

CALL FOR PAPERS**Somali Studies in Canada Colloquium: Identity and Belonging**

Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. October 18 & 19, 2019

Carleton University is happy to announce its second **Somali Studies in Canada Colloquium**, taking place on October 18 and 19, 2019. This year's theme, *Identity and Belonging*, will focus on the thematic priorities that emerged from the roundtable discussions at the first Somali Studies in Canada Colloquium in 2017.

This second conference is designed to play a key role in facilitating dialogue and partnerships among the Somali Studies academic community at local, regional, and national levels. We are interested in papers that address issues of identity for Somalis in Canada such as: identity conflict, historical trauma, the influence of less-studied periods of Somali history, cultural resurgence and practice, systemic barriers including access to higher education, economy and labour market integration, the promotion of wellbeing and social justice.

Interested academics, researchers, educators, and health and social work practitioners are invited to submit their work. We ask applicants to submit a 200-word abstract describing their proposed paper, their academic/professional biography (100 words) and a full paper (approximately 5000-7000 words, including references). The accepted papers will also be submitted for publication in an edited volume following the conference.

Papers may include but are not limited to theoretical and conceptual academic studies, reports on empirical research, poems and reflections by community practitioners, activists, and artists based on the following topics:

Revisiting the Past:

- 15th-19th-century Somali history, as well as historic cultural and spiritual traditions and their contemporary manifestations in the diaspora;
- The colonial period (19th century to 1960) and its lingering effects on Somali Canadians;
- Somali migration to and presence in Canada in the post-independence (1960-1969) and pre-war Socialist (1969-1991) periods;
- The influence of historical Somali intellectuals, writers, and leaders.

Addressing Present Challenges:

- Post-war Islamic politics;
- Post-colonial struggles and dealing with historical trauma;
- Somali Canadian youth in distress (criminalization, bi-cultural distress, media misrepresentation);
- Addressing issues of wellbeing (mental and physical health);
- Identifying barriers to higher education and recommendations.

Envisioning The Future:

- Establishing a vision for inclusive spaces and strengthening Somali-youth-led organizations;
- Challenging stereotypes through inclusive media;
- Decolonizing Somali-centred scholarship;
- Nurturing cultural identity through Somali traditional arts, prose, poetry, and songs.

Application deadline: March 15, 2019. Please send your papers, abstracts and biographies to:

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