

Things You Need to Know: 2026 Canadian Community Psychology Conference

This is intended to support your navigation of the relevant spaces at **Wilfrid Laurier University's Waterloo Campus**, where the conference will be held. While we aim to centre accessibility as a guiding principle and key goal of this conference, note that there are limitations and this document hopes to outline our solutions while also being transparent about potential barriers.

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Important Notes

- Please note that we are a scent free environment for this event. Laurier is also a smoke free campus.
- We encourage you to bring your own reusable water bottle. Water bottle refill stations are available throughout campus.
- A Registration/Information Booth will be in the Science Building Atrium or lobby if you have any questions, or need assistance with way finding, getting food, locating spaces on campus, etc. Please share any accessibility concerns at this desk.
 - **The registration desk will be open May 21st to May 23rd from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm**
- WiFi guest logins will be available at the Registration/Information desk
- Here is a link to the [Campus Map](#) to assist you with finding your way around campus.
- **Please ensure to bring your lanyards everyday and at all events as it indicates you have registered and can receive meals provided. If you lose your lanyard, please inform the Information Desk.**

Arriving to campus

Wilfrid Laurier University is located at:
75 University Ave. W, Waterloo ON N2L 3C5

The conference will be held on the ground level of the **Science and Bricker Academic (BA) Buildings**. The Thursday evening Gala will be held at the **Turret in the Fred Nichols Campus Centre**. See [here](#) for a link to the campus map.

Arriving by Vehicle

The Science and Bricker Academic Buildings are located on the corner of King St. N. and Bricker Ave., opposite the Athletics Complex and Alumni Field. You may enter the parking lots directly off of King St. N. Alternatively, you may access the campus via the main entrance at 75 University Ave. W and follow the signs to the Science Building for day sessions of the conference.

For the Gala, follow the signs on campus for the Fred Nichols Campus Centre *picture and additional directions included in the Conference Program Document*)

We have mapped out Accessible parking spots close to the Science Building and Bricker Academic where the conference will be held and the Fred Nicols Campus Centre for the gala. They are limited to:

- 4 near Bricker Academic (Lot 21)
- 2 near Science Building (Lot 24)
- Parking Lot 10 (closest accessible parking to Fred Nichols Campus Centre where the Gala will be held).
- While all accessible spots are available to guests, a valid payment and valid MTO accessible permit is needed.

There are 2-3 EV charging stations with a 4hr max. near Bricker Academic Parking (Lot 21). While the EV charging stations are not accessible parking spaces remain accessible to the building.

On Thursday and Friday, you can park in Visitor Paid Parking Lots on campus (**see [here](#) for locations of parking lots on campus, and [here](#) for additional details on parking at the Waterloo campus**). For Saturday parking on campus will be free and you can park in any of Gold or White parking lots.

The closest Parking Lots for visitors to relevant buildings are Lots 24, 4, 20 and 3A. If you are staying in residence, you can use the residence parking lots which are cheaper. While we are unfortunately unable to offer additional accessible spots and free parking on campus, street parking is available for free, but there is a 3-hour parking limit. More information about parking is available at the registration/information booth.

Arriving by Transit

If you are staying in Waterloo, you can board the GRT 7 King Bus and stop at King/University Ave. This stop is in front of the Athletics Complex on both directions of King St. You will see a plaza with Booster Juice, etc. Go in the opposite direction from the plaza and you will find the East end of the Science Building located on the corner of King St. and Bricker Ave.

If you are arriving from outside of Waterloo, there are designated Go Buses arriving from various cities, directly to Laurier.

Upon Arrival

You may enter the conference via the Science or Bricker Academic Buildings. Ramps and automatic door openers are available at all entrances to both buildings. Signage will be posted to support and guide you.

The Registration/Information desk will be located in the East end of the Science Building, either in the Atrium or lobby areas. There is a ramp to access the lowered level of the Atrium near the Tim Hortons (West of the Atrium) inside the building. Please note that the Tim Hortons is currently closed for the season.

Please follow the signs for conference locations.

Organizers and volunteers will be available at the Registration/Information desk throughout the conference should you require any assistance.

Room Locations

All conference rooms are on the main floor of the Science and Bricker Academic buildings. Balloons and signage are posted to indicate conference locations.

Please read the [Full Conference Schedule](#) to identify the correct room for the sessions relevant to you. All rooms in the Science Building are noted in the conference program with the letter “N”; rooms in the Bricker Academic building are noted with “BA”.

These rooms (in the Science Building, Bricker Academic and the Turet) do not have door openers. Volunteers and organizers will be available to hold doors open.

To the extent possible, we request everyone to use a microphone during conference sessions for voice amplification. Even if you are able to speak loudly, we request you to **please use the microphone if one is available**. If you require technical support, assistance is available from conference volunteers or Laurier’s ICT support personnel.

Science Building (Specific Things to Note)

N1001 and N1002 are located at the East end of the Science Building near the main lobby. Both rooms have sloped seating with armrests and accessible with stairs. Additional armless chairs will also be available as possible on the main level of these rooms.

N1001 has 4 wheelchair accessible seating options on the main level. here. N1002 has 2 wheelchair accessible seating options on the main level.

All other rooms in the Science Building are smaller with movable chairs with and without armrests.

Bricker Academic (BA) (Specific Things to Note)

Bricker Academic Building is connected to the Science Building and you can access it through the doors within the West end of the Science Building. This will lead you to a corridor in the Science Research Building (part of the Science Building). Turn left here and continue until you can turn right. You will then see a ramp which is wheelchair accessible. This ramp will lead you to Bricker Academic. There are also campus signs within these buildings.

All rooms in Bricker Academic have movable chairs with and without armrests.

The Turret (Gala ONLY)

The Gala is being held in the Turret, located on the 3rd floor of the Fred Nichols Campus Centre. The Turret is mostly accessible inside. There are large, accessible stalls but there are no automatic taps for water nor door openers to the washrooms. The suggested dress code is **semi-formal**, though guests are warmly invited to attend in whatever style feels right for them.

You can get to the Turret by elevator. You can find the elevator on the left, when you enter the front entrance of the Fred Nichols Campus Centre building (see photo below).



Other Accessibility Features

Captioning

Captioning will be available via a Zoom link (available in person) in both English and French for the plenary (large group) sessions on Thursday May 21.

Captioning in English only will be available on Friday May 22 and Saturday May 23 for sessions in the following rooms and locations only¹:

¹ Due to financial and technical capacity constraints, we are unable to provide further captioning capabilities. We apologize for the barriers this may present.

- BA110
- BA111
- BA112
- N1001
- N1002
- N1057

Washrooms

- There are large single stall accessible, gender neutral washrooms located in the Science Research Building corridors which connects the Science and Bricker Academic buildings. Signage will be posted to assist with locating these.
- Additional washrooms are located at the East end of the Science Building near the lobby and Atrium and have accessible stalls. Washrooms in Bricker Academic also have accessible stalls. **While most washrooms are not explicitly gender neutral, Laurier supports everyone's right to choose a washroom that aligns with their gender identity.**
- In the Turret, where the Gala will be held, there are large, accessible stalls but there are no automatic taps for water nor door openers to the washrooms.

Quiet Spaces

- **N1053 (Dean's Boardroom)** - This space will be available for *most* of the conference and can be found on the right corridor of the Science Building.
- **Courtyard (outdoor)** - West of the Science building, as you are walking towards Bricker Academic, you will see an outdoor space (the courtyard). This space is wheelchair accessible with door openers. It can be used as a medicine space and a quiet space. However, it is a bit loud close to the door due to a fan close by. If you walk a bit further down, it gets slightly quieter.
- **Couches** – In the Science Research Building (near the accessible gender neutral washrooms) there is corner seating with couches next to a window in the Research Waiting Area.

Food

Vegetarian, vegan, and gluten free food options will be available as requested for registered participants on May 22 and 23. There will be signage indicating gluten free options, which are provided for those who mentioned this need at registration.

Lunch is not catered on May 21st. Below are some suggested spots nearby with a variety of food options to get lunch. Please check their menus for all options (some are listed below)

- **Sultans Mediterranean Grill (Nut free & Halal options)**
253 King St N Unit: FC2, Waterloo, ON N2J 2Y8
- **Mucho Burrito (vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options)**
220 King. St. N Waterloo ON

- **Potluck Caribbean Cuisine (Nut free options)**
253 King St N, Waterloo, ON N2J 2Y8
- **Williams Fresh Cafe (vegetarian options)**
170 University Ave W, Waterloo, ON N2L 3E9
- **Famoso Italian Pizzeria - Waterloo (Vegetarian & Nut free options)**
15 King St S, Waterloo, ON N2J 1N9
- **241 Pizza (Vegan options)**
258 King St N #1, Waterloo, ON N2J 2Y9
- **Second Cup Cafe**
255 King St N #1, Waterloo, ON N2J 4V2

Gala Food: At the Check-In table in the Turret, you will be provided with your drink and meal ticket for the night. Please note that everyone will receive 1-2 free drink tickets here and a meal ticket if you requested a meat option. You will not receive a meal ticket if you indicated a veg option as vegetarian meals are the standard at this conference. After that, you may purchase additional beverages from the **card-only** bar (i.e. no cash).

Emergency Planning

Download the Laurier SAFEHawk App to your smartphone. The SAFEHawk official safety app of Wilfrid Laurier University features emergency contacts, crisis alerts, location services features, in-app tip reporting, and more. Conference organizers and volunteers will be available to assist in an emergency.



Other Amenities and Considerations

- Hand sanitizers are located throughout the buildings including in front of N1001 and N1002.
- Water refill stations and fountains are available near most washrooms throughout the Science and Bricker Academic Buildings
- [Laurier is a smoke-free campus](#). If you need a place to smoke or vape, you can access the public sidewalk via the courtyard and outside the Science and Bricker Academic buildings.