



THE HALTON NON-PROFIT CONGRESS

Request for Speakers

October 3, 2026 | Milton Seniors Activity Centre

The **Halton Non-Profit Congress** (“Congress”) is a transformative event designed for organizations of all sizes, with a particular focus on completely volunteer-led organizations in the sport, recreation, arts, culture, and environmental sub-sectors. Attendees can explore effective strategies, build valuable connections, and gain insights to enhance their impact. The event covers key topics such as Empowering Communities, Governance, Diversity & Inclusion, Data-Driven Management, and Volunteer Engagement.

Co-hosted by Community Development Halton (CDH), the Town of Oakville, the City of Burlington, the Town of Halton Hills, and the Town of Milton, the Halton Non-Profit Congress was launched in 2023. In 2026, Congress is pleased to be presenting its 4th annual event in Milton on October 3, 2026.

Presenter Recognition

Invited speakers will be recognized through promotion of the Halton Non-Profit Congress through a variety of channels, including promotion with Village Media, CDH’s website, social media platforms, and via direct emails to members and mailing lists as well as through promotional flyers and the registration portal.

Presenter Fee

An honourarium of \$350 will be offered to presenters. Those selected are welcome to attend the Congress at no cost on the day of their workshop. Lunch will be included.

Please note:

- CDH will require a written invoice with your name, mailing address, contact information, business number (if applicable), etc., to provide payment. Payment will be made electronically via Plooto.

Workshop Topics

The theme of the 2026 Halton Non-Profit Congress is "Connecting Technology and Humans in the Non-Profit Space" with workshops focusing on nonprofit governance, volunteer engagement, finances, and technology.

The Congress seeks to offer professional development relevant to leading/managing a nonprofit organization in Halton Region. Case studies and interactive presentations are very popular. Ensure that the materials you present and examples used are relevant and applicable to leaders (paid and unpaid) of non-profit organizations and the management of non-profit organizations.

The 2026 Congress Planning Committee is seeking workshop proposals focused on the following topics:

- Governance and Succession Planning
 - For example:
 - Inviting the younger generation “in” to committees and boards
 - Replenishing/diversification of boards of directors and/or committees
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- Volunteer Engagement
 - For example:
 - Skills-based and purpose-driven engagement strategies
 - Engaging volunteers with differing abilities, including those with physical or learning challenges
 - Creating inclusive spaces within a volunteer workforce
 - Building a meaningful corporate volunteer program
- Non-Profit Finances
 - For example:
 - Donor engagement strategies - diversifying funding
 - Trust-based philanthropy
 - Moving from scarcity to abundance
- IT/Cybersecurity
 - AI and data analytics
 - Cyber-security enhancements

Workshop Requirements

- Interactive, 120-minute (2 hour) workshop which includes activities designed to engage attendees in discussion, sharing their experiences with the presenter and other attendees.
- Workshops must include the use of at least one interactive form of technology for attendees to experience the technology's benefits/features as it relates to the topic.
- Presenters are required to provide, at minimum, a one-page handout summarizing their presentation with at least one take-away tool or action for attendees (hard-copy or electronic).
- Presenters are required to provide an electronic copy of their presentation slides which will be available to Congress attendees or a limited time. Presenters may be required to provide presentations ahead of time to meet accessibility needs.
- Presentation materials should be culturally aware and align with equity, diversity, and inclusion best practices.

Expected Attendee Profile

The Congress is designed for non-profit leaders in (mostly) small-to-medium size organizations with a focus on the following sectors: arts, culture, heritage, recreation, environment, and sport. Organizational composition can range from completely volunteer-led organization to those with a paid staff-volunteer workforce to organizations whose only volunteers are its board members.

Next Steps

Submit a brief proposal, via email, no longer than two pages in length outlining the following:

- Brief bio on the presenter(s), including website(s) and social media if applicable. This should be no longer than 50 – 75 words and be suitable for printing in the Congress program to promote the event and your session.
- Identify key messages that will be delivered and/or learning objectives.
- Identify the interactive elements and/or activities, including the interactive technology to be employed in the workshop.
- A description of the person who would most benefit from your workshop (i.e. years in the sector, skill set, non-profit leader, front-line staff/volunteer, or stream, etc.)

Date and Location

Date: October 3, 2026

Workshop time: 12:30pm – 2:30pm

Location: Milton Seniors Activity Centre, 500 Childs Drive, Milton, ON

Deadline for Proposals: Sunday June 7, 2026

Workshop presenters who have been selected will be contacted by Friday June 12, 2026.

Please submit proposals electronically or direct any questions regarding this RFP to the attention of Heather Johnson, Director, Volunteer Halton at volunteer@cdhalton.ca

Please indicate 2026 Congress Workshop Proposal in the subject line of the e-mail.