work to Visible Impact | Westminster 2/3

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM | Conference Debrief | Britannia

Agenda may change between now and the conference. Please check back often for the most up-to-date information.