

## 2026 BPSO® Knowledge Exchange Symposium Call for Abstracts

### Overview

The Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) invites Best Practice Spotlight Organizations® (BPSOs®) to submit abstracts for the **2026 BPSO Knowledge Exchange Symposium**, which will take place in Toronto on **Thursday, Sept. 24, 2026**. This hybrid event will convene BPSOs from across Ontario and internationally to celebrate implementation excellence, share evidence-based insights, and strengthen collective impact across all sectors and roles, including clinical practice, leadership, academia, research, and policy.

The Symposium is grounded in the shared belief that meaningful change is driven by people, sustained through practice and demonstrated by its impact. This year's program will reflect the theme:

### **From capacity to impact: Building, implementing and measuring change**

Showcasing how organizations move from readiness and capability-building to measurable, sustainable outcomes.

Abstract submitters are encouraged to clearly articulate how their submission aligns with the theme.

### What we're looking for:

Abstracts may highlight:

- Work aligned with RNAO Best Practice Guidelines (BPGs) or related toolkits
- Champion development and capacity-building strategies
- Local or system-level implementation initiatives
- Quality improvement and evaluation projects
- Measurement of outcomes and impact
- Innovations in practice or system design, including digital tools
- Interprofessional, cross-sectoral, or team-based collaboration

Selected submissions will represent:

- Sector diversity (academic, acute, community, long-term care, Ontario Health Teams (OHTs), primary care, public health)
- A range of clinical, system, leadership, and implementation perspectives
- Equity and inclusion across roles, populations, and geography
- Fit with limited hybrid-capacity for in-person presentations

Note: The BPSO OHT Summit, taking place on Friday, Sept. 25, 2026, will feature invited speakers only and will not include a call for abstracts.

## Presentation Formats

Please indicate your preferred format; however, the planning committee reserves the right to assign the final format.

1. **Concurrent session** (15-minutes oral presentation + 5-minutes Q&A)  
Ideal for projects with a fully developed narrative, including background, methods, implementation strategies, results, and lessons learned.
2. **Rapid oral presentation** (10-minutes)  
A concise presentation suitable for innovations, early findings, or emerging work.
3. **Poster display** (6'x4' - which will be displayed and available for all attendees to visit)  
Best for early-stage projects, focused initiatives, or visually driven work shared during facilitated poster sessions.

*Note:* Concurrent sessions and rapid oral presentations may feature hybrid livestreaming; posters will be an in-person display only. BPSOs are expected to bring their poster that will be mounted on a 6ft by 4ft poster board. RNAO is not responsible for the cost of producing BPSO's posters.

## Abstract Categories

Abstract submitters must select **one primary category**:

### 1. Champions & capacity building

Focuses on how individuals and teams are developed, supported and mobilized to lead evidence-based practice change. Topics may include:

- Champion engagement and sustainment strategies
- Leadership approaches that enable implementation
- Motivation, coaching, and mentorship
- Team-based and interprofessional capacity-building models

### 2. Implementation stories & digital tools

Centers on practical experiences of putting evidence into practice and adapting along the way. Topics may include:

- BPSO Implementation journeys and lessons learned
- Adaptations of BPGS to local context, population, or settings
- Digital tools or technologies that support BPG uptake and sustainability
- Barriers encountered and strategies used to address them

### 3. Evaluation & outcomes

Highlights how impact is measured, demonstrated, and sustained over time. Topics may include:

- Measuring clinical, experiential, operational, or workforce outcomes
- Evaluation approaches and data quality (qualitative and/or quantitative)
- Sustainability and spread of implementation efforts
- Using data to inform decisions and demonstrate change

## Abstract structure

Your abstract must include:

1. Title (working title for presentation)
2. Content (maximum 300 words) including:
  - a. background/rationale
  - b. aim/purpose
  - c. methods/implementation approach
  - d. results/outcomes
  - e. lessons learned & implications for practice
3. Authors (full name, credentials, role/title)
4. Organization name
5. Contribution type (select one: concurrent, rapid, poster)
6. Category/Track (select one: champions & capacity building; implementation stories & digital tools; evaluation & outcomes)
7. Relevant BPG(s) or Toolkit(s) used

Abstracts are limited to a maximum of six (6) co-authors per. Up to two (2) in-person attendees per BPSO may attend the symposium (including presenters). Refer to your BPSO agreement for funding details.

## Submission requirements

- **Abstract content word limit:** 300 words - the online abstract submission form will not permit you to save an abstract that is longer than 300 words.
- **Submission limit:** A maximum of two (2) abstracts may be submitted per organization/OHT.
- **Collaborative submissions:** Multi-organization, co-authored abstracts are welcome.
- **Presenter requirements:** All presenters must register and attend the symposium.
- **Format assignment:** By submitting an abstract, authors agree to present in any format assigned by the planning committee.
- **Language and accessibility:** Use plain language and prioritize equity, accessibility, and inclusion.
- **Submission language:** Abstracts must be submitted in English.
- **Completion requirements:** Only fully completed presenter profiles and abstract submissions marked as **Final** will be reviewed. Please ensure all “Draft” submissions are finalized before the deadline.

## Important dates:

Milestone	Date
Call for Abstracts opens	April 1, 2026
Abstract submission deadline	June 1, 2026
Notification of abstract status	June 24, 2026
Presenter confirmation due	July 2, 2026
Registration opens	July 6, 2026
Materials due (slides/posters)	Aug. 9, 2026

## Abstract Review Rubric

Each criterion is scored out of 10 points.

1. **Clarity of purpose & rationale**  
Clear articulation of the problem, context, and why the work matters.
2. **Alignment to BPG/BPSO program**  
Strong and explicit connection to relevant RNAO Best Practice Guideline(s), toolkits, and BPSO priorities.
3. **Aim / Purpose**  
Well-defined, appropriate and achievable aim(s) aligned with the described work.
4. **Implementation approach**  
Clearly described implementation methodology (e.g., Knowledge-to-Action, co-design, social movement action), including roles and processes.
5. **Interprofessional & collaborative practice**  
Meaningful involvement of interprofessional teams, partners, or cross-sector collaboration.
6. **Adaptation & contextual responsiveness**  
Thoughtful tailoring to local context, population, or setting, including strategies to address barriers.
7. **Outcomes & impact**  
Clear reporting of outcomes (clinical, experiential, operational, workforce) with appropriate evidence or data.
8. **Evaluation quality & use of data**  
Sound evaluation approach, including data sources, quality, and how findings inform decision-making.
9. **Equity, diversity, inclusion & accessibility**  
Demonstrated consideration of equity, inclusion of priority populations, cultural humility, and accessibility.
10. **Transferability & fit for format**  
Clear lessons learned with potential for scale or spread, and strong fit for the selected presentation format and category.

### **Total: 100 points**

Top scoring abstracts may be selected as featured concurrent presentations or hybrid streamed talks.

## How to submit an abstract

1 Visit the abstract submission website: <https://indico.rnao.ca/e/2026symposium>

September 24, 2026  
Canada/Eastern timezone

**Overview**

Scientific Program

Call for Abstracts

[BPSO@RNAO.ca](mailto:BPSO@RNAO.ca)

The Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) invites Best Practice Spotlight Organizations® (BPSOs®) to submit abstracts for the **2026 BPSO Knowledge Exchange Symposium**, which will take place in Toronto on Thursday, Sept. 24, 2026. This hybrid event will convene BPSOs from across Ontario and Internationally to celebrate implementation excellence, share evidence-based insights, and strengthen collective impact across all sectors and roles, including clinical practice, leadership, academia, research, and policy.

The **2026 BPSO Knowledge Exchange Symposium** is grounded in the shared belief that meaningful change is driven by people, sustained through practice, and demonstrated through impact.

This year's program will reflect the theme:  
**From Capacity to Impact: Building, implementing and measuring change**  
Showcasing how organizations move from readiness and capability-building to measurable, sustainable outcomes.

Abstract submissions open April 1 and close June 1, 2026.

**Starts** Sep 24, 2026, 7:00 AM  
**Ends** Sep 24, 2026, 5:00 PM  
Canada/Eastern

**Location** To be confirmed.

**Organized by**  
Citlali Singh  
Dr. Julie Fineccko

For more information: [BPSO Symposium | RNAO.ca](#)

**The call for abstracts is open**  
You can submit an abstract for reviewing.

[Submit new abstract](#)

Powered by [Indico v3.2.9](#) | [Help](#) | [Contact](#)

Log in using your MyRNAO account. If you have previously submitted an abstract to an RNAO or BPSO Symposium, you may already have an account. If you do not have an account, select “I want to create an account” and follow the prompts to register. Membership in RNAO is not required to create a MyRNAO account or submit an abstract.

[Click here to watch a short video on how to submit an abstract in Indico \(getindico.io\)](https://getindico.io)

# Tips: Steps to assist BPSOs in developing an abstract



## Other tips:

- ✓ Include references in your abstract if possible
- ✓ Have someone review it before submitting
- ✓ Be BOLD!

**Tips for Writing a Conference Abstract**

*Tips for Writing a Conference Abstract* video was presented by Janet Chee, Associate Director, RNAO Long-Term Care Best Practices Program, to Ontario BPSOs in long-term care sector on Aug. 3, 2022.