

Laboratoires  
Écologiques  
du Canada



Sustainable  
Labs  
Canada

# 2026 SLCan Conference CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

November 16-20, 2026  
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity

## WHAT IS THE Sustainable Laboratory Conference



The 2026 SLCan Sustainable Laboratory Conference is a Canadian national forum focused on strengthening the sustainable laboratory community and sharing knowledge, promoting innovation and best practices, as well as providing a platform for strategic thinking and discussion on the challenges and opportunities related to these assets. We aim to provide participants with the best content for professional development and learning in the field of sustainable laboratories.

This year's theme is **Beyond the "Laboratory Box": The Science Behind Science Spaces** and will be exploring Policy and Regulations; Natural Resource and Specialized Labs; Energy and Retrofits; and Life Sciences and Biomanufacturing.

**Put your expertise front and centre today!**

## WHO ATTENDS THE Sustainable Laboratory Conference

Delegates come to these Conferences prepared to learn more about the development of sustainable labs, laboratory optimization, innovative designs, new technologies, current trends and best practices and innovative management solutions.

Connect your organization with representatives from research hospitals, universities, government, biotech/pharma companies, architects, engineers, consultants, equipment vendors and service providers.

## CONNECT THROUGH THE ONLY Canadian National Association that...

...links the laboratory design and supply communities with the facility owners, operators and users with a goal of improving energy efficiency and reducing carbon footprints, while bringing together the whole community in support of sustainable science.

...links to the global laboratory design and supply communities through partnerships with I2SL and EGNATON.



## **2026 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

**Submission deadline: April 23**

The 2026 SLCan Conference Committee is exploring the following topics as the focus of this year's conference:

- 1 – Policy and Regulations
- 2 – Natural Resource and Specialized Labs
- 3 – Energy and Retrofits
- 4 – Life Sciences and Biomanufacturing

## **BEYOND THE “LABORATORY BOX”**

### **The Science Behind Science Spaces**

We are looking for presentations that feature multiple perspectives, including owners, users, researchers, research operations, etc., to give the audience access to insights that they might not normally have access to.

We continue to strive for diverse types of presentations incorporated into the program. Proposals for panels, technical workshops, round tables and seminars are encouraged.

We are committed to delivering a fully bilingual program, and encourage submissions in both English and French.

## **SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

**April 23, 2026**

# 1 – POLICY AND REGULATIONS

## Under the lens of this pillar...

- How can policy and regulations shape the business of science, from funding, scaling to exit or renewal?
- How can businesses inform the policy makers to support and grow the industry?
- What policy shifts are needed to support and accelerate high performance sustainable labs?
- What impact do federal and provincial strategies have on sustainable design, construction and operation in life science and biomanufacturing?
- What policy incentives are needed to successfully drive sustainable design, construction and operation? How can existing incentives be leveraged?
- What policy and regulation changes are needed to further nurture a sustainable life science ecosystem in Canada?
- What policy and regulations are already in place but not leveraged to their full extent? What policies and regulations are outdated or missing?
- How can building energy certification regulations better drive sustainable design, construction and operation?
- How can policy and regulation support the development and retention of Canadian-grown talent and leaders?
- How do you utilize frameworks and standards to align sustainability actions with health and safety requirements?

## **2 – NATURAL RESOURCE & SPECIALIZED LABS**

### **Under the lens of this pillar...**

- How do natural resource industries balance environmentally and financially sustainable development?
- How do specialized labs align function and utility with sustainability?
- How do specialized science spaces help support the natural resource industry?

## **3 – ENERGY & RETROFITS**

### **Under the lens of this pillar...**

- How are you planning a lab ready for future modification and repurposing?
- How are you achieving flexibility and anticipating future needs while not overdesigning?
- How are you balancing budgets and timeline constraints with sustainability standards?
- How are you implementing new technologies into operational programs to support decarbonization and promote energy efficiency?
- How are you improving fire rating and protection measures in critical environments?
- How are you adapting for climate change and managing extreme weather situations?
- What are some innovative or overlooked sustainable design strategies?
- How are you designing for reduced embodied carbon for the building structure, and mechanical and electrical systems?

## 4 – LIFE SCIENCES & BIOMANUFACTURING

### Under the lens of this pillar...

- How are you supporting not only sustainable design and construction but also operations?
- How is your project supporting the growth of the life science industry in Canada?
- How are you leveraging sustainable operational strategies like infrastructure, resource, and equipment sharing?
- How are you ensuring transparency when resource sharing and mitigating inefficiencies and challenges (i.e., downtime due to service) with shared resources?
- How are you managing the financing and/or financial implications when resource sharing? Who actually owns what? How are you breaking the communication barriers between the haves, the wants and the needs?
- How are you fostering homegrown talent and keeping it in Canada?
- How are you attracting foreign talent to our Canadian labs?
- Designing or building facilities with more shared services to support broader research groups or to promote more collisions and collaboration between research groups?
- Which strategies and innovative solutions can be adapted for the life science industry to cut emissions and enhance operational efficiency?
- How can carbon capture strategies be utilized in research, pharmaceutical production, and biomanufacturing?
- How can financial incentives like tax credits be leveraged to drive clean tech and carbon capture in the life science sector?
- Can mass timber construction and hybrid systems be utilized in construction for biotech and biomanufacturing?
- What impact will the next generation of smart lab equipment have?

# 2026 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

## Important Notes

1. All sections in the abstract submission form must be completed for the abstract to be considered.
2. Priority will be given to those abstracts featuring multiple perspectives, i.e., **owners, users, researchers, research operations, contractors, etc.** **Be sure to confirm their ability to participate before submitting the abstract.**
3. In an effort to provide a fully bilingual program, simultaneous interpretation will be offered. Presentations that can be delivered in French will be prioritized. **The translation of accepted abstracts and PPTs by authors will be required.**
4. Presentation blocks will be 45 mins, including Q&A, with the exception of a limited number of 1.5-hour technical workshops.
5. All speakers must register and pay to attend the Conference. The Conference will be in-person, and no virtual participation option is currently being planned.
6. The abstract selection process is not only based on the quality of the submission and how it relates to the Conference theme, but also how it fits with the other abstracts as they are grouped into sub-themes.

## SUBMISSION DEADLINE

April 23, 2026

## **2026 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

### **Additional considerations**

1. Is the information being presented new?
2. Will you give the audience an "ah-ha" moment?
3. Are you bringing more than architectural and/or engineering perspectives to the discussion?

## **2026 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

### **Deadlines**

Abstract deadline	April 23, 2026
Author notification	May 21, 2026
Translated abstract due	May 28, 2026
Program Published	June 11, 2026
Speaker registration deadline	September 10, 2026
Draft PPT due	October 1, 2026
Final (revised) PPT due	October 29, 2026
Presentation recording by SLCan	November 2-6, 2026
Translated PPT due	November 5, 2026

**SUBMIT YOUR  
ABSTRACT HERE**



**THANK YOU**  
**And see you in November!**

SLCan members receive discounted Conference registration rates. Join/renew today at [www.slcan.ca](http://www.slcan.ca).

Through SLCan's partnership agreements with I2SL and EGNATON, the discounted rates are also offered to their members.

Questions? Reach out to us at [info@slcan.ca](mailto:info@slcan.ca) or 613.728.4450.

# WHAT IS Sustainable Labs Canada?



Sustainable Labs Canada (SLCan) was created in 2013 with the goal of fostering national and international cooperation in the laboratory community. Since 2013, SLCan has grown to over 300 members across Canada and internationally, with local Chapters in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Ottawa and the Atlantic Region. The Chapters support the local lab community by organizing collaborative events which include workshops, seminars and presentations. The Chapter events and National Conference are open to members of SLCan, as well as non-members that may be interested in joining the Canadian sustainable laboratory community.

## VISION

A world where laboratories stand at the forefront of climate rehabilitation, carbon reduction, and responsible energy usage, emphasizing research efficiency to create a more sustainable world.

## MISSION

Establish Canada as a world leader in advocacy for laboratory sustainability, environmental and social responsibility, and safety through the exchange of knowledge and expertise between collaborators involved from planning through design and operations.

## PURPOSE

To facilitate resource-effectiveness and environmental responsibility in designing, engineering, constructing and operating laboratories and similar advanced high-technology facilities.

To support professional development, knowledge exchange and interactive discussion on issues affecting the sustainability of laboratories in Canada by organizing workshops, seminars, and webinars.

To create worldwide partnerships that will promote the development of technologically advanced, energy-efficient, environmentally responsive and sustainable high-performance facilities.