



### ***Call for Committee Members***

#### ***Connection: The Fifth Annual Critical Femininities Conference***

The Centre for Feminist Research at York University invites applications for committee members for the fifth annual Critical Femininities Conference on the theme of “Connection”. The conference will take place virtually on August 15-17, 2025.

Critical Femininities is an emerging field of study that seeks to examine femininity as both connected and disconnected from “woman.” In addition to elucidating and theorizing feminine and femme identities, Critical Femininities scholars follow traditions in non-academic femme writing, including feminist, queer, antiracist, and decolonial scholarship to understand femininity as subversive, to understand femme-ininity as a theoretical framework, and a mode of knowledge production. The intersections of research, writing, art, and performance are all sites to understand femininity beyond identity as affective, assemblage, and lineage. The Critical Femininities conference has previously been organized around the themes of “Excess,” “Liminal,” “Irreverence,” and “Generation.” Read more about the past themes and conferences [here](#).

Committee members will be involved in developing the conference call for papers, writing funding proposals, managing the conference’s social media, programming keynote and workshop sessions, and organizing the conference schedule. The committee typically meets once per month. We welcome letters of interest from experienced conference organizers and new organizers looking to build their skills.

### **Connection**

A connection can be made in many ways. Audre Lorde has highlighted how when we “make connection with our similarities and our differences,” we remind ourselves of our affective capacity. Connection between similar and differing expressions of femininities can create meaningful bridges of solidarity. At the same time, connecting with our own gendered self-conceptions can be its own generative form of exploration. Connections can be tangible and intangible, with these boundaries being increasingly blurred as digital communication methods saturate our quotidian lives. There is also room to reflect on our disconnects. This includes disconnections between ourselves and our femininity, ourselves and our communities, and ourselves and the world.

This conference aims to explore the varied ways we can approach connection from a critical femininities lens. Reflexively interrogating the relationship between femininity and connection is an area of scholarship we will strive to explore together.

### **Committee member positions**

*Note: all committee members are expected to support the weekend of the conference with chairing and technology support. If you are unable to support for the weekend of the conference, please note this in your application.*

#### Social Media Officer (1 position)

The social media officer will be expected to, in collaboration with the communications & graphics officer, support the promotion of the conference digitally, primarily on the [Instagram account](#). This will include writing copy, adding alt-text, and scheduling posts to promote the CFP (call for papers), the conference speakers and schedule, and conference registration. They will also work with the communications & graphics officer to keep the conference website up-to-date with current information. Experience managing a social media account is preferred.

#### Communications and Design Officer (1 position)

The communications & graphics officer will be expected to, in collaboration with the social media officer, support the promotion of the conference via the creation of graphics, posters, and email communications. Experience with Canva or another design software is preferred.

#### Funding Coordinator (1 position)

The funding coordinator will work with other committee members to find and apply for funding opportunities to keep the conference free for attendees, support the accessibility of the conference, support the continuation of the conference, and facilitate honorariums for committee members, the keynote speaker, and the workshop facilitator. Experience writing grant funding applications is preferred.

#### General Committee Member (3 positions)

General committee members will help with additional conference duties, including drafting of the CFP, taking minutes at meetings, taking on duties at meetings, and supporting the conference weekend through chairing sessions and providing tech support.

#### **How to apply**

Please send your CV and a short statement (maximum 1 page) outlining your interest and/or experience in the conference theme and organizing duties to [criticalfemininities@yorku.ca](mailto:criticalfemininities@yorku.ca) by December 8, 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact us at [criticalfemininities@yorku.ca](mailto:criticalfemininities@yorku.ca).