

**Politics of Existential Threats in an Uncertain World**  
**British Columbia Political Studies Association (BCPSA) AGM**  
**May 7–8, 2026 | Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, BC**

We are honoured to gather on the ancestral lands of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc, within Secwepemcúl'ecw, the traditional and unceded territory of the Secwépemc people.

**Theme**

The global order is increasingly uncertain. From climate change and pandemics to disinformation, cyberwarfare, and renewed geopolitical rivalry, our world is shaped by existential threats that jeopardize not only the stability of states and institutions but also the security, trust, and well-being of communities. Traditional and non-traditional security threats now overlap in complex ways. The erosion of democratic norms, environmental degradation, forced migration, artificial intelligence, and nuclear brinkmanship all reveal the interconnectedness of political, social, and ecological systems. As the boundaries between local and global, human and environmental, state and non-state actors blur, scholars and policymakers must reconsider what it means to lead, govern, and survive in an era of compounded crises.

This year's BCPSA conference invites reflection on the politics of existential threats in an uncertain world. We welcome proposals for papers, panels, posters, and roundtables that address these themes through theoretical, empirical, and case study and comparative approaches, encompassing both traditional (military, strategic, geopolitical) and nontraditional (climate, health, digital, human security) perspectives. We also invite submissions from related fields, including public policy, Indigenous scholarship and decolonization, political theory, international relations, Canadian comparative politics. The BCPSA AGM also welcomes proposal about teaching and learning, and experiential education.

**Conference Format**

The 2026 BCPSA AGM will be held in a **hybrid format**, welcoming both in-person and virtual participation.

**Submission Guidelines**

Please submit a title, an abstract (maximum 250 words), and author name(s) with institutional affiliation(s). Send submissions to [sbano@tru.ca](mailto:sbano@tru.ca) with the subject line "BCPSA 2026 Proposal – [Your Last Name]" by **April 24, 2026**, and indicate in your email whether you will attend in person or online.

**Marjorie Cohen Prize**

Conference papers are eligible for the Marjorie Cohen Prize (see [BCPSA.CA](https://www.bcpsa.ca) for details).

**Contact**

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