

# EA1452

## Ontario Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution Colloquium

### Applicant/Organiser information

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**Organiser group:** Ontario Ecology Ethology Evolution Colloquium

**Lead organiser:** Katherine Di Iorio

**Institutional email** katherinediiorio@cmail.carleton.ca  
**address - \* see tool tip:**

**Institution name:** Carleton University  
**Address line 1:** 1125 Colonel By Dr  
**Address line 2:** 209 Nesbitt Biology  
**City:** Ottawa  
**State / county:** ON  
**Zip / Postcode:** K1S5B6  
**Country:** Canada

**Co-organisers:** Marrissa Miller, Megan Raposo, Isaac Finkelstein

- If the Applicant is an individual(s) the Grant shall be paid direct to a designated bank account established to receive the Grant for the purposes of the Meeting and the Grant will be paid in full on receipt by the Charity of a signed copy of the Grant Agreement (see details below) .
- If the Applicant is an organisation the Grant will be paid to the organisation (subject to agreement by the Charity) as directed by the Applicant organisation to a bank account connected to the organisers of the Meeting – in full on receipt by the Charity of a signed copy of the Grant Agreement (see details below);.

**Name of the contracting party for the purposes of the Grant Agreement:** Carleton University

**Contracting party address line 1:** 1125 Colonel By Drive

**Contracting party address line 2:**

**Contracting party city:** Ottawa

**Contracting party state / ON county:**

**Zip / post code:** K1S 5B6

**Country:** Canada

**Is the contracting party a limited company or registered charity?:** No

## **Details of event management companies, conference organisers and other grant giving institutions**

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- If the event management fee is 10% or more of the event's total budget, please list duties they will perform in the box below.

Applications from professional fundraisers and conference agencies are generally not considered.

Conference organisers are all graduate students or postdoctoral fellows.

## **Event details**

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**Title of Event:** Ontario Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution Colloquium

**Have The Company of Biologists supported this event before?:** Yes

**Please specify year**

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2023

## Other Relevant Details

The Ontario Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution Colloquium (OE3C) is an annual, provincial conference organised by students for students. The event is designed to give students an international conference experience close to home. As in previous years, we have three plenary speakers, each specialising in one of the three titular topics. Additionally, we are offering student presentation awards. In previous years, the conference has also been able to offer student travel awards. Funding from institutions is sparse this year, but we are still committed to making this conference as accessible to students as possible. The conference takes place May 15-17, 2025. The Scientific Meeting Grant (from the Company of Biologists) would sponsor (as many as possible) travel grants/registration fee reimbursements to students from equity-deserving groups. Additional funds would be passed on to next year's organisers (Brock university) to ensure that student travel awards could be reintroduced as a part of the annual OE3C.

**Classification of event:** Symposium

**Is your meeting virtual, In Person  
in person or hybrid?:**

**Why did you choose this type of event?**

OE3C was founded in 1974 and has been held every year since except for 1975. The event rotates hosts among universities in Ontario and is traditionally held in person to provide students with the opportunity to present their research in a professional conference setting. In addition, this symposium encourages students to form relationships with fellow Early Career Researchers across Ontario through excursions and social events. Therefore, we feel an in-person setting provides students with the greatest opportunity to make connections with future collaborators and colleagues.

**If 'in person' does your No  
meeting have a virtual  
component:**

**If no virtual component,** Due to the social nature of the conference, we have opted to continue with an **please explain why and** in-person event. We have attempted to reduce costs as much as possible **what has been done to** regarding registration and accommodation fees in order to make the meeting **make the meeting more** more inclusive for students in all positions. However, due to Carleton's **inclusive:** location farther from a majority of Ontario institutions, we would be willing/able to arrange a virtual component to the plenary talks and select concurrent sessions if it is requested by a number of potential participants.

**Date event commences:** 15/05/2025

In the format DD/MM/YYYY

**Date event concludes:** 17/05/2025

In the format DD/MM/YYYY

**Event Website:** <https://www.oe3c.ca/>

**City and location of event:** Carleton University, Ottawa

**Country:** Canada

**Is this event branded?** Not Applicable

Please note that applications covering both conferences and seminars will not be considered for funding. Please ensure these are submitted as separate applications.:

**Is this event part of a larger conference?:** No

**Expected attendance at this event:** 150

**How many speakers have been invited?:** 3

**How many speakers will be presenting in person?:** 3

**Is this event open only to invited participants or also to external applicants?:** External

Details on how you are addressing social and environmental responsibility, eg strategy to reduce gender inequality

Include details of gender balance, career stage, geographic diversity

By nature of the event, we are providing a platform specifically for early career researchers to disseminate their research. Outside of the plenary speakers, OE3C is a student conference. We recognise the career stage disparities at international high-profile conferences, and as a result concurrent talks and poster presentations will be offered primarily to a mixture undergraduate, and graduate research students. In addition, the theme of our event is "Navigating Earth's Ecosystems: Today and Tomorrow." We hope this theme shines a light on the responsibility we have as researchers to consider the impact of climate change and other anthropogenic factors have on our planet. We hope this inspires early career researchers to continue to consider their research under a conservational biology lens. The organisers of the conference are also dedicated to promoting this opportunity to underrepresented communities (such as women, the indigenous community, and other minorities) as part of our social responsibility. In addition, we are doing our best to reduce our environmental footprint, by reducing the packaging on conference meals, ensuring waste is composted and recycled properly and providing plant-based food options.

Will your attendees be provided with a code of conduct:

Documentation

Attach topics / outline programme: [OE3C programme outline - 2025 schedule.pdf](#)  
(2 pages maximum)

Attach speakers / proposed speakers: [Plenary speakers OE3C 2025.pdf](#)  
(2 pages maximum)

Scientific Meeting Grant Funding

Amount requested in GBP

£6,000

Please select budget template

Scientific meeting budget

Income	Budget	Confirmed	Notes
Registration fees	13,500	0	Based on last year

Accommodation fees	0	0	We do not receive any money from accomodation. Attendees can choose where they stay during the conference (e.g. Hotel, Air BnB, Campus Residence, etc)
Exhibition	0	0	
Advertising	0	0	
Sponsorship	835	835	CSEE regional support + Sponsorship from local academic associations
Grants	550	550	Internal University Fund
Other income	10,000	10,000	Seed fund
Total Budget Income	24,885	11,385	
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Marketing/advertising	0	0	
Event Management company fee	0	0	
Accommodation	0	0	
Travel/air fares	0	0	
Transportation/shuttle service	0	0	
Speakers travel	600	600	Travel cost for 3 Provincial Keynote Speakers
Speaker expenses	1,600	1,600	4 Nights hotel for 3 Keynote Speakers
Social event/excursion/entertainment	1,500	1,500	Arranging guided nature walks and museum tours
Insurance	0	0	
Facilities/catering	13,000	13,000	3 dinners, 2 lunches, 2 breakfasts, 3 afternoon teas + lecture hall/poster hall rental and setup

AV/Mics/Screens/Spotlights	0	0	
Poster boards	0	0	
Prizes	1,700	1,700	
Filming/photography	0	0	
Printing/give-aways	0	0	
Meeting website/registration system	150	150	
Additional technical support (hybrid)	0	0	
App hire/development	0	0	
Childcare support	0	0	
Enabling participation grants	6,000	0	Depending on support from AGA, ASN, and company of biologists
Other expenses (please provide details in 'Notes' column)	0	0	
Total expenditure	24,550	18,550	
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Surplus or Loss</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>-7165</b>	

**The budget indicates that your meeting may generate a surplus. Could you please provide an explanation as to what will become of any surplus generated on completion of the meeting.**

The surplus will become seed fund for the next year's conference organiser (Brock University). Some surplus ensures that in years where funding is limited, the event is still able to run smoothly and create a welcoming environment for all. We were very fortunate to receive a large seed fund from Waterloo as we have struggled to receive internal donations this year.

**Funding sought from other sources. If you have applied or intend to apply to other funding bodies, then please provide details including the amount requested.**

-Applied to American Genetic Association Special Event Awards- Requested \$6000 US Dollars  
 -Planning to Apply to American Society of Naturalists Award for Support of Regional Meetings in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior (\$2500 CAN)

Confirmed Funding (included in budget) :

-Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution Support for Regional Conferences (\$600 CAN)  
 -Carleton Biology department (\$1000 CAN)  
 -Canadian Section of the Wildlife Society (\$250 CAN)  
 -Canadian Botanical Association (\$190 CAN)  
 -American Fisheries Society: Ontario Chapter (\$500)

### **Details of sponsors approached (if applicable to budget submission)**

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We approached academic societies/associations that have interest in our audience. We have also approached other provincial universities and some private companies. We are waiting to hear back from some organisations.

### **Details of how funding will be used**

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Please check the Applicant Handbook provided [here](#) for what will be funded

This year, majority of the funds will be used to provide travel awards/remove registration costs for registrants from equity-deserving communities. The remainder of all acquired funds (not just those received from the company of biologists) will be passed on to the organisers of next years OE3C to ensure the continuation of student travel awards/bursaries and low registration fees.

### **Which of our journals is your meeting most relevant to?**

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Journal of Experimental Biology

### **In no less than 100 words, explain the relevance of your meeting to the journal selected.**

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Research presented at OE3C primarily covers ecology, ethology, and evolution. However, this research spans all levels of biological organisation in a wide range of taxa, including vertebrates, invertebrates, and microbes. Although impressive in its own right, OE3C research has also included work from academics and industries in conservation biology, genetics, psychology, and animal physiology. Similarly, JEB publishes a broad range of research that often intersects with multiple disciplines, including ecology, ethology, and evolution. In addition, the colloquium provides a platform for researchers from various backgrounds, especially early-career researchers, to come together and discuss their findings, fostering interdisciplinary connections and collaborations that align with the scope of JEB.

### **How did you hear about our Scientific Meeting funding?**

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Previous experience



## In the event that your application is successful, please describe how our funding would benefit your meeting

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For example, will it address an issue or need in the community, and what difference will it actually make to individuals

The funds will contribute to the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion goals of our event. Firstly, the funds will allow us to reduce or eliminate financial barriers that might prevent individuals' participation. The funds will be used directly to provide awards/registration reimbursement to individuals from equity-deserving groups. As an indirect consequence of this funding, we (Carleton University organisers) will be able to pass on a reasonable amount of money to the next hosts (Brock University), which in turn allows OE3C to keep registration costs low and continue to provide travel awards in coming years. Additionally, with increased funds, our team will be able to promote the event as widely as possible, primarily focusing on underrepresented groups such as early-career researchers. This in turn promotes inclusive representation. We are already working tirelessly to promote a welcoming environment at this year's OE3C, but with the help of the company of biologists we would be able to break down even more accessibility barriers and ensure our event is inclusive and welcoming to all.

## Funding for Innovations in Sustainable Conferencing

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The Company of Biologists is offering grants from the Fund for Innovations in Sustainable Conferencing to fund innovative ideas that enable biologists to collaborate productively while minimising their impact on the environment.

### Please indicate whether or not you wish to submit this part of the application

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No

## Grant agreement and bank upload

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Please allow 3-6 weeks for funds to reach your account once your grant agreement and bank details have been received, processed and approved for payment.

Grant Agreement and bank details

Type	Status	Due Date
Grant agreement and bank details	Revision Requested	12/06/2025

Reports

As part of our agreement to provide funding, we request that should your application be successful you acknowledge the following.

- ‘The Company of Biologists’ contribution to the meeting on

your web site and in any printed material circulated about the event such as the abstracts book.

- This acknowledgment should include the company name, logo

Activities

Type	Status	Due Date
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Grant Report	Submitted	17/08/2025

and web address.

- Upon grant approval you will be asked to sign a non-negotiable Grant Agreement and return it with your bank details.
- We will require a 250 – 500 wor

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	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00-8:30			Breakfast	Breakfast
8:30-9:00				
9:00-9:30		Registration Starts (can do any time) / Excursions	Keynote 2	Keynote 3
9:30-10:00				
10:00-10:30			Poster session	Poster session
10:30-11:00				
11:00-11:30				
11:30-12:00			Talks	Talks
12:00-12:30				
12:30-13:00				
13:00-13:30			Lunch	Lunch
13:30-14:00				
14:00-14:30			Talks	Talks
14:30-15:00				
15:00-15:30		Coffee Break		
15:30-16:00		Opening Ceremonies	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
16:00-16:30		Keynote 1	Special Talk	Talks
16:30-17:00				
17:00-17:30		Dinner (Ollie's)	Dinner (Gift card)	
17:30-18:00				Dinner (Galleria)
18:00-18:30				
18:30-19:00		Trivia (Ollie's)		
19:00-19:30				
		breaks		
		talks		
		excursions		
		keynotes		
		catered meals		
		poster session		

## OE3C 2025 – Carleton University Plenary Speakers

### Ecology

[Dr. Rassim Khelifa](#) (He/Him/His) - **Concordia University**

Dr. Khelifa studies community responses to climate change, anthropogenic impacts, sexual selection, and biodiversity conservation, with a primary focus on insects. He also has a broader interest in birds and plants. In addition to his scientific work, Dr. Khelifa is a strong advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion in STEM. His primary focuses in this area include breaking language barriers for non-English-speaking scientists and promoting equitability in fieldwork.

Dr. Khelifa is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology at Concordia University. He holds two PhDs: one in Evolutionary Biology from the University of Zurich in Switzerland and another in Ecology from Université Mouloud Mammeri in Algeria. In addition to his academic role, he is a member of the IUCN/SSC Dragonfly Specialist Group, which assesses the conservation status of dragonfly species.

### Ethology

[Dr. Thomas Hossie](#) (He/Him/His) - **Trent University**

Dr. Hossie studies predator-prey interactions, exploring the ecological and evolutionary mechanisms that lie at the intersection of behavioral ecology and population biology. His research primarily focuses on amphibians and insects, using these taxa to address broader questions in this field. Currently, his work centers on the ecology of bisexual-unisexual salamander complexes.

Dr. Hossie is currently an Assistant Professor in Biology at Trent University. He completed his BSc and MSc at Trent University and his PhD at Carleton University. His PhD investigated the ecology and evolution of eyespots on caterpillars.

### Evolution

[Dr. Christina \(Chris\) Caruso](#) (She/Her/Hers) - **University of Guelph**

Dr. Christina (Chris) Caruso is a plant evolutionary ecologist. Over the course of her career she has studied the causes of natural selection on floral traits, the evolution of sexual systems in flowering plants, and the roles of selection and constraint in the evolution of plant functional traits. Currently, her work focuses on the response of native plant populations to pollinator decline.

Dr. Caruso is currently an Associate Professor at the University of Guelph. She completed her BA at Oberlin College (Ohio USA) and her PhD at the University of Illinois. In addition to her academic role she serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Plant Sciences, a University of Chicago Press journal that celebrates its 150th birthday in 2025.