

What is happening across the CSEB

Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics

The Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics is a professional organization that fosters and promotes these two interrelated sciences to improve health and well-being through research and practice.

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The CSEB e-News publishes, in both English and French, articles and notices on topics of interest to Canadian epidemiologists and biostatisticians. The CSEB e-News is sent to the members of the Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics via email.

Editorial Board: Hilary Brown, Eduardo Franco, Xiangfei Meng, Laura Duncan, Fareha Nishat, Brianna Frangione, Lisa Lix, Iwona Bielska (Editor), Marie-Claude Rousseau (French translation), Anita Koushik, Laura Anderson

Follow us on social media for the latest news and updates!



1. Message from the CSEB President

Dear CSEB Members,

On behalf of the CSEB Board, I am pleased to share some exciting updates on the **2026 CSEB Virtual Conference: “*Connecting Data, Connecting People: Advancing Epidemiology and Biostatistics in Canada*”**.



We had a record response to our call for abstracts for this virtual event and are pleased to have **150 oral presentations** across two days of programming.

Our **Day 1** keynote speaker is **Dr. Ellie Murray**, on **“Asking Questions that Matter, Getting Answers that Help”**. **Day 2** features a panel discussion by **Dr. Kim McGrail** and **Dr. Jean-Francois Ethier** with **Dr. Sumeet Kalia** as discussant (moderator: **Dr. Lisa Lix**) on **“Data Without Borders: The Potential for Distributed Analysis in Canada”**.

[Registration](#) for the conference is now open. Visit the [CSEB conference website](#) for all of the latest conference details, links and updates. We hope to see you in June!

With best wishes,

Hilary Brown, PhD
President (2024-2026), CSEB

Connecting Data, Connecting People:

Advancing Epidemiology and Biostatistics in Canada

CSEB Virtual Conference

June 16-17, 2026



Relier les données, relier les personnes:

faire progresser l'épidémiologie et la biostatistique au Canada

Conférence virtuelle SCEB

Du 16 au 17 juin 2026

Issue 11 | April 2026 | 2

2. Events and Activities

- **CSEB Board of Directors**

Interested in being more involved in CSEB? Our call for nominations for elected positions has been launched. The following **Board** positions are up for election:

- **Vice President**
- **Treasurer**
- **Student Rep**
- **Director, Communications**
- **Director, Engagement**

You can find more information about the roles [here](#). You can submit a nomination by **May 17, 2026**, by following this [link](#).

- **CSEB Career Panel**

Please mark your calendars for the **CSEB Career Panel**, scheduled for Wednesday, **May 20, 2026, at 12:00 PM Eastern Time**. Register [here](#).

All are welcome! This session is geared towards Master's and PhD students, postdoctoral fellows, and early-career professionals who have questions about epidemiology and biostatistics training and careers in Canada. Panelists will reflect on navigating: career paths, skills and competencies, the job market, and advice for trainees and early-career professionals.

Our fantastic line-up of panelists includes:

- **Kevin McGregor:** Assistant Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Manitoba
- **Maureen Kelly:** Director of Data Stewardship Initiative, Canadian Institute for Health Information
- **Andrea Thomas:** Director of Epidemiology and Data Science, BlueDot
- **John Brownstein:** Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School; Senior Vice President and Chief Innovation Officer of Boston Children's Hospital; Adjunct Professor, McGill University
- **Marie-Claude Rousseau:** Full Professor, Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS), Centre Armand-Frappier Santé Biotechnologie; Adjunct Professor, School of Public Health, Université de Montréal

We hope to see you there!

- **Mentorship Program**

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering professional growth and excellence, we are continuing to offer our Mentorship Program within CSEB. This program is designed to connect emerging professionals with experienced members, creating opportunities for guidance, knowledge-sharing, and mutual learning.

For 2025-2026, we have a total of **34 mentors** who will participate in our annual mentorship program. We thank all mentors who are willing to mentor CSEB mentees!

We are continuing to recruit interested members to be our mentors and mentees for the coming years. If you are **interested in becoming a mentor or a mentee**, please contact **Xiangfei Meng**, Vice President of CSEB at xiangfei.meng@uottawa.ca

- **CSEB Student Chapters**

The Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics currently has several active student chapters across Canada, including chapters at: **Dalhousie University, University of Ottawa, Western University**, and a Quebec-based chapter at **Université de Montréal**. These chapters support student engagement in epidemiology and biostatistics.

CSEB encourages student groups at other institutions to apply to establish new student chapters. Interested groups are encouraged to reach out to info@cseb-sceb.ca to learn more about the application process and available supports.

- **CSEB-EDIA-IR Working Group**

The CSEB **Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility & Indigenous Reconciliation (EDIA-IR) Working Group** supports the Board to promote a culture of inclusivity, promote diversity, and ensure equity within the organization and our community.

The group develops strategies, initiatives, and policies to advance EDIA-IR principles across all aspects of the CSEB.

- **Call for Proposals: Joint CSEB-SER Webinar**

Do you have work in epidemiology or biostatistics that you would like to share?

We invite you to submit a proposal for a webinar jointly hosted by the **Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics** and the **Society for Epidemiologic Research**. This is an excellent opportunity to present your work, share insights, and connect with an international audience of fellow epidemiologists and biostatisticians.

Webinar topic ideas to inspire you:

- Research results
- Methodological development / application
- Software tools
- Policy or public health practice
- Education innovation
- Interdisciplinary collaborations
- Career advancement
- Team-based research / international consortia

Proposal:

Please prepare a brief abstract (250–300 words) outlining your proposed presentation: 1) Include name(s) of presenter(s) along with affiliation and contact information; 2) Indication of your presentation format (e.g., lecture, panel). The webinar date can be scheduled flexibly to accommodate your availability.

How to Submit:

Please send your proposal to anita.koushik@mcgill.ca with the subject line: “CSEB-SER Webinar Proposal Submission – [Your Name]”

We look forward to receiving your proposals and to an engaging and successful joint event!

- **Virtual Journal Club**

The CSEB **Journal Club** is open to all CSEB members, including trainees and faculty. It provides opportunities for members to learn about and discuss recently published studies and classical papers in epidemiology and biostatistics.

The Journal Club sessions are held quarterly (October, January, April, and July).

Eligibility: Any CSEB member in good standing can submit journal club proposals.

Click [here](#) to renew your membership today!

We encourage trainees and early career investigators to submit proposals. For instance, graduate students may lead a session on an article that is seminal to their thesis research. Mid-career and senior CSEB members are also encouraged to submit proposals. It is acceptable for the paper being discussed to be authored by the discussant or moderator.

Types of articles: Any article published in the peer-reviewed literature typically accessible to CSEB members is eligible. Articles can be theoretical, methodological, or reports of empirical research. There is no time limitation for publication dates. Those submitting proposals must keep in mind that the article topic should be of broad interest to CSEB members to secure a representative audience.

Submissions: Proposals will be evaluated on an ongoing basis and be scheduled on a first-proposed, first-served basis.

Each proposal must contain the article reference, the names of the presenters, and a short description of why a discussion of the chosen article will be of broad interest to CSEB members.

How to submit: Please send your journal club proposal to info@cseb-sceb.ca with the subject line: “CSEB Journal Club Proposal Submission – [Your Name]”

3. Other News

- **Book Launch: The 7th Edition of A Dictionary of Epidemiology**

The 7th edition of **A Dictionary of Epidemiology**, edited by Miquel Porta, sponsored by the International Epidemiological Association, and published by Oxford University Press will come out in April 2026 - available in both print and digital formats.

For over 40 years, this landmark reference has supported the global epidemiology community. This is the first new edition in 12 years containing updated terminology and content reflecting today's epidemiology.

More information can be found [here](#).

- **Book Launch: The Strategic Department Chair: Leading for Academic Research Success**

Today more than ever Department Chairs need to be equipped with strategies to lead their departments to success in research. **The Strategic Department Chair: Leading for Academic Research Success** provides techniques not only to cultivate a department that is successful in research, but to sustain that level of productivity.

The book offers Department Chairs a valuable resource for negotiating the real-life challenges that they will face as academic leaders.

- Provides Ten Top Tips for Chairing for Research Success
- Provides step-by-step guidelines for mentoring new faculty to advance their research trajectories alongside broader strategies for developing their tenure and promotion portfolios
- Explains how to avoid common pitfalls, supplying critical tips for challenges common to Department Chairs including a chapter on Facing Challenges: Assistant Professors without Success in Research
- Provides strategies to mentor mid-career faculty and win-win strategies for enhancing graduate student success while advancing faculty research success
- Illustrates key concepts with case studies and example initiatives that can be put into administrative practice

More information can be found [here](#).

- **2027 World Congress of Epidemiology**

Save the date!

Medellín, Colombia will host the **XXIV World Congress of Epidemiology**, which will take place in **Medellín** from **August 31 to September 3, 2027**.

The global epidemiology community is invited to mark their calendars for one of the field's most significant international gatherings.

The XXIV WCE 2027 is an initiative of the **International Epidemiology Association (IEA)** that in this edition will be organized by the University of Antioquia (National School of Public Health) in coordination with governmental, academic, and social entities of the country.

More than 1,000 participants from nearly 100 countries are expected to convene in Medellín to exchange knowledge, strengthen partnerships, and advance the innovative research in epidemiology.

This will be the second time Colombia hosts the Congress, an event the International Epidemiological Association organizes every three years in a different country.

With the 2027 edition, Latin America once again becomes the stage for this global meeting, reinforcing the region's pivotal role in global public health efforts.

More information can be found at:

https://www.udea.edu.co/wps/portal/udea/web/generales/interna/Unidades+Acad%21c3%21a9micas/Salud+P%21c3%21ablica/asContenidos/listado/WCE_2027

4. Guidelines for Newsletter Submissions

Would you like to contribute to the CSEB Newsletter?

Content: You are welcome to submit a lay summary of recent key publications, scientific awards, trainees' opportunities, job and volunteer postings, letter to the Editor, or student news. Contributions may be submitted in English, French, or both languages. All submitted materials must be attributable to the writer, who is responsible for the accuracy and for ensuring that all necessary approvals to submit the material have been obtained. The length of the material should be less than 500 words.

Submissions: Interested members should submit electronic versions of the material to Iwona Bielska (iwona.bielska@mcmaster.ca) with the subject heading "CSEB Newsletter".

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
FOR THE LATEST UPDATES!**

The CSEB moved to **LinkedIn** and **Bluesky** as the primary source of information. Please follow us there or at <https://cseb.ca/> to stay in the loop about our CSEB Mentorship Program and the CSEB Virtual Journal Club, as well as #epidemiology and #biostatistics in Canada!



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