



# W.O. McCormick Academic Day

Theme:

**Alcohol Use Disorders and Mental Health:  
An Update**

**Friday, April 26, 2024**

Westin Nova Scotian Hotel

1181 Hollis Street

Halifax, NS



**DALHOUSIE  
UNIVERSITY**

Department of Psychiatry

# ACADEMIC DAY 2024 SCHEDULE\*

8–8:30 a.m. Arrival and registration for confirmed participants

8:30–8:45 a.m. Welcome

**Dr. Vincent Agyapong**

*Head, Department of Psychiatry, Dalhousie University; and, Chief of Psychiatry, NS Health Central Zone*

Opening remarks

**Dr. Samuel Hickcox**

*Physician Consultant, Office Addictions and Mental Health, Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness; Physician, NSH Mental Health and Addictions; and, Director: Atlantic Mentorship Network for Pain and Addictions*

**Dorothy Edem**

*Co-Director, Mental Health and Addictions Program, NS Health Central Zone*

8:45–9 a.m. Introduction to the format and overview of the day

**Dr. Cheryl Murphy**

*Conference Chair, Director of Continuing Professional Development, Department of Psychiatry, Dalhousie University*

9–10 a.m. Opening Plenary  
*Alcohol Use Disorder: The Forgotten Canadian Epidemic*

**Dr. Ronald Fraser**

10–11 a.m. Plenary  
*Pharmacology of Alcohol Use Disorder and Co-Occurring Conditions*

**Dr. Ronald Fraser**

11–11:15 a.m. Break

Each plenary presentation will end with 15 minutes of Q&A.

11:15 a.m. –12:15 p.m. Plenary  
*Beyond Benzodiazepines: A Practical Guide to Challenging Dogma in the Management of Alcohol Withdrawal Across Treatment Settings*

**Dr. J.J. Rasimas**

12:15 –1 p.m. Lunch

1–2 p.m. Plenary  
*I'm a Health Professional. I Know Stuff. Why Won't They Listen To Me?*

**Scott Janssen**

2–2:45 p.m. Plenary  
*Clinical Skills to Enhance Therapeutic Alliance*

**Dr. Pamela Arenella**

2:45 –3 p.m. Break

3–3:40 p.m. Individuals with Lived Experience Panel

3:40 –3:55 p.m. Closing Panel

**All presenters**

3:55 –4 p.m. Closing Remarks/Door Prize

**Dr. Cheryl Murphy**

Each plenary presentation will end with 15 minutes of Q&A.

\*Schedule subject to change.

