

Call for Presentation Proposals



Travel & Adventure

A multi-disciplinary series of lightning talks and roundtable discussion

26 November, 2026/6PM-8PM/PATRICIA WHELAN THEATRE/CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

"Why do you go away? So that you can come back. So that you can see the place you came from with new eyes and extra colors. And the people there see you differently, too. Coming back to where you started is not the same as never leaving." ~ Terry Pratchett, A Hat Full of Sky

"Buy the ticket, take the ride." ~ Hunter S. Thompson, Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas.

For some, to travel is to invite change and difference. For others, to travel is to indulge and find the familiar. For some, adventure is to look, to seek, to engage. For others, adventure is to escape, to forget, to relinquish. While travel necessitates physical movement, adventure can occur via stories, stimulants, and more. Travel requires resources and time; adventure requires curiosity and willingness. Travel & adventure tempts the sociable, the gregarious, and the outgoing. Travel & adventure soothes the solitary, the reticent, and the reserved.

The underpinnings of travel & adventure can involve conceptual dichotomous frames. What are the moral implications of tourism? Is all tourism essentially 'luxury travel' or 'extractive'? Is it possible to sustain adventure without travel? Historically, how do we consider the various modes of travel? What has travel imposed or invited to our notion of cultures, our global economies, and our collective and individual identities? Does travel invite or divide? How do we design for travel? Does travel invite us to design our social spaces in particular ways? What are the politics of travel, and how does travel incite politics?

We invite lightning talks that consider the relationship between your work and/or scholarly interests to the concepts of travel and adventure.

Possible themes might include but are not restricted to:

- Extractivism, travel, and politics
- Tourism and authenticity
- Disaster tourism
- Colonialism
- Nomads—geographic & digital
- Wanderers—literatures and maps
- Fear and triumph in adventure
- The purposes of travel
- Pilgrimage
- Crime
- Travel and Film
- Illegal Movement
- Convalescence
- Escapism, escape rooms
- Adventure without travel
- Bucket Lists
- The means of travel
- The consequences of travel
- The well-traveled
- The rarely visited
- Travel and the production of the Other

Lightning talks will be approximately seven minutes each, with a moderated Q and A following the panel.

If you would like to propose a presentation for this event, [please click here](#) and provide a brief (150 words) description on the subject of your proposed presentation. The organizing committee would like to include as many presentations as possible, but if it becomes necessary to select a feasible number of speakers for the event, the selection will be done by a blind review of proposals.

Submission Deadline: Thursday, October 29, 2026

If you would like further information, please contact the Phoenix Rising working group Chair, Tamara Jenkins (TJenkins@mtroyal.ca).