



National Community of Practice Program 2026

Hosted by Peer Support Canada & Guest Facilitators

Peer Support Canada's National Community of Practice brings together peer support workers, supervisors, leaders, and allies from across the country to engage in meaningful dialogue, strengthen practice, and advance the field of peer support in Canada.

Topics & Facilitators

Navigating Multiple Hats: Social Service Work, Social Work, and Peer Support Work



April 9th, 2026 2:00 – 3:30pm EST

An exploration of the ethics, challenges and opportunities that arise from being both a peer support worker, and a registered social service worker, registered social worker, or an individual with academic training in a helping profession.

Main Facilitator: Allison Dunning (she/her) has been dedicated to peer support since 2016, progressing from volunteer to Executive Director of Peer Support Canada. She brings lived experience with mental health challenges to her work, grounded in empathy and authenticity. As a white cisgender settler, Allison uses her privilege to amplify others' voices. She enjoys camping, canoeing, and her dog, Bella.

Peer Support Work and Lived Experience Roles

April 23rd, 2026 1:00 – 2:30pm EST

An exploration of the unique differences between hiring roles fulfilled by people with lived experience roles and the role of a peer support worker, with the goal of working towards some guidelines for protecting the peer support worker job title.

Main Facilitator: Adam Milne, He / Him, is the Director of Peer Services for Peer Connections Manitoba. A certified Peer Supporter & Mentor, with 17 year's experience as a front-line supporter, manager, and director. Adam has Lived Experience with mental health challenges and as a child, spouse, and parent of those with their own challenges.



Understanding and Supporting People Navigating Crisis



May 20th, 2026 1:00 – 2:30pm EST

A discussion around the application of the peer support values and competencies within the context of supporting peers navigating crisis.

Main Facilitator: Mahfam Nikoo (she/her) is a multi-disciplinary artist and writer who is in training to become an art therapist. She is passionate about 2SLGBTQ+ advocacy, harm reduction approaches to care, and creating moments of reprieve through music, poetry, food, and comedy. Mahfam hopes to bring people closer to themselves and each other through her work and is curious about what each person has to teach. She works as a peer support worker in the emergency department at Mount Sinai hospital, where she reflects on her lived experiences to support youth as they navigate their lives.

Documentation and Notetaking as a Peer Support Worker

June 25th, 2026 1:00 – 2:30pm EST

A discussion of best practices and challenges surrounding documentation and note taking as a peer support worker, with the goal of working towards some guidelines for note taking practices for peer support workers.

Main Facilitator: Calvin Prowse (they/them) is a social worker from Hamilton Ontario that has spent 13 years working in the peer field. They have supported peers within both grassroots and formal contexts, managed peer support programs, facilitated trainings, served on the PeerWorks board of directors, and supported the creation of the PeerWorks “Peer Book Club.” Calvin has conducted research on the tensions faced by peer supporters within formal healthcare settings (including documentation practices) and facilitated several webinars on the topic of peer-grounded approaches to documentation and notetaking.

