



Hungarian Studies Association of Canada
Association canadienne des études hongroises
Kanadai Magyarstudományi Társaság

Rethinking Coexistence: Hungary, Hungarianness, and Finding Commonality in Diversity

**HUNGARIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
39th ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

May 31-June 2, 2025

George Brown College, Toronto, Ontario

George Brown College is located on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and other Indigenous peoples who have lived here over time. We are grateful to share this land as treaty people who learn, work and live in the community with each other.

All in-person sessions to be held in:

Waterfront Campus

Room: WFL-201

51 Dockside Dr., Toronto, ON M5A 0B6

Click [here](#) for a campus map.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

DAY 1 (Saturday, May 31)

8:30-8:45 a.m. ET/2:30-2:45 p.m. CET Morning Coffee/Virtual Green Room

8:45 a.m. ET/2:45 p.m. CET President's Welcome

Session 1 9:00-10:00 a.m. ET/3:00-4:00 p.m. CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/95451433605> (for both President's Welcome and Session 1)

Keynote Address: Oliver Botar, University of Manitoba, "40 Years of Promoting Hungarian Art through the Salgo Trust for Education: Reflections on What is Hungarian Art"

This session is made possible with the financial support of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Break 10:00-10:15 a.m. ET/4:00-4:15 p.m. CET

Session 2 10:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. ET/4:15-6:00 p.m. CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/95974937986>

Panel: Building Bridges and Relationships: How Canadian Hungarians are Supporting Hungarian Roma Newcomers in Toronto

Chair: Gina Csanyi-Robah

Gina Csanyi-Robah, Canadian Romani Alliance, "Collaborative Work: Building Hungarian Roma Community Capacity in Canada"

Livia Kenyeres, Thorncliffe Neighbourhood House, "Breaking Cycles, Building Trust: Trauma-Informed Approaches in Supporting Hungarian Roma Youth and their Families with Dignity and Care"

Ildiko Gyulas, Central Toronto Youth Services - Justice Centre Case Manager, "Navigating social service work and identity as a Hungarian Roma woman working with diverse families"

Hajnalka Klein, Culturelink, "School Settlement Work with Hungarian Speaking Newcomers"

This session is made possible with the financial support of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Lunch Break 12:00-1:00 p.m. ET/6:00-7:00 p.m. CET

Session 3 1:00-2:30 p.m. ET/7:00-8:30 p.m. CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/98927157090>

Panel: Hungarian Literature and Linguistics

Chair: Agatha Schwartz

Anikó Zsuzsanna Antal, Independent Scholar, Toronto, "'The Unison of Suffering': Femininity and Motherhood in Szilárd Borbély's Novel *The Dispossessed* and in His Posthumously Published Book of Poems *In a Bucolic Land*"

Ginny Lewis, Northern State University, "Has Hungarian Poet Minka Czóbel Received the Attention She Merits?"
Sólyom Erika, Avicenna International College, "Nyelvi változás a magyarban: A 'be' igekötő új használata"

Break 2:30-3:00 p.m. ET/8:30-9:00 p.m. CET

Session 4 3:00-5:00 p.m. ET/9:00pm-11:00 p.m. CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/94770638396>

Panel: Music, Dance, and History

Chair: Anikó Zsuzsanna Antal

Angela Chong, University of Southern California, "What is Hungarian in Music? A Dialogue between Emma Kodály and Her Husband, Both Historical and Imagined"

Gdalit Neuman, York University, "The Hora in Hungary: Togetherness, Transgression, Transcendence, Transformation"

Steven Jobbitt, Lakehead University, "Limits to the Possible Decolonization of Ukrainian Folk Dance: The Case of Zakarpattia's Hungarian Minority"

Georg Michels, University of California, Riverside, "Vasvár and Andrusovo: Peace Treaties that Generated Ottoman Expansion and War in East Central Europe (1664-1683)"

6:00 p.m. ET Nandor Dreisziger Memorial Service

Location: St. Elizabeth Church/Szent Erzsébet Plébánia, 432 Sheppard Ave E, North York, ON M2N 3B7

The memorial service will be followed by dinner to which all participants are invited.

DAY 2 (Sunday, June 1)

8:30-9:00 a.m. ET/2:30-3:00 p.m. CET Morning Coffee/Virtual Green Room

Session 1 9:00-10:30 a.m. ET/3:00-4:30 p.m. CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/91692212738>

Panel: Teaching the Hungarian Language in Canada / A magyar nyelv oktatása Kanadában

Chair: Zsolt Máté

Ilona Sándor, Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services, Toronto, "Overview of Hungarian Language Teaching" and "Demand for Hungarian as a Foreign Language"

Magdolna Velki, Independent Scholar, "Teaching Hungarian Language in Canada: Regarding the Hungarian as a Foreign Language Exam"

In Memoriam Eva Tomory, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy

Break 10:30-11:00 a.m. ET/4:30-5:00 p.m. CET

Session 2 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. ET/5:00-6:30 p.m. CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/97976764432>

Panel: Shifting Identities, Redefining Togetherness

Chair: Angela Chong

Julio Lucchesi Moraes, Université de Saint-Boniface, "Rethinking Coexistence in the Digital Age through the Budapest School"

Krisztina Fehér, Cleveland State University / University of Debrecen, "American Hungarianness in Hungarian Weekend Schools in the Cleveland Area"

André Czeglédy, Wilfrid Laurier University, "Real People and Real Hungary at the Bakancsos Flea Market of Budapest"

Lunch Break 12:30-1:30 p.m. ET/6:30-7:30 p.m. CET

Session 3 1:30-3:30 p.m. ET/7:30-9:30 p.m. CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/94416659500>

Panel: Immigration and Hungarianness

Chair: Katalin Kürtösi

Robyn Jensen, University of Regina, "Goodbye, Old Country (Viszontlátásra, Régi Ország)"

Balázs Venkovits, University of Debrecen, "From Planning to Implementation: Introducing a Digital Mapping Project on Immigrant Communities"

Zsolt Máté, University of Pécs, "Maintaining Hungarian and Sharing Canadian Identity – Miklós Mattyasovszky-Zsolnay's Civilian Activity in Canada"

Sonya Di Sclafani, Concordia University, "Cold War Refugees in a Modern City: How Hungarian Cafés and Restaurants Came to Dominate the Montreal Downtown Landscape between the 1950s and the 1980s – A Virtual Walking Tour"

Break 3:30-4:00 p.m. ET/9:30-10:00 p.m. CET

Session 4 4:00-5:00 p.m. ET/10:00-11:00 p.m. CET

Panel: Celebrating the Achievements of Hungarian Romani Canadians

Gina Csanyi-Robah, Executive Director, Canadian Romani Alliance and Viktoria Mohacsi, New Research Report in collaboration with François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB) Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University, "Confronting Major and Everyday Discrimination: Romani Experiences in Canada's Greater Toronto-Hamilton Area"

Ildiko Nova, Award winning Visual Artist and Teacher, based in Winnipeg, Manitoba

This panel aims to celebrate and raise awareness of the rich cultural contributions of the Hungarian Roma community in Canada. It will spotlight achievements that are helping to challenge anti-Gypsy stereotypes and promote greater inclusion and understanding.

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/93450031592> *(for both Workshop and Celebration)*

6:00 -8:00 p.m. ET Celebrating Culture

Join us for an unforgettable evening of music and heritage!

Enjoy the Ferenc Botos Trio performing Canadian Jazz, alongside vibrant performances of traditional Hungarian folk and Hungarian Roma music.

Come celebrate the richness and diversity of Hungarian Roma culture through the universal language of music.

Both the panel and the cultural evening are made possible with the financial support of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and of the Canada-Hungary Educational Foundation.



DAY 3 (Monday, June 2)

8:30-9:00 a.m. ET/2:30-3:00 p.m. CET Morning Coffee/Virtual Green Room

Session 1 9:00-10:30 a.m. ET/3:00-4:30 p.m. CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/99922093488>

Hungarian Studies Association of Canada Annual General Meeting

Please note: Only members who have paid their 2025 membership are eligible to vote.

Break 10:30-11:00 a.m. ET/4:30-5:00 p.m. CET

Session 2 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. ET/5:00-6:30 p.m. CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/99787001346>

Panel: Gender and Society

Chair: Sonya Di Sclafani

Judith Szapor, McGill University, "Feminist Generations or Generations of Feminism: Two Families of Feminists between the 1900s and 1950s"

Agatha Schwartz, University of Ottawa, "Adél Nemessányi, an Early Újvidék/Novi Sad-Based Women's Rights Activist"

Katalin Fábián, Lafayette College, "Anti-Woke Politics and Gender-Based Violence in Hungary: The Diffusion and Application of Culture War Concepts"

Lunch Break 12:30-1:30 p.m. ET/6:30-7:30 p.m. CET

Session 3 1:30-3:30 p.m. ET/7:30-9:30 p.m. CET

<https://lakeheadu.zoom.us/j/99525756799>

Panel: Theatre and Cultural Transmission

Chair: Ginny Lewis

Zoltán Csadi, Eötvös Lóránd University, "Rethinking Coexistence: The Vígszínház and Ben Blumenthal's Role in Hungarian-American Cultural Relations"

Tibor Egerváry, University of Ottawa, "E-színház: The Hungarian Way of Adapting to a New Theatrical Environment"

Katalin Kürtösi, University of Szeged, "Atwood's *The Penelopeiad* Staged in Hungary"

Nina Czeglédy, Ontario College of Art and Design University / University of Toronto, "Afterglow"

3:30 p.m. ET/9:30 p.m. CET President's Concluding Remarks



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