



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025



CARA | ACCAAR

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Message from the President

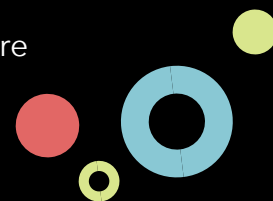
As we come to the close of my first year as President, I am deeply inspired by the unwavering dedication of the CARA staff and our member volunteers. This past year has been marked by significant achievements and meaningful progress:

- We successfully conducted the compensation survey, providing valuable insights for our community.
- Our conference in Fredericton, NB brought together professionals from across the sector, while the Virtual Summit offered new opportunities for connection and learning.
- The Dr. Frances Chandler bursary was expanded to support students pursuing the Research Management Coordination Certificate, furthering our commitment to professional growth.
- Despite a challenging environment in the post-secondary sector, with considerable change and reduced funding for professional development, our collective resilience has shone through.

Looking ahead, we are excited to bring the national conference to the West Coast in Richmond, BC, continuing our tradition of fostering collaboration and innovation.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our shared success. Together, we are building a stronger future for research administration.

Rachel Brown





Our Mission

To foster research administration and management expertise in Canada by facilitating a strong and vibrant community, providing and facilitating robust career and professional development programs and services for members, and enabling synthesis and dissemination of information/knowledge on research administration and management with a view to developing individual and organizational excellence.



Our Vision

To be the national, collaborative body of knowledge and expertise on research administration and management in the Canadian research landscape.



Our Values

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, which starts with dismantling systemic barriers to equitable participation in CARA and the research administration profession; to seek and value diverse representation in the CARA community as we are stronger, more productive, and effective because of diversity; and, to create a supportive, active, accessible, and diverse research administrator/management community that values a variety of perspectives, thoughts, and ideas.

Integrity, which includes respect, trust, transparency, and honesty.

Transparency, which includes a commitment to sharing information, experiences, insights, and best practices.

Relevance, by supporting innovation, forward thinking, learning, improvement, creativity, and inquiry.

Sustainability, to ensure operational viability of the association.



The Canadian Association of Research Administrators (CARA) is a nationwide community that brings together research administration professionals fulfilling a diverse range of roles in a field that is complex and ever evolving. CARA is committed to supporting the profession by offering members a safe, inclusive, and equitable professional space to learn and grow through networking with peers, sharing best practices, professional development, mentorship, and leadership opportunities.

1129 Members



164 in
British Columbia



112 in
Alberta



70 in
Saskatchewan



26 in
Manitoba



484 in
Ontario



119 in
Quebec



28 in
New Brunswick



48 in
Nova Scotia



6 in
Prince Edward
Island



31 in
Newfoundland



9 in
Yukon Territory



6 in
Northwest
Territories



1 in
Nunavut



4 International
Members



778 Members work at universities



96 Members work at colleges



70 Members work in academic hospitals or other clinical research settings



34 Members are government employees



60 Members work at institutes



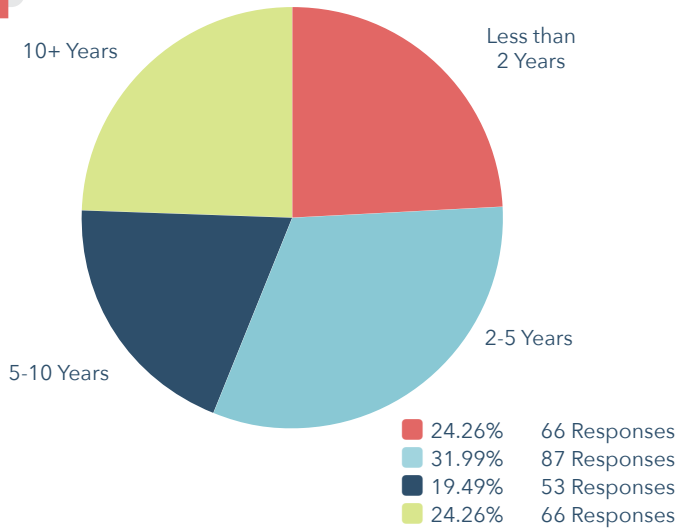
26 Members work at polytechnics



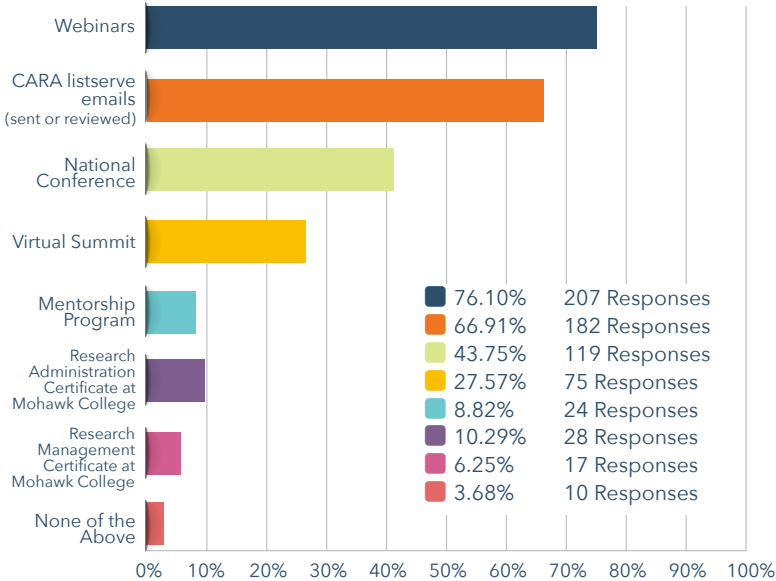
Our other members work in other settings or are future or retired research administrators.

Membership Survey Results

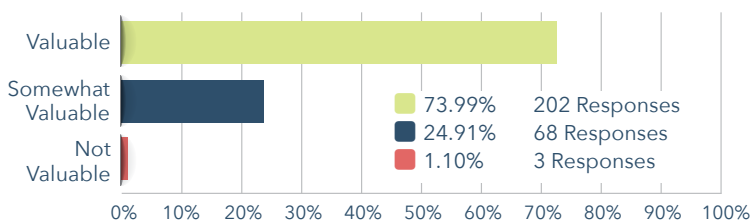
1 How long have you been a member of CARA? 272 Total Responses



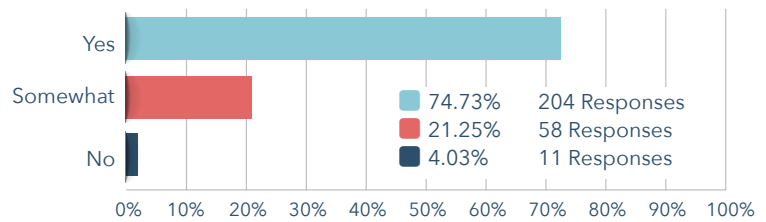
2 Which CARA professional development programs did you use last year? Please check all that apply. 662 Total Responses



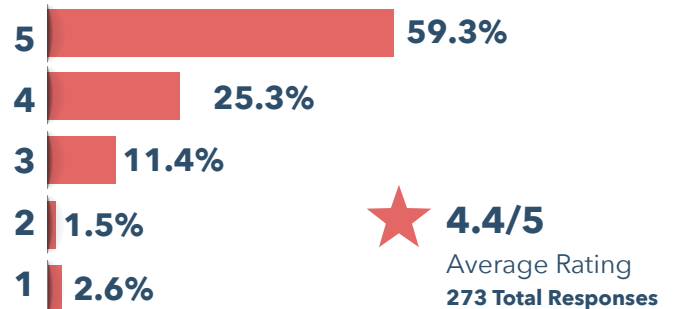
3 Do you think CARA provides valuable professional development opportunities through its activities? e.g., Conferences, workshops, certificate programs, etc. 273 Total Responses



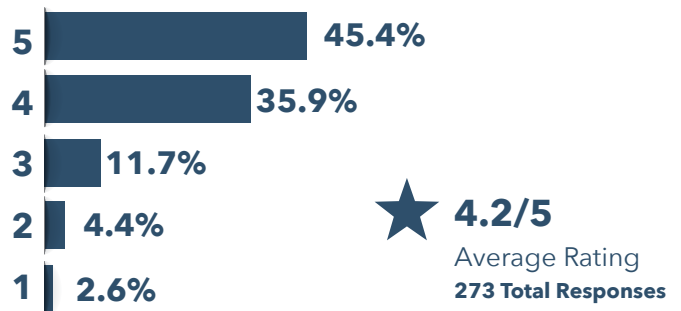
4 Do you think CARA membership has benefited you in your chosen career? 273 Total Responses



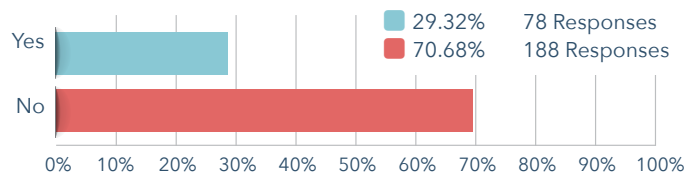
5 How likely are you to recommend CARA membership to a colleague? (scale of 1 to 5 - 5 is very likely)



6 How satisfied are you with your CARA membership? (scale 1 to 5 - 5 is very satisfied)



7 Are there any products or services you have found helpful in your professional development that CARA is currently not offering? 266 Total Responses





25 Highlights from 2025-26

- 1** • **We welcomed** 430 delegates to Fredericton for the 2025 Canadian Conference on Research Administration
- 2** • **The Dr. Frances Chandler Bursary** expanded to include the Research Management Certificate
- 3** • **We congratulated** 6 Research Administration Certificate graduates
- 4** • **We celebrated** 1 graduate from the Research Management and Coordination program
- 5** • **We established** the Barbara Crutchley Memorial Award
- 6** • **We celebrated** our 10-year partnership with The Personal Insurance Company
- 7** • **We have welcomed** 63 students to the Research Management and Coordination Certificate, in partnership with Mohawk College, since 2022
- 8** • **We recognized** 19 leaders and achievements with CARA Awards
- 9** • **We awarded** the first CARA Fellowship to Ash Lalani
- 10** • **Membership increased** to 1129
- 11** • **12 members** applied for and received the Dr. Frances Chandler Bursary
- 12** • **147 delegates attended** the Virtual Summit
- 13** • **285 members participated in** the compensation survey
- 14** • **We have welcomed** 494 students to the Research Administration Certificate since 2017
- 15** • **Our followers** on X increased to 1257
- 16** • **We celebrated** the first recipient of the Barbara Crutchley Memorial Award, Anita Sharma
- 17** • **We welcomed** 3554 registrants to 144 webinars led by 64 experts
- 18** • **221** volunteers made CARA possible
- 19** • Our LinkedIn group grew to **2307 members**
- 20** • **17 CARA mentors** continued their leadership in the profession
- 21** • **117 experts** led sessions and workshops at the National Conference
- 22** • **29 experts** presented at the Virtual Summit
- 23** • **We held** in person networking events in 4 cities
- 24** • **We launched** a virtual careers paid attendance workshop to introduce youth to careers in research administration and association management
- 25** • **More than 48% of youth** who attended CARA careers workshops identified as being from a group facing barriers to employment and 21% faced more than 1 barrier to employment*

**as defined by the Canada Summer Jobs program*

Award Recipients



The **CARA Awards Program** recognizes the best and brightest in Canadian research administration and management, from outstanding teams to individual leaders.

We congratulate the 2025 award recipients and thank them for their exceptional leadership in the profession.

Legacy Award - *Angela Zeno*

Walter Hirschfeld Award - *Sarah Lampson*

Dan Chase Distinguished Service Award, Priority Initiatives - *Bonnie Hughes*

Directors Award for Inter-Institutional Collaboration - *Melissa Joyce*

Innovation Award - *Kristen Korberg, Jyoti Kotecha, Sophie Felleiter and Erica Conte*

Public Engagement and Advocacy Award - *Alexandra Kindrat*

Research Management Excellence Award - *Terry Campbell*

Research Project Management Award - *Jyoti Kotecha*

Spirit of Kindness Award - *Fleur MacQueen, Carolyn Osborn, Cathy Parlee, Jill Rogers, and Emma Yeun*

Unsung Hero Award - *David Bruce and Sophie Felleiter*

Best Poster Award - *Sophie Felleiter, Jyoti Kotecha, Karen Samis, and Merline Fowler*

People's Choice Award for Best Poster - *Lauren Gogo*

Thank you to the Awards Committee for assessing all the 2026 award nominations and leading the Awards Program

Jacquelynn Brown (Chair) - Saskatchewan Polytechnic

Helene Noddin - St. Thomas University

Kelly-Anne Maddox - University of Ottawa

Lisa Leung - University of Toronto

Stacey Leavitt - Athabasca University

Yvonne Kjorlien - Mount Royal University



Graduates

Congratulations to the 2025 Research Administration Certificate Graduates!

The graduates each completed 6 courses covering the core components of research administration - the funding environment, ethics, integrity and governance, funding proposals, project management, financial management, and contracts and reporting.

Martin Butcher

Akshay Khosla

Amir Modalal

Joan Noda

Nicole van Rootselaar

Suzanne Brett Walsh



Congratulations to Siddharth Ramani, the 2025 Certificate in Research Management and Coordination Graduate.

Thank you
to all graduates
for investing
in professional
development and
advancing the
profession.



Events

CARA delivered 2 conferences this year, the National Conference in Fredericton, New Brunswick and the Virtual Summit.

We gratefully acknowledge the leadership of the conference planning committees and all 117 speakers at these events, which were attended by 577 delegates.



**2025 National Conference
Committee Chair**

Rachel Brown
Niagara College



**2025 Virtual Summit
Co-chairs**

Jyoti Kotecha
Queen's University



Kelly-Anne Maddox
University of Ottawa

National Conference Program Committee

- Angela Di Nello - McMaster University
- Anita Sharma - Thompson Rivers University
- Anu Nair - Health Sciences North Research Institute
- Asim Ahmad - University of Calgary
- Campbell Peat - University of Lethbridge
- Helene Noddin - St. Thomas University
- Jamie McInnis - South Alberta Institute of Technology
- Karen Samis - Queen's University
- Rana Mustafa - University of Saskatchewan
- Sloane Evariste - University of Toronto

Virtual Summit Committee

- Aashima Kholsa - Unity Health Toronto
- Alexandra Kindrat - McGill University
- Andrea Day - Queen's University
- Georgie Columbus - University of Alberta
- Jenna Millar (Slobozian) - University of Calgary
- Michaela Lynds - University of Saskatchewan
- Nicole van Rootselaar - University of Lethbridge
- Sophie Felleiter - Queen's University
- Terry Campbell - University of Ottawa

Poster Judges

We thank the 2025 poster judges for their leadership contributions in evaluating the posters in the annual competition.

David Bruce
Kristen Korberg
Jyoti Kotecha
Karen Mosier
Sarah Novosedlik
Robyn Roscoe
Deborah Zornes



Thank you for 5 years of service

We thank Mickel Allen for 5 years of service as an international ambassadorial leader on behalf of CARA.



Mickel A. Allen
York University

**CARA Representative to
Research Administrators
in the Caribbean**

Research administrators in Canada and the Caribbean collaborate to share expertise, best practices, and coordinate professional development opportunities. Ms. Mickel A. Allen has been pivotal in initiating and leading collaborative efforts, focusing on capacity building to strengthen research administration in the Caribbean. As CARA's representative, she continues to play a key role in fostering connections between research administrators, facilitating the exchange of knowledge, and supporting the development of professional skills. She has been serving in this capacity since 2021.



Committee Members

Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who lead and run CARA programs, including many who serve on committees and task forces.

Professional Development Committee

Karen Mosier (Co-chair) - *University of Saskatchewan*
Mike Folinas (Co-chair) - *University of Toronto*
Anne-Julie Houle - *Université de Montréal*
Carina Lang - *University of Guelph*
Julie-Ann Grant - *University of the West Indies*
Lola Iyiola - *Trinity Western University*
Oliver Goodison-Powell - *Conestoga College*
Pierre-Jean Alarco - *Polytechnique Montréal*
Sasha Eskandarian - *Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation*
Somiraa Said - *University of Regina*

Horizon Europe Committee

Karen Samis (Co-chair) - *Queen's University*
Brice Rousseau (Co-chair) - *University of Toronto*
Asli Eran - *Carleton University*
Carolyn Osborn - *University of Guelph*
Julia Page-Daigenault - *Université de Montréal*
Jodi David - *Southern Alberta Institute of Technology*
Elizabeth Russell-Minda - *University of Western Ontario*
Clotilde Ribaut - *International Research, University of Ottawa*
Donald Tremblay - *Université de Montréal*

Membership ROI Task Force

Mike Folinas (Co-chair) - *University of Toronto*
Kelly-Anne Maddox (Co-chair) - *University of Ottawa*
Alexandra Kindrat - *McGill University*
Gwen Hill - *Royal Roads University*
Jodi David - *Southern Alberta Institute of Technology*
Jyoti Kotecha - *Queen's University*
Mickel Allen - *York University*
Sophie Felleiter - *Queen's University*

Thank You Sponsors

2025

Thank you very much to the Sponsors of the 2025 Canadian Conference on Research Administration for supporting research administration in Canada

PLATINUM

Worktribe.™

GOLD



SILVER



BRONZE



SPONSORS



Expert Presenters in the 2025-26 Webinar Program

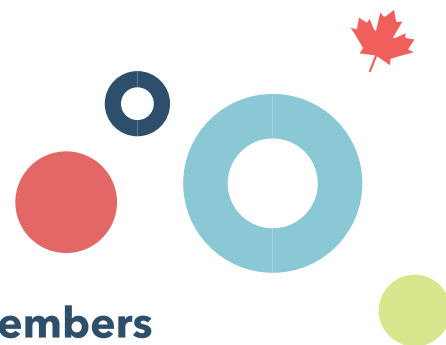


Thank you to the webinar presenters who shared their expertise with CARA members in 2025-26. The webinar program had over 3554 registrations underscoring how members value their peers' knowledge.

Francesca Abbruzzese	Lauren Gogo	Heidi Smithson
Pierre-Jean Alarco	Letitia Henville	Melissa Squires
Anna Aston	Gwen Thompson Hill	Leila Tang
Maha Bali	Priya Jaggi	Nishat Tasnim
Anna Borynec	Michael Johnny	Mike Walesiak
Rachel Brown	Simon Kerridge	Donna Walker
Shelley Brown	Donnchadh Kindlon	Andrew Wakefield
Terry Campbell	Sherri Kogan	James Waring
Rochelle Caruso	Elizabeth Kreiter	Angela Zeno
Frances Chandler	Keith Leung	Bonnie Zink
Sanjukta Choudhury	Kakali Majumdar	Deb Zornes
Anita Chiu	Sarah Martonick	
Gen Clark	Dominique Michaud	
Holly Connor	Jas Michalski	
Erica Conte	Michelle Moldofsky	
Mike Donaldson	Karen Mosier	
Tera Ebach	Helene Noddin	
Joel Faber	David Phipps	
Stewart Fast	Brandi Povitz	
Sophie Felleiter	Alison Prescott	
Ann-Marie Field	Marlon Rajakaruna	
Melinda Fischer	Eduardo Reyes-Serratos	
Mike Folinas	Palash Roy	
Eli Friedland	Josephine E. Sciortino	
Keith Friedlander	James Shelley	
Lindsay Frehlick	Dean Smith	



Members' Recognition and Publication



In addition to the annual CARA awards, CARA members received recognition from many other sources.

Congratulations to:

Ann-Marie Field who was honoured by UQAM last May, receiving the *2025 Prix du mérite in the Inspiration* category.

Loreto Mattioni Lagos who received the **Outstanding Contribution Award (2025)** from Medicine Hat College in April 2025.

Karen Mosier, University of Saskatchewan who was awarded the Office of the Vice-Dean Research's inaugural **"Excellence in Research Administration - Distinguished Administrator"** for 2025.

We also are pleased to highlight these publications by members this year:

Allen, Mickel (2025) *Canada's Role in Advancing Research Collaboration with the Caribbean and Latin America: The Centrality of Research Administration in Knowledge Co-Production and Mobilization*. Catalyst Quarterly, 1(1), 14-16p.

Kotecha, J., Felleiter, S., Seguin, A, Korberg, K. & Conte, E. (2025). *Evaluation of the Role and Career Path of Canadian Research Administrators in Higher Education*. Journal of Research Administration, 56(1), 40-59p.

Hoicka, C. E., MacCallum, E., Hameed, A., Leung, L., Neville, K. J., Asher, L., Galloway, T., Higgins, D., McKinnon, L., Papineau, M., Teelucksingh, C., Tizya-Tramm, E., Azimi Dijvejin, Z., Bazylak, A., Bergerson, J., Berlinguette, C. P., Besco, L., Birss, V., Boon, D., ... Sinton, D. (2026). *Toward inclusive energy futures: Reflections on the collective authorship of a multi-institutional, interdisciplinary, and community-engaged equity, diversity, and inclusion terms of reference*. Research Ethics. <https://doi.org/10.1177/17470161261423564>

in Memoriam

Tysen Lefebvre 2000 - 2025

Tysen Lefebvre, who worked at the national conference in Ottawa in 2018, passed away December 25, 2025. Many CARA members, sponsors and other conference attendees met Tysen at the event and also contributed to his fundraising one million dollars for Make a Wish Eastern Ontario. Working at the CARA conference was Tysen's first paid job after many years of tireless volunteer work. He later became the Accessibility Ambassador for the Ottawa Senators.

Tysen was an inspiring, generous community leader. His funeral was a beautiful tribute to him, a person who truly loved people. Thank you to all who welcomed him warmly to our conference and contributed to his work and those who made memorial donations. Special thank you to Gordon McDonald whose generous donation through his former company, Process Pathways, significantly topped up CARA's donation for Tysen's Mission to a Million Campaign in 2018.



Board of Directors

We thank all our volunteers and especially our Board of Directors whose leadership and expertise ensure excellence in the governance of CARA for all our members.



Rachel Brown
President
Niagara College



Lauren Gogo
Vice-President
Hamilton Health Sciences



Melissa Joyce
Treasurer
University of Victoria



Dominique Michaud
Immediate Past
President



Angela Zeno
Immediate Past
Treasurer

Directors



Jacquelynn Brown
Saskatchewan Polytechnic



Davon Callandar
Yukon University



Stacey Leavitt
Athabasca University



Kelly-Anne Maddox
University of Ottawa



Karen Mosier
University of Saskatchewan



Helene Noddin
St. Thomas University

Staff

Sarah Lampson
Executive Director

Alison Prescott
Manager,
Programs and Services

Representatives from Federal Research Funding Organizations



Jas Michalski
NSERC



Patrick Pilot
CFI



Andrew Wakefield
SSHRC



James Waring
CIHR

Our Plan for the Year Ahead

We will announce a **new award** at the **2026 Canadian Conference on Research Administration**

1

CARA celebrates **55 years** in **2027**

2

CARA continues planning to host **International Network of Research Management Societies (INORMS) Congress** in **Montreal** from **April 27-30**.

3





Thank
° You