



FALLING
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ENGAGE



Falling Walls Engage Hub Canada Annual Event

Ottawa, Ontario
May 15-16, 2023

Pre-meetings

May 15, 2023

Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)
55 Metcalfe Street, Suite 1100

14:00 Toolkit Working Group: Grant Research

Facilitated by Stephanie Okeyo, Director, Under the Microscope (UTM) and Diane Dechief, Science Communication Specialist, Office of Science Education, McGill University

Canadian science engagers brainstorm on the basics of grant writing, including on topics such as the types of grants available, sources of funding, and the scouting process as well as the different ways of presenting projects to funders. The information will be collected and edited as part of a global funding toolkit for science engagers, currently being developed by UTM.

15:30 Engage Hub Canada Advisory Committee Planning Meeting (Private Event)

Facilitated by Brett Hooton, Manager, Falling Walls Engage Hub Canada

Members of the advisory committee will discuss the future directions of the Hub and its goals for 2023-24.

19:00 Falling Walls Engage Hub Canada and Confabulation Montreal Storytelling present “Combustion: Stories of breakthroughs, hypothesis and things going up in smoke” (Pour Boy Pub, 495 Somerset Street West)

The well-known Montreal storytelling series comes to Ottawa for a special event on a theme related to how science can impact our lives and our world in unexpected ways. Several of the science engagers participating in the Engage Hub Canada workshop will share their stories during this public event.



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The Power of the Pitch: A Funding and Skills-building Workshop for Canadian Science Engagers

May 16, 2023

Impact Hub Ottawa

123 Slater Street, 7th floor

Agenda

- 9:00** **Coffee, croissants and mingling**
- 9:30** **Welcome, land acknowledgement, and goals for the day**
Given by Brett Hooton, Manager, Falling Walls Engage Hub Canada
- 9:35** **Icebreaker and community-building activities**
Facilitated by Jessica Abdallah, Geordie Theatre School Creative Director, and the Geordie Workplace Workshop team
- 10:20** **Health break**
- 10:30** **Fishbowl discussion between funders and science engagers**
Facilitated by Stephanie Okeyo, Director, Under the Microscope (UTM) and Diane Dechief, Science Communication Specialist, Office of Science Education, McGill University
Representatives of organizations that fund science engagement projects in Canada and internationally join science engagement practitioners for a discussion about what funders are looking for, where are the gaps and opportunities, and what are some tips for creating a successful proposal. The facilitators then pose the following questions to the group: If you were in a room with a funder (you are!) what questions would you ask and what recommendations would you give? Questions can either be asked from the audience or participants can replace one of the original science engagers at the discussion table.
- 12:00** **Lunch**



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- 13:00** **Unlocking your power as a pitcher**
Facilitated by Jessica Abdallah, Geordie Theatre School Creative Director, and the Geordie Workplace Workshop team
This interactive session will provide participants with group and individualized instruction on how to present from their places of strength. They will discover techniques used by actors to help put their best foot forward when sharing their passion for science and its ability to engage the public. Through a series of exercises, participants will connect to the power of their voice, gain awareness of their bodies in space, and explore relaxation techniques to help manage stress and anxiety.
- 14:30** **Develop your pitch for funders**
Now that participants have heard what funders want and have learned a little about their presenting style, it's time to get to work. As pairs, participants have 60 minutes to create a brand-new pitch for a current or future science engagement project. While developing their pitch, the Geordie team will circulate to give additional pointers.
- 15:30** **Give your pitch to our panel of experts**
Let's bring it all together. Each person gives their new pitch in front of a panel of expert judges. Following each presentation, the judges will give instant feedback. They will also keep notes, which can be shared with the presenters following the workshop. Finally, the judges select the top pitch overall. All participants will also vote on their favourite via an online polling system. The judges' top pitch and the "people's choice" presenter will receive a special prize.
- 16:30** **Debrief, feedback, and closing remarks**
Facilitated by Brett Hooton, Engage Hub Canada
Participants are asked to complete a quick online survey before leaving.
- 17:00** **Workshop concludes.**
- 19:00** **Dinner with workshop participants, proudly sponsored by**
(Play Food & Wine, 1 York Street)

