



Making a Case to Your Manager for Attending Issues of Substance 2017

What Is this Event?

Issues of Substance (IOS) is Canada's only national conference to bring together addictions workers, healthcare professionals, researchers, policy makers and knowledge brokers from across the country. This year's theme is Addiction Matters.

We hope you can join us in Calgary, Alberta from November 13–15! For more information, please visit www.issuesofsubstance.ca.

Talking Points to Bring to Your Manager

Conference Advantages

- Learn from and network with renowned national and international experts, as well as hundreds of professionals in your field and in complementary industries, who will provide a rich variety of shared experiences and new perspectives.
- Create your own program, choosing from a combination of plenary sessions, concurrent sessions and practical workshops, featuring approximately 100 speakers.
- Grow your knowledge with comprehensive, relevant content related to the following subthemes:
 - Innovative and novel approaches to service delivery
 - Cannabis
 - Prescription drugs, including opioids
 - Stigma
 - Alcohol
 - Overdose prevention and management
 - Substance use and co-occurring issues and disorders
 - Indigenous approaches to addressing substance use and healing
 - Health promotion, substance use prevention and early identification
 - Public health approaches to substance use across the continuum of care
 - Recovery, health and well-being
 - Sex- and gender-appropriate approaches to substance use
 - Drugs of evolving legal status
 - Innovative methods to bringing research to practice
- Take advantage of sponsorship and exhibit opportunities.



Points to Emphasize

- The early-bird registration fee is \$795, which includes all sessions, three breakfasts, two lunches and conference materials. If you register after September 8 the fee is \$895.
- Professional development is critical for preparing employees to take on greater responsibility and respond more effectively to changes in the field.
- IOS 2017 offers a comprehensive, intensive learning environment. Your attendance will be much more cost effective and time efficient compared to registering for multiple seminars or webinars.
- To amplify the conference value, share the speaker handouts and deliver a short presentation on key concepts to your colleagues when you return to your office.

Sample Justification Email

Below is sample text for an email message you can send your manager to support your attendance:

Dear [name],

I would like to attend the Issues of Substance Conference (IOS) 2017, hosted by the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction in Calgary, Alberta, from November 13–15.

This conference is specifically tailored to enhance applied knowledge and skills for professionals working in the substance use and addiction fields. It features keynote presentations, concurrent sessions, workshops and posters. Of particular interest to my work are [mention sessions relevant to your areas of focus and responsibilities].

The [Program at a Glance](#) is available for your review at www.issuesofsubstance.ca.

New this year, IOS will feature a “Call for Late-breaking Abstracts” to ensure attendees are informed on new or novel findings in the addiction field via timely presentations designed to stimulate ideas and discussion, promote learning and energize attendees to participate in debate.

The early-bird registration fee is only \$795 (available until September 8) and includes all the sessions, three breakfasts, two lunches and all breaks, plus all conference materials. This represents excellent value for money.

I hope you will support my attendance, as I believe this conference will bring great value to both me and our organization. I have calculated the costs, attached for your convenience. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Your name]

[Title]



Canadian Centre
on Substance Use
and Addiction

CCSA was created by Parliament to provide national leadership to address substance use in Canada. A trusted counsel, we provide national guidance to decision makers by harnessing the power of research, curating knowledge and bringing together diverse perspectives.

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