

EDIA news, resources and upcoming opportunities

January 7, 2026 edition

Curated by the CSM's Precision Equity and Social Justice Office



Hello EDIA champions,

PESJO recently distributed some time-sensitive information on [Bill 13: The Regulated Professions Neutrality Act](#). Check out this new [op-ed in the Globe and Mail](#), written by UCalgary's Malinda Smith, Kannin Osei-Tutu, and Bukola Salami, that discusses how this bill alters the scope and purpose of professional regulators and how this can affect the health of patients.

PESJO has also prepared some [learning resources about two additional bills, Bills 9 and 12](#), that will significantly impact the health of several vulnerable populations in Alberta:

Upcoming EDI-related events and webinars

Jan. 13, 10:00 – 11:00am MT: The UCalgary community and community partners are invited to the second meeting of the **Health Equity Journal Club**, hosted in-person by the CSM Health Equity HUB at Foothills campus. This session will discuss two articles on equity in neurodiversity research: [Applied principles for inclusive practice in neurodevelopmental research](#) and [Inclusive practices for neurodevelopmental research](#). Learn more and register [here](#)

Jan. 14, 11:00 – 12:30 MT: Statistics Canada is offering a webinar on **2SLGBTQI+ Data, Analysis and Access** to help participants in measuring and reporting on the 2SLGBTQI population. Topics will include key variables, data sources, terminology, and existing data gaps. The session will also provide guidance on options for accessing both aggregate data and microdata. Learn more and register [here](#)

Jan. 14, 12:00 – 1:30pm MT: The Alliance against Violence & Adversity (AVA) presents a webinar on **Violence Prevention as a Public Health Imperative for South Asian Young Women**. This presentation will discuss youth violence and radicalization prevention in Canada through a public health lens. Details and registration [here](#)

Jan. 14, 1:00 – 2:30pm MT: Members of UCalgary academic selection committees are encouraged to participate in an online workshop on **Equitable and Inclusive Hiring for Academic Selection**. Learn about equitable and inclusive hiring, how to apply an EDI lens through the recruitment and selection process, the impact of implicit bias, and tools to mitigate bias. (Also offered Feb. 10) For more information and to enroll, sign into [My Learning](#) on your UCalgary account.

Jan. 15, 12:00 – 1:00pm MT: The Department of Community Health Sciences and the O'Brien Institute for Public Health present a hybrid presentation on **Centering Health Equity and Youth Voice: How Strong Black Woman Schema Shapes IPV Help-Seeking and Mental Health Outcomes Among Young Black Women**. More details and registration [here](#)

Jan. 16, 12:00 – 1:00pm MT: UCalgary staff, faculty, and learners are invited to an online workshop on **Responding to Disclosures of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence**, offered by UCalgary's Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Support Office. Information and registration [here](#). Also offered [Jan. 30](#)

Jan. 16, starting at 2:00: All CSM faculty, staff, and students are invited to the HRIC Atrium for **Wellness Uncorked: A Sober Social**. This event will include Dr. Stephenie Borgland as guest speaker, mocktails, mingling, and community partner booths!

Jan. 22, 3:00 – 4:30pm MT: UCalgary's One Child Every Child initiative presents an in-person event at Foothills campus to discuss **The Story of ii'taa'poh'to'p**. Participants will learn about the historical and cultural context of reconciliation, the development and structure of UCalgary's Indigenous Strategy, the cultural gifts associated with the strategy, and the importance of territorial acknowledgements. Details and registration [here](#)

Jan. 24, 11:00am – 12:00pm MT: The Confluence is hosting **Blackfoot Fireside Stories** at the former site of Fort Calgary Historical Park. This ticketed event is held outdoors around a fire, providing participants an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the diverse Indigenous cultures that make up Treaty 7. Another session take place on Jan. 31. Details and registration [here](#)

Jan. 28, 10:00 – 11:00am MT: The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) presents , as part of its IDEAS Learning Series, a webinar on **Improving Health Care for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness**. This webinar will explore how academic health systems leverage their role as anchors in their communities to advance care for individuals experiencing homelessness and will highlight clinical and community-based strategies to improve access, demonstrate trustworthiness, and enhance the patient experience. Details and registration [here](#)

Feb 2, 9:30 - 11:30am MT: The Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute is presenting an online **Indigenous Research Workshop**, with Keeta Gladue, manager of UCalgary's Indigenous Research Support Team. Register [here](#)

Feb. 3, 10:00 – 11:00am MT: Join an online workshop on **Weight Stigma: An Evidence Update for Medical Educators**, hosted by the CSM Office of Faculty Development. Weight-based bias remains common in clinical training and can unintentionally affect diagnosis, clinical reasoning, and patient trust. This workshop reviews current evidence on weight and health, clarifies misconceptions, and helps faculty align their teaching and clinical modeling with up-to-date, patient-centred best practices. (Also offered in person at Foothills campus on [Feb. 4](#) noon). Information and registration [here](#)

Feb. 11 1:00 – 4:00pm MT: The CSM community is invited to attend **From Bystander to Upstander: Intervention Training**, hosted by the Office of Faculty Development. This three-hour in-person course at the Foothills campus will prepare learners, faculty, and staff to speak up and stand up when they witness discrimination and harassment. Register [here](#)

Feb. 12, 12:00 – 1:00pm MT: Join the **One Child Every Child Equitable Pathways Reading Group** as they discuss *Working Together: Practicing the Science of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion* by Mikki Hebl and Eden King, every second Thursday until June 11. Join in person or online. More details and registration [here](#)

Upcoming EDI-related Courses and Conferences:

Jan. 13 – Feb. 6: UCalgary graduate students and postdoctoral scholars are invited to register for a free 12-hour hybrid course on **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**. Participants will learn to identify inclusive teaching strategies catering to all students and reflect on their teaching in view of systemic inequalities. More details and registration [here](#)

Feb. 13 & 14: UCalgary CSM's Disability and Sexuality Lab is hosting the [Sexuality, Disability, and the Power to Disrupt](#) conference. Participants can register at no cost to attend this virtual event, which will focus on centring disabled voices, challenging assumptions, and providing open space for conversations about love, desire, pleasure, and intimacy.

Feb. 19 & Mar. 2: Members of the Cumming School of Medicine community are invited to register for a two-part online learning series on [Understanding Indigenous Health Policy](#), presented by the Office of Faculty Development and the Indigenous, Global, and Local Health Office. Dr. Esther Tailfeathers, newly appointed Assistant Dean of the Indigenous Health Program, will co-lead this series exploring how historical and contemporary policies continue to shape Indigenous health and healthcare delivery in Canada.

Mar. 4 & 5: The Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion presents a virtual UnConference on [Belonging in complex times: Equity and courage at work](#). Early bird rates in effect until Jan. 16.

Opportunities and Award Nomination

Proposal submissions are now being accepted for the **Conference on Postsecondary Learning and Teaching**, hosted in April 2026 by the UCalgary Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning. The 2026 conference theme is [From Disruption to Connection: Digital Transformation in Postsecondary Education](#), with a great number of potential session topics, including those with an EDIA slant. More information on submitting a proposal by the [Jan. 9 deadline](#) [here](#)

The **University of Calgary Teaching and Learning Grants** fund innovative research projects that support student learning experiences, advance post-secondary goals, and develop educational leadership. Areas of focus for the grants include EDIA and Indigenous Ways of Knowing. Learn more [here](#) about applying for a 2026 Teaching and Learning Grant (deadline Jan. 13).

Nominations for the **Federation of Medical Women of Canada awards** are open until [Jan. 16](#). Learn more [here](#).

Nominations are now open for the **UCalgary's Women's Resource Centre Awards of Excellence**. Nominate a deserving alumna or current female UCalgary student who exhibits wisdom, resilience, and compassion by [Jan. 30](#). Details [here](#)

Applications are open until [Jan. 30](#) for **UCalgary's Indigenous Curriculum Grants Program**, with up to \$10,000 to support initiatives that will advance Indigenous engagement and Indigenous perspectives in the curriculum. More details [here](#)

CIHR has launched the next iteration of the [Research Excellence, Diversity, and Independence \(REDI\) Early Career Transition Award](#). The REDI program aims to promote scientific excellence and promote diversity in Canada's research ecosystem. It is a two-phase program designed to support trainees (post-doctoral researchers, clinicians, and PhD-holding research associates) from underrepresented groups who are aiming to launch an independent research career in Canada, and would benefit from 1-3 years of structured, mentored development to support that transition. [UCalgary Research Services](#) provides support for submitting an application – register by [Feb. 2](#) to participate!

CIHR has a new funding opportunity, [Advancing 2S/LGBTQI+ Health Through Research](#). This grant is made available to projects that advance, strengthen, and enhance inter-disciplinary, high-impact, and community-engaged health research that addresses the health priorities of 2S/LGBTQI+ individuals and communities in Canada. Register interest for the funding opportunity by [Feb. 11](#).

Two researchers at Western University are seeking people involved in medical education research with a focus or interest in EDI to participate in a research study, **Measuring the Shifting Temperature of EDI Research in Medical Education: An Exploration of the Experience for EDI Researchers in the Current Sociocultural Climate**. Click [here](#) if you are interested in participating by completing an anonymous online survey that will ask questions related to your experiences with publishing, funding, institutional support, and sociopolitical pressures impacting EDI-related scholarship.

Resources:

Statistics Canada's Insights on Canadian Society released an article on the availability of [Health Services in a Patient's Own Official Language](#). This study examines how distance to health care facilities, alongside regional and sociodemographic factors, relates to access to language-concordant care for the official language minority population in Canada.

Dr. Malinda Smith, UCalgary's AVP of Research – EDI, recently wrote an op-ed on [Diversity Strengthens Discovery](#), highlighting how Nobel Laureates recognize how diversity produces high-quality research, teaching, and innovation.

Recordings of recent webinars, podcasts and presentations:

The Canadian Race Relations Foundation and The Globe and Mail have released a recording of [Finding Common Ground: Systemic Racism in Canada – Policy Opportunities](#), a recent event in Calgary that explored plans and strategies to tackle racism and discrimination, with a focus on actionable policies to create a more equitable Canada.

The [Alberta Human Rights Commission has several webcast series](#) on YouTube discussing topics such as Understanding and Preventing Harassment in the Workplace, Gender Discrimination, and Duty to Accommodate.

EDIA Quote of the Day

In 2026, I choose radical hope in a challenging world. Softness where brutality is normalized. Humanity in the face of injustice. A belief that justice can prevail, that love is a form of resistance, and that peace and fairness are worth pursuing.

As systemic inequities and unchecked power persist, may we refuse despair. May we not lose our moral compass, nor let our hearts harden. May we continue to act, speak, and collaborate, holding on to the optimism that insists a more JUST world is still possible.

~ Dr. Fouzia Usman, UCalgary Education Developer, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning via [LinkedIn](#)

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We acknowledge the traditional territories of the peoples of the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta. Calgary is also home to Métis Nation within Alberta (Nose Hill Métis District 5 and Elbow Métis District 6)

The Precision Equity and Social Justice Office receives notifications of upcoming events and activities related to equity, diversity, inclusion and wellness from external and internal organizations. From time to time, we will be sending out notifications of these opportunities so that you can participate or share them with your colleagues. Please click [here](#) to unsubscribe from the newsletter.