

Alberta Gambling Research Institute 24th Annual Conference



Conference Program

April 24 – 26, 2025

The Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta
Kinnear Centre

All times Mountain Daylight Time (MDT)

Thursday, April 24		
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Student Session	
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Registration	
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Welcome Reception	
Friday, April 25		
7:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast	
7:30 am – 9:30 am	Registration	
8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Poster Set-up	
8:30 am – 8:55 am	Welcome / Conference Opening Remarks	
Morning Sessions		
9:00 am – 9:45 am	Session 1: Does Delivering the Right Self-Help Strategy at the Right Time Improve Gambling Outcomes	Simone Rodda
9:50 – 10:35 am	Session 2: AI for RG: New opportunities for online gambling harm reduction	Spencer Murch
10:35 am – 10:50 am	Nutrition Break	
10:50 – 11:30 am	Session 3: A strategic approach to gambling regulation	Philip Newall

11:35 – 12:15 pm	Session 4: The Commercial Determinants of Gambling Harms	Gerda Reith
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch	
Afternoon Sessions		
1:30 – 2:15 pm	Session 5: Sports Gambling: Examining America’s Most Available Form of Gambling	Joshua Grubbs
2:20 – 3:05 pm	Session 6: From Time Out to Game Break: Key Insights from Three Longitudinal Evaluations of BCLCs Voluntary Self Exclusion Program	Amanda McCormick
3:05 pm – 4:30 pm	Nutrition Break	
3:05 pm – 4:30 pm	Poster Presentations	
Saturday, April 26		
7:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast	
8:00 am – 3:00 pm	Posters on Display –	
Morning Sessions		
8:30 am – 9:10 am	Session 7: Is AI a problem for gambling?	Kasra Ghaharian
9:15 am – 9:55 am	Session 8: From gambling to other addictive behaviours: how to explain addiction substitution and natural recovery	Youseff Allami
9:55 am – 10:10 am	Nutrition Break – KC 200 Galleria	
Morning Concurrent Sessions		
Time		
10:10 am – 10:40 am	Session 9a: Family Study of Cognition and Behaviour in Gambling Disorder Speaker: Vina Goghari	Session 10a: Making Sense of GameSense: Awareness, Perceptions, and Engagement among Regular Players and Casino Employees Speaker: Michael Wohl
10:45 am – 11:15 am	Session 9b: Initial findings from a psychological autopsy of gambling and suicide Speaker: Elena Petrovskaya	Session 10b: Blurring Boundaries: Rethinking the Evolving Line Between Gambling and Speculative Trading in Conventional and Islamic Law Speaker: Nafise Shooshinasab
11:20 am – 11:50 am	Session 9c: Trajectory, chronicity, and etiology of problem gambling: A synthesis of longitudinal research Speaker: Rob Williams	Session 10c: The Psychology of Cash-out Decisions Speaker: Elliot Ludvig

11:50 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch	
Afternoon Concurrent Sessions		
Time		
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Session 11a: A Review of the Pharmacological Treatments for Gambling Disorder and the Rise of Hormonal Agonists. Speaker: Catherine Laskowski	Session 12a: A cross-cultural examination of the link between loot boxes and gambling: Is it a Global Issue? Speaker: Andrew Kim
1:35 pm – 2:05 pm	Session 11b: A Meta-Analysis of Absolute and Relative Response to Psychological Treatment for Problem Gambling and Gambling Disorder Speaker: Rory Pfund	Session 12b: Risk detection and behavioural predictors of harm among online sports bettors in Australia Speaker: Robert Heirene
2:10 pm – 2:40 pm	Session 11c: Routine screening for gambling disorder and gambling-related harm within mental health and drug and alcohol services: A feasibility and pilot study. Speaker: Amanda Roberts	Session 12c: The promotion and associated laws of alcohol, cannabis, gambling and tobacco and nicotine vaping products to youth in Canada: a comparative analysis Speaker: François Gagnon
2:40 pm – 2:55 pm	Nutrition Break	
Afternoon Sessions		
3:00 pm – 3:10 pm	AGRI Research Announcement	Rob Williams
3:15 pm – 4:15 pm	Session 14: Regulating the video game and gambling convergence around the world: Loot boxes and beyond	Leon Xiao
4:20 pm – 4:30 pm	Poster Award Presentation & Closing Remarks	David Hodgins

Note: Program subject to change.