

**Atlantic Canada Association of Parasitologists
Annual meeting 2023
20-22 October, Customs House Inn, Pictou, Nova Scotia**

Friday 20 October

- 17:00 Registration (\$75 for full-time faculty, \$60 for students, post-docs, and retirees)
- 18:30 **ACAP Reception**
Customs House Inn
Russell Easy's and sous-chef Dave Shutler's seafood chowder

Saturday 21 October

- 08:50 Convenor: **Vett Lloyd**, *Mount Allison University*
Welcome to ACAP 2023



Lots of legs: Parasites of things with many legs and parasites with many legs



Chair: Laura Ferguson

- 09:00 Exploring immune gene expression patterns in American lobster (*Homarus americanus*) during *Aerococcus viridans* var. *homari* infection
Zohreh Fazelan, Nicolas Argenta, Spencer J. Greenwood, Fraser Clark, *Dalhousie University*
- 09:10 Transcriptome analysis in American lobster (*Homarus americanus*) following the exposure with different concentrations of Salmosan
Mehdi Raissy, Nicolas Argenta, Fraser Clark, *Dalhousie University*
- 09:20 Examining green crab (*Carcinus maenas*) immune reactions during parasite infection via transcriptome analysis
Zahra Ghiasvand, Samantha Stevens, Marianna Rampaul, Fraser Clark, *Dalhousie University*
- 09:30 Does pathogen infection change the winter behaviour and physiology of the black-legged tick, *Ixodes scapularis*?
Mia Lauzon, Russell H. Easy, Laura V. Ferguson, *Acadia University*
- 9:45 *Leptospira* sp. in NS & NB ticks and mosquitos
Grace MacIntosh, Vett Lloyd, *Mount Allison University*
- 10:00 Mosquito surveillance in the Maritime provinces under the lens of climate change
Nolan Boyd*¹, Emily Bacon¹, Gemma Rawson¹, Alina Rutherford¹, Stephen B. Heard², Jacqueline Badcock³, Justin Carr⁴, N. Kirk Hillier¹, Russell H. Easy¹, Todd G. Smith¹, Laura V. Ferguson¹ ¹*Acadia University*, ²*University of Prince Edward Island*
- 10:05 Mind the gap: Updating decades-old surveillance of mosquito-borne arboviruses in the Maritimes
Gemma Rawson*¹, Alina Rutherford¹, Nolan Boyd¹, Emily Bacon¹, Stephen B. Heard², Jacqueline Badcock³, Justin Carr⁴, N. Kirk Hillier¹, Russell H. Easy¹, Todd G. Smith¹, Laura V. Ferguson¹ ¹*Acadia University*, ²*University of Prince Edward Island*
- 10:10 On the hunt for heartworm, *Dirofilaria immitis*, in the mosquitoes of the Maritimes
Emily Bacon*¹, Nolan Boyd¹, Gemma Rawson¹, Alina Rutherford¹, Nina Germitsch², Laura V. Ferguson¹ ¹*Acadia University*, ²*University of Prince Edward Island*
- 10:20 Impacts of exposure to polystyrene microbeads on cold tolerance in three species of mosquito
April Sharpe, Laura V. Ferguson, *Acadia University*
- 10:35 PCR Detection of *Salmonella* and *Yersinia pestis* in wildlife
Jaelyn LeBlanc, Vett Lloyd, *Mount Allison University*
- 10:45 Coffee break**

11:00 **Keynote address: How can we help? How parasitologists can help in government, NGOs, and communities**

Jenna Priest¹, Megan Jones², Brenda Sterling-Goodwin³ ¹*Dept. Natural Resources and Renewables,* ²*Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative,* ³*Community member and Lyme Advocate*

12:00 **Lunch at Customs House Inn**



4 legs



Chair: Dave Shutler

13:00 Health and parasite survey of urban and rural white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) in Colchester County, Nova Scotia

Kassi M. McPhee, K. Fraser Clark, Dean Dillman, Sarah E. Stewart-Clark, *Dalhousie University*

13:10 Dude where's my mange? What we don't know about the transmission dynamics of sarcoptic mange in PEI red foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*)

Kylee F. Graham, Laura Bourque, Spencer J. Greenwood, Gary A. Conboy, Megan E.B. Jones, *Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative Atlantic Region, Atlantic Veterinary College, University of Prince Edward Island*

13:25 *Echinococcus multilocularis* infection in a red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) on Prince Edward Island

Will Robbins, Olivia Galeuzzi, Kylee Graham, Spencer Greenwood, Megan Jones, Melanie Buote, Gary Conboy, *Atlantic Veterinary College, University of Prince Edward Island*



Bipeds



13:40 A spatiotemporal analysis of *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* detection at Nova Scotian bat maternity colonies

Taryn Muldoon¹, Lori Phinney², Don Stewart¹, Dave Shutler¹, ¹*Acadia University,* ²*Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute, Caledonia*

13:55 Ectoparasite survey of the Prince Edward Island little brown myotis (*Myotis lucifugus*)

Olivia Galeuzzi^{1,2}, Will Robbins³, Tessa McBurney^{1,2}, Melanie Buote², Megan Jones^{1,2}, ¹*Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative, Atlantic Region* ²*Pathology and Microbiology - Atlantic Veterinary College,* ³*Biomedical Sciences - Atlantic Veterinary College*

14:10 Working with Nova Scotia's Mi'kmaq people to better understand our shared impact on moose

Jenna Priest, Jason Airst, Clifford Paul, Anthony King, Alison Bernard, Jason Power, NS Dept. Natural Resources and Renewables, UINR, CMM, KMKNO

14:25 Investigating ATG13 gene expression in people with post infectious syndrome

Rachel Sokyryka, Vett Lloyd, *Mount Allison University*

14:35 Mining an academic archive of the Atlantic provinces from the years 1930-1960 for public health information on zoonotic diseases

Katie Stewart, Vett Lloyd, *Mount Allison University*

14:45 **Coffee break**



Who needs legs....



Chair: Russell Easy

15:00 Molecular identification of *Saprolegnia parasitica* infesting hatchery-reared Atlantic salmon and *in vitro* assessment of prophylactic treatments

Hannah E. Lazaris-Decken, Tyler J. Lynn, Abidemi Adesola, James Duston, Michael S. Duffy, *Canadian Rivers Institute and University of New Brunswick*

- 15:15 Freshwater mussel glochidia infesting Gaspereau below a hydroelectric generating station in the Wolastoq | St. John River system, New Brunswick
Kerstyn D.R. Dobbs*, Nathanael D. Moore, Tyler J. Lynn, Meghann R. Bruce, Michael S. Duffy, *Canadian Rivers Institute and University of New Brunswick*
- 15:30 Investigating parasitic castration of host fishes by the cestode *Ligula intestinalis* and development of non-lethal diagnostics
Megan Fraser¹*, Shawn R. MacLellan, Michael S. Duffy, *Canadian Rivers Institute and University of New Brunswick*
- 15:45 Renaturation in regulated rivers – considerations for translocation of American eel free of infection by the swimbladder pathogen *Anguillicola crassus*
Michael S. Duffy*, Stephanie Scott, Aruna Jayawardane, *Canadian Rivers Institute and University of New Brunswick*

16:00 Poster Session

Posters

Using molecular methods to test if dissections miss brain worm infections in white-tailed deer
Gareth Acton, Russell Easy, Jenna Priest, Renée Samson, Dave Shutler. *Acadia University*

Food intake of parasitized animals: An updated review
Linda Hutchinson, Katie King, Dave Shutler, *Acadia University*

Expansion of *Dermacentor variabilis* populations into New Brunswick
Samantha Bishop, Andrea M. Kirby, Ellis P. Evans, Vett K. Lloyd, *Mount Allison University*

eTick as a tool for monitoring range expansion and accidental introduction of tick species
Annelies Yates¹, Taryn Muldoon¹, Kirk Hillier¹, Laura Ferguson¹, Nicoletta Faraone¹, Jade Savage², Jeremie Bouffard², and Dave Shutler¹ *Acadia University*, ²*Bishop's University*

Babesia in ticks from the Canadian Maritime Provinces: A 10-year longitudinal survey between 2013 – 2022

Charmaine Joy C. Serrano, Vett K. Lloyd, *Mount Allison University*

17:00 Free time

18:30 **ACAP Banquet**
Customs House Inn
Dave Shutler's and sous-chef Russell Easy's famous chili

Sunday 22 October 22
Have a safe trip home!