

Abstract Submission Guidelines

Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Association Conference 2027

Theme: *Care Without Boundaries: Palliative Care Across Settings and Stages of Life*

May 6–7, 2027 | Pictou County Wellness Centre, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia

NSHPCA invites abstract submissions that align with the conference theme and contribute to practical learning, knowledge exchange, and meaningful discussion.

Submissions may reflect research, clinical practice, community-based work, lived experience, education, innovation, or collaborative approaches to care. We welcome diverse perspectives that reflect the many settings, stages of life, populations, and people involved in hospice palliative care.

Presenters are encouraged to consider equity, accessibility, cultural safety, and meaningful engagement of people with lived experience where relevant.

Submission Deadline: January 8, 2027

Notification of Acceptance: March 1, 2027

Required Submission Information

1. Session Title

Provide a clear and concise title that reflects the focus of your session.

2. Presenter Information

Provide the name, title/role, organization or affiliation, and contact information for the primary presenter and any co-presenters or panel members.

Include a short bio for each presenter (**maximum 100 words each**) highlighting relevant professional, community, research, or lived experience.

3. Presentation Format

Select your preferred format:

- **Oral Presentation** – 45 minutes
- **Panel or Roundtable** – 45 minutes
- **Workshop or Skill-Building Session** – 45 minutes
- **Creative or Experiential Session** – e.g., storytelling, arts-based or participatory approaches- 45 minutes

NSHPCA may recommend an alternate format based on scheduling and the overall conference program.

4. Abstract – Maximum 300 Words

Describe your proposed session, including:

- The focus or purpose of the session
- Why the topic is relevant or important
- Key practices, findings, experiences, approaches, or perspectives that will be shared
- What participants can take away from the session

Abstracts may be research-based, practice-based, community-informed, experiential, or a combination of approaches.

5. Learning Objectives

Provide **2–3 learning objectives** describing what participants will learn, explore, understand, or be able to apply following the session.

Use action-oriented language such as *identify, describe, explore, apply, recognize, or evaluate*.

6. Intended Audience

Identify the audience(s) who would benefit most from the session. For example:

- Healthcare professionals
- Hospice and palliative care staff and volunteers
- Community organizations
- Researchers and educators
- Grief and bereavement professionals or facilitators
- Caregivers and people with lived experience
- Students and emerging professionals

7. Conference Track

Select the track that best aligns with your submission:

- 1. Palliative Care Across Settings**
- 2. Palliative Care Across Stages of Life**
- 3. Earlier Integration & Palliative Approaches**
- 4. Equity, Culture & Access**
- 5. Grief, Bereavement & Psychosocial Care**

The tracks are intended to provide guidance and are not exhaustive. Submissions that align with the overall conference theme but do not fit neatly within one track are also welcome.

8. Audiovisual, Accessibility & Space Requirements

Identify any requirements for your session, such as audiovisual equipment, internet access, room setup, space for interactive activities, or accessibility accommodations.

9. Equity, Cultural Safety & Lived Experience – Optional

You may indicate whether your session incorporates or is informed by lived experience, culturally specific perspectives, equity and inclusion, accessibility, trauma-informed approaches, or culturally responsive or culturally safe practices.

This information will help NSHPCA develop a conference program that reflects diverse perspectives, experiences, and approaches to hospice palliative care.