



Political Studies Association Annual General Meeting

May 1-2, 2025, LaSalle College Vancouver

Call for Proposals

The New Conservatism and Political Contestation in Global, National and Regional Politics

The BCPSA acknowledge that this conference will take place on the unceded, traditional territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

The world has been grappling with complex and interconnected challenges—from climate change and global health crises to rising inequality and economic instability for some time. More recently, the rise of a new populist movement is challenging the established social consensus and economic order. The movement is not monolithic. In some cases, new ‘far right’ parties have arisen, or older ‘far right’ parties have been revamped for acceptability and then experienced growing electoral support. Established conservative parties have adopted a new face or rhetoric. Incumbent centrist or centre-left governments are portrayed as representing an untenable status quo. The rhetoric of the Conservative ‘Blue Wave’ in Canada, for example, emphasizes that ‘Canada is broken’. Many of the new conservative parties are associated with a form of nationalism and isolationism that rejects the dominant neoliberal globalization trend and postwar Liberal World Order. In North America, the European Union, and elsewhere, state borders have become much more important.

These political and social shifts suggest many questions for Political Scientists to ponder. At the international level, what are the implications for international trade, security, the environment, the affordability crisis and sustainable development? To what extent these trends reflect shifting relationships among competing great powers and the insecurities and perhaps declining status of middle powers, such as Canada. Here at home, we should ponder how this conservative movement will affect long-standing societal consensus over social policies like welfare, day care, human rights protections for vulnerable minorities, immigration, as well as the possible impacts on Reconciliation, Indigenous Rights under UNDRIP and resurgence strategies. We should consider what are the causes of these paradigmatic shifts, such as putting the blame on the policy failures of incumbent governments unable to resolve chronic problems that matter most to citizens: food security, employment, housing affordability, health care, and addressing the climate crisis.

CFP Submission Details

We welcome proposals for papers, panels, posters, and roundtables that address the conference theme and related topics. Proposals for papers on other topics of relevance to the BCPSA community will also be accepted. The BCPSA has an ongoing annual panel on Indigenous Politics and Round Tables on Provincial and Canadian politics. Submissions may use a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches, including but not limited to case studies, comparative analyses, or interdisciplinary perspectives.

Proposals should include:

- Title
- A 250-word abstract
- Names and institutional affiliations of participants

Submissions are due by **February 28, 2025**.

Accepted papers and posters (maximum 8,000 words) are due by **April 1, 2025**.

Please send all proposals, papers, and posters to [**2025BCPSA@lceducation.com**](mailto:2025BCPSA@lceducation.com)

Questions about the conference can be directed to: **Marisha Pandya:**

[**mpandya@lasallecollegevancouver.com**](mailto:mpandya@lasallecollegevancouver.com)

The BCPSA awards the Marjory Griffen Cohen Prize for the two best papers presented at the AGM. One of the two will be the best paper presented on Indigenous Politics. See BCPSA.CA for details.