CPATH Conference Speaker Bios

A

Farooq Al-Sajee, Youth Worker of MOSAIC Wrap Around Program. Prior to being a Youth worker, he was a Settlement Worker for a year, with MOSAIC as well. He got involved in Social Justice committee in Syria, Damarcus and is currently involved in the I Belong program as he had previous experience in supporting and advocating for LGBTQ right in the Middle East and Vancouver.

Dr. David Azul (né Scheidt) is a certified practising speech pathologist, lecturer, researcher, (academic and creative) writer and sound performer based at the La Trobe Rural Health School, La Trobe University, Bendigo, Australia. In their work, David explores options of cross-fertilization between feminist and (trans) gender studies theories, creative practice, clinical research and clinical practice by taking a transdisciplinary and transgeneric approach to knowledge production. Since 2002, they have mainly focussed on bringing theoretical and methodological innovation to the nexus between gender diversity and voice. Key projects have been supported by the Heinrich Böll Foundation, Germany, an Endeavour International Postgraduate Research Scholarship and by internal research grants from La Trobe University. For their postgraduate research, David has received a La Trobe University Institute for Advanced Study postgraduate Writing-Up Award and the RWTH Aachen University medal. David has 15 publications in peer-reviewed outlets; they presented at over 20 conferences and were invited to give guest lectures and workshops to students, health professionals and the public. David is an active peer-reviewer for speech pathology, qualitative and creative research journals and a member of consultative boards to support LGBTIQ communities.

B

Jasreet Badyal is a queer woman of colour who practices with the Law Office of barbara findlay QC. Jas was born and raised in Treaty 7 Territory (Calgary, AB). She has experience in providing low barrier legal services to marginalized people. Jas has experience in family law, criminal law, immigration and human rights, especially human rights for trans and gender variant people. Most recently she was part of the landmark settlement of the case about gender markers in the federal government. Jas has regularly appeared in court on criminal and family law matters, including assisting duty counsel. She has worked both in Alberta and BC, and so has a unique perspective in different procedures and laws across the two provinces.

Dr. Greta Bauer, PhD, is a Professor in the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics at Western University. Her primary research interests are in sexually transmitted infections and the broader health of sexual and gender minority communities, and in quantitative research methodology for studying communities that experience marginalization. Greta has led multiple research projects on trans health and health care over more than a decade, and has published more than 35 papers, chapters or reports related to trans health.

Aimée Beauchamp has worked and volunteered in the non-profit sector for over 5 years, involving herself in decolonization initiatives, youth sexual health projects, Intersectional research, and anti-oppressive campaigns. She is from Squamish Nation and has worked hard to incorporate Indigenous teachings and practices in all of her work. She received a BEd from UBC and spent some time teaching before pursuing a Masters in Counselling Psychology where she could focus her energy on using traditional healing practices to support youth dealing with mental health concerns.

Annelies Becu is an Operations Coordinator at the BC Centre for Disease Control in Vancouver. They have a Master of Public Health with a combination of experience in research, coordination, finance and administrative roles. Their research and policy interests include health equity, LGBTQ/2S health, harm reduction and sexual health.

Cora Beitel is a genderqueer midwife in Vancouver. They founded and help run the Downtown Eastside clinic, the Strathcona Midwifery Collective which serves a diverse population of pregnant folks and their families. The clinic provides midwifery services as well as counselling, acupuncture and community support groups. Cora also co-facilitates the Queer and Trans Pregnancy and Parenting group that serves as a community space and support group for queer and trans people on the parenting journey. They have two fabulous kids at very different life stages, one teenager and one infant.

Dr. Maud Bélanger received her medical degree in 2005 from Université Laval in Quebec City and completed her plastic surgery residency in 2010 at Université de Montréal. Afterwards, she pursued her fellowship in trans surgery, microsurgery and breast reconstructive surgery at the renowned Ghent University Hospital in Belgium. Dr. Bélanger previously practised at the Hôtel Dieu de St-Jéréme Hospital before devoting herself entirely to trans care patients at the Centre Métropolitain de Chirurgie.
Juana Berinstein is the Director of Policy and Communications for the Association of Ontario Midwives (since 2007), where under her leadership, the Association has successfully campaigned for the expansion of midwifery, the development of birth centres and funding for Aboriginal midwifery. She has been involved in policy initiatives, systemic advocacy and community consultation at the municipal, provincial and federal level in the areas of health, worker’s rights and social and economic justice. She has a Master’s degree in Communication and Culture with a focus on public policy. She was a Board Member (2010-13) at Health Nexus, a leading non-profit organization working on health promotion and equity and a mentor with Rainbow Health Ontario’s public policy institute (2014). She lives in Toronto with her partner and two daughters.

Dr. Éric Bensimon obtained his medical degree from the University of Laval in 1993. He then completed his training in plastic surgery at the University of Montreal. Following the completion of his residency in plastic surgery, Dr. Bensimon went on to do a fellowship in cranio-maxillofacial surgery and aesthetic surgery at the University of Toronto. In addition to his aesthetic surgery practice, Dr. Bensimon is an active staff member at the Sacré-Coeur Hospital and is involved in teaching plastic and cosmetic surgery at the University of Montreal, plastic surgery department. Dr. Éric Bensimon is currently president of the Association des spécialistes en chirurgie Plastique et Esthétique du Québec and also President of the Canadian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery

Beth Berlin is a Nurse Practitioner working in the Lakes District of Northern BC. She has been practicing for 6 years with a large portion of First Nations patients. She and her husband and 2 boys live on the shores of Burns Lake and enjoy water sports, mountain biking, skiing and travel.

Dr. Chris Booth, FRCP.C, is a child and adolescent psychiatrist who works part-time in his private practice in North Vancouver and is the clinical director of the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre. Since 2008, his private practice has focused on youth with gender issues. Dr. Booth is a member of CPATH and WPATH and is a clinical instructor with UBC Faculty of Medicine. Dr. Booth trained at the University of Toronto and moved to BC in 1999.

Navi Boparai supports the Trans Health Expansion, which is a partnership between Rainbow Health Ontario, Sherbourne Health Centre, Women’s College Hospital, and CAMH to support the delivery of accessible healthcare and to advance surgical planning for transgender and gender-diverse people across Ontario. Previously, Navi has worked on projects to advance rural family medicine across Canada and to improve cancer care for Indigenous populations.

Dr. Pierre Brassard received his medical degree from Université Laval in 1985, graduating first in his class and with honours. Four years later, he received his degree in plastic surgery from the Université de Montréal and went on to sub-specialize in microsurgery at Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont and the renowned Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. From 1990 to 1996, Dr. Brassard practiced as a surgeon and teacher at the Hôtel Dieu de Québec Hospital and the Hôtel Dieu de Lévis Hospital. He became a member of the Department of Plastic Surgery at the Hôtel Dieu de St-Jérôme Hospital in 1996 and served as Head of the Department from 1998 to 2000. Since 2000, Dr. Brassard has been devoted entirely to private practice and is the Medical Director and, since 2006, sole owner of the Centre Métropolitain de Chirurgie. Over the course of several years, Dr. Brassard has performed several thousand gender affirming surgeries. His extensive experience makes him one of the most accomplished surgeons in the field. Dr. Brassard has made significant contributions to the improvement of transsexual surgical techniques, allowing patients to acquire genitals that more closely resemble the appearance of biological genitals.

Abby Brooks is a Victoria based Speech and Language Pathologist with a specialization in Transgender voice therapy. She has an undergraduate degree from the University of Victoria in Education and a Masters of Science degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders. She currently offers Changing Keys on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

vanessa bui is a queer, genderfluid, first-generation vietnamese, upper working class, abled youth born, raised, and currently residing on the unceded and occupied territory of the Coast Salish people. most of their life has involved navigating the academic and nonprofit industrial complexes, and now, more recently, they invest their energy in facilitating conversations and actions around anti-oppression, decolonization and community organizing.

Nora Butler Burke is a doctoral student at the Interdisciplinary Centre for Studies on Society and Culture, Concordia University in Montréal, Québec. Her current research is focused on documenting the role of immigration penalty in the daily lives of migrant trans women in Canada. Previously, she was the coordinator of Action santé travesties et transsexuel.le.s du Québec (ASTT(e)Q), a project of CACTUS Montréal, working with low-income and sex working trans women.

Marie Carlson, RN, BSN, CRNC(C), is a Clinical Instructor for the Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine/Sexual Medicine at the University of British Columbia. Marie is Certified in Rehabilitation Nursing and working at the Sexual Health Rehab Service at GF Strong Rehab Centre in Vancouver BC. In this role Marie assists clients with disability and chronic illness, their loved ones and caregivers in the area of sexuality in clinical work,
education, advocacy and research with a focus on mindfulness based clinical work. Marie has had the privilege to co-author of the 2009 publication titled Guidelines for Supporting Sexual Health and Intimacy in Care Facilities: Guidelines for Supporting Adults Living in Long-Term Care Facilities and Group Homes in British Columbia and the subsequent 2013 Pocket Guide. Some of Marie's most profound learning has been as Co-Chair and Education Lead of the Disability & Rehab Ethics Committee at Vancouver Coastal Health and with the Regional Ethics Council. As a community activist for queer and transgender rights, rights of person's with disability and sex workers and intersecting communities, Marie is an advocate and educator. Marie is a long-standing member of CPATH and the BC Transgender Clinical Care Group.

Christina Chant completed her Practical Nursing diploma at Vancouver Community College, Registered Nursing degree at Douglas College and is currently enrolled in the Master of Science in Nursing program at UBC. Christina's thesis interest is in research ethics, sex work and health equity. Over the past 10 years, Christina has worked in primary care, HIV outreach, sexual health, transgender health, mental health and substance use, and most recently clinical education. With a particular interest in improving health equity for people who use drugs, Christina’s ultimate passion is to contribute to the creation of a more just and ethical health care system.

Beth Clark, MM,RCC, is a doctoral candidate and Vanier Scholar in the Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies Program at The University of British Columbia (UBC). They are a research trainee at the Stigma and Resilience Among Vulnerable Youth Centre, and have recently received a UBC Public Scholars Initiative Award and a Lyle Creelman Endowment Fund Research Award to support their dissertation research in the area of ethics and trans youth hormone therapy initiation decision making. Beth has worked in the US and Canada in the fields of education, arts, and healthcare, and is a Registered Clinical Counsellor in British Columbia. They have presented on their clinical work and research across North America and recently presented at the World Professional Association for Transgender Health Symposium in Amsterdam. They have worked with both Trans Care BC (Provincial Health Services Authority) and the Transgender Health Information Program (Vancouver Coastal Health), and volunteered with the Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre in Vancouver. This range of experiences informs Beth's research interest in health care ethics and in improving equitable access to care.

Dr. Ingrid Cosio, MD, studied medicine at UBC and completed her residency training in Family Medicine at UBC– Prince George site in 2005. She is clinical faculty of the UBC Family Practice Residency Program in Prince George and shares an office in one of the teaching clinics. She is also the site lead faculty for Behavioural Medicine for the Residency Program. Obstetrics and in-patient care are important parts of her practice. Dr. Cosio has gained experience in Transgender health over the last 10 years, through work with an increasing number of gender diverse patients from Prince George as well as other communities in the North. In August 2015, with the support of the Northern Health Authority, the Prince George Division of Family Practice and the Blue Pine Clinic, the Northern Gender Clinic was started in order to provide multidisciplinary care to gender diverse people in the North.

Dr. Tania Culham, MD, CCFP, is a Vancouver-based family physician who specializes in working with youth, specifically those living with mental health and addiction issues. She also spends a great deal of her clinical time providing care for trans youth and adults from a range of backgrounds and social locations. She has worked at Vancouver Coastal Health's Three Bridges Community Health Centre for the past 16 years as well as at Family Services Of Greater Vancouver's Youth Detox program. In addition to her clinical work, she teaches medical students at the University of British Columbia about youth care and has developed youth mental health educational modules for family physicians for the Practice Support Program in B.C. Tania is the Co-chair of the Vancouver Local Action Team for the Provincial Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative and she sits on the Mental Health and Addiction Committee for the Vancouver Division of Family Practice. Tania’s professional goal is to help improve the lives of children and youth living with barriers that prevent them from living a full and productive life.

Georgia Dacakis is an adjunct lecturer in the Discipline of Speech Pathology, La Trobe University Melbourne, Australia. Georgia has extensive clinical experience in providing voice and communication training for transwomen and has published and undertaken research in this area since the early 1980's. Georgia led a collaboration with Canadian colleagues, Shelagh Davies and Judith Johnston to develop the first psychometrically evaluated self-report questionnaire designed to capture the perceptions of transwomen regarding their vocal functioning and the voice-related impact on their everyday lives (the Transsexual Voice Questionnaire [TVQMfJ]). Georgia has been a member of the Monash Gender Clinic since its inception and prior to that the Queen Victoria Gender Clinic since 1980. Georgia is a founding member of ANZPATH.

Kusha Dadui is the Trans Program Coordinator at Sherbourne Health Centre in Toronto, Ontario. Kusha has done fifteen years of front line work with Trans refugees and newcomers to improve the service provision and well-being of their community. Kusha currently works with Trans youth and mostly Trans newcomers.

Sekanl Dakelth is a trans aboriginal woman from the Dakelth Nation living on unceded Coast Salish territories. She works at PACE Society and Atira Property Management.
Antonia Dangalcheva is a clinical psychology doctoral student at Simon Fraser University. During her clinical training, she completed a practicum under the supervision of Dr. Wallace Wong. She provided individual therapy for gender nonconforming youth, completed assessments, and co-led a bi-weekly support group for adolescents and a monthly group for children with gender varying behaviour. As part of her doctoral research dissertation, she has led the adaptation and evaluation of a group attachment-based parenting group for caregivers of trans and gender nonconforming youth.

Shelagh Davies is a speech-language pathologist with over 15 years’ experience in transgender voice training. She was a founding member of the WPATH Standing Committee for Voice and Communication and was first author on the Companion Document to the Standards of Care for Voice and Communication, which was published in 2015. In 2004 Shelagh developed ‘Changing Keys’, a program of voice and speech feminization for transgender women. Changing Keys is now available in four Provincial Health Authorities and Shelagh has mentored colleagues in the program’s delivery. Other work in transgender voice and communication includes co-writing the 2006 Transgender Speech Feminization and Masculinization: Suggested Guidelines for BC Clinicians, the development of the TSEQ (Transgender Self Evaluation of Voice Questionnaire) for male to female and to female to male transgender persons. She is co-author of the Transsexual Voice Questionnaire (Male to Female), which has been translated into 9 languages. Her work has been published in the Journal of Voice, the Journal of the Canadian Speech, Language and Hearing Association, the International Journal of Transgenderism and online magazines for Speech and Audiology Canada and the National Association of Teachers of Singing.

Stefan de Villiers is a Vancouver-based transman, a youth worker, and co-founder of Tilted Windmills, an online social justice initiative that promotes projects that celebrate wellness, diversity, and collaboration. Stefan is a co-researcher in a Photovoice project about safety, belonging, wellbeing and place in the lives of trans, two-spirit and gender non-conforming people.

Dr. Aaron Devor, PhD, FSSS, FSTLHE, has been working on trans topics for more than thirty years, holds the world’s first Research Chair in Transgender Studies, and is the Founder and Academic Director of the world’s largest Transgender Archives, both at the University of Victoria. He has published widely, delivered lectures to audiences around the world, been on the WPATH Standards of Care committee since 1999, is an elected member of the International Academy of Sex Research, an elected Fellow of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, and serves on the Editorial Boards the Archives of Sexual Behavior, The Journal of Sex Research, and the Transgender Studies Quarterly.

Meera Dhebar is a Registered Social Worker, she is the Clinical Supervisor to Qmunity’s Counselling Program, works in the palliative program with Vancouver Coastal Health, and is also the Founder of Eagle Wellness. As a therapist, Meera practices narrative therapy, arts based approaches and mindfulness. She brings this to all aspects of her work, with clients, patients, students and other counsellors. Meera has an adventurous spirit and loves to travel. Her most memorable trip is to Nepal in 2014, where she was able to experience a trek high into the mountains for 10 days, away from electrical power lines and internet connections. Her work and life experiences have taught her that there so much more to people than what meets the eye. We are such complex and powerful beings, able to move through transformative change at unexpected moments of our lives.

Steph Drake is enrolled in the Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology program at Adler University. Their professional experience has been focused on youth with developmental disabilities and mental health challenges. Their clinical interests involve sex and gender, social determinants of health, and community approaches to public health issues. Steph is a community organizer who values mentorship, intersectionality, and pragmatism in their work. They are dedicated to collaborative multidisciplinary work, community engagement, and resource development. They were the recipient of the Community Recognition Award from Pacific Community Resources Society. Steph volunteers in the local community advocating for equitable access to municipal resources with Women Transforming Cities. Additionally, Steph’s artwork Bloom featured at a Piece of Mind exhibition and spoke on a panel about the intersections of art and mental wellness.

Dr. Margaret Drewlo is a psychotherapist with a large Vancouver health organization’s suicide prevention and suicide bereavement program. She has been part of Vancouver’s Advanced Transgender Health clinical care team since its inception. She was a founding member of CPATH (Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health) and is a past member of the CPATH board. Margaret holds a doctorate in Clinical Psychology and a Master’s Degree in Psychology, specializing in Couple and Family Therapy. Margaret has a special interest in Critical approaches to psychology.

Anne Dubé is a clinical nurse and a member of the Ordre des infirmiers et infirmières du Québec since 2008. She joined GRS Montréal in 2012 and acted initially as a pivot nurse for clienttele seeking to undergo gender affirmation surgery. Appointed Director of Trans Care in 2016, she continues with a pivot role, as well as in liaison and navigation, and works closely with all stakeholders within GRS Montréal, as well as with external stakeholders involved in all aspects of the surgical process. Anne is an experienced resource person who plays an essential role with transgender clients and healthcare professionals across Canada through customized follow-ups, ensuring that each client’s unique experience is as beneficial as possible, all within an environment that emphasizes the quality and safety of care and services.
Dr. Janice Du Mont is a Senior Scientist at Women’s College Research Institute at Women’s College Hospital and a Professor in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto. Her research in the area of sexual and domestic violence spans the social sciences, health sciences, and the law, focusing on who is being victimized as well as the chronic and short-term physical and psychological sequelae of, and enhancing the health and legal sector and public policy responses to, these issues. Dr. Du Mont is Research Consultant to the Ontario Network of Sexual Assault and Domestic Treatment Centres, 35 hospital-based programs that provide services to persons who have been victimized. She has also served as an Advisor to the World Health Organization initiatives to document the criminalization of sexual assault across world regions and the uses and the impacts of medico-legal evidence in sexual assault cases.

Riel Dupuis-Rossi, MA/MS, W/RSW, is a Two Spirit person of Kanien’kehaka (Mohawk), Algonquin and Italian descent and currently resides in Vancouver, BC, on the unceded traditional territories of the Coast Salish Peoples. Since 2011, Riel has worked as a Counsellor at the Aboriginal Wellness Program providing culturally-centered individual, family and group psychotherapy and volunteered as a Trans Wellness Counsellor for the Catherine White Holman Center in 2012. Riel has previously worked as a Counsellor in community based Indigenous and LGBT organizations in Montreal, QC and Los Angeles, CA.

Dr. Adrian Edgar, MD, CCFP, is a trans man, family doctor, and the Medical Director of Clinic 554, specializing in trans, queer, and reproductive health in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Adrian completed his undergrad in Cross-Cultural Health & Ethics as a queer white female in Trent University’s Indigenous and Women’s Studies Departments. He partially fulfilled his MA in Trent’s Indigenous and Canadian Studies program, where he worked for the Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Alliances and Coalitions Project, before transitioning, and attending med school with Melinda at McMaster University. As a family physician, Adrian has worked in maternal addictions, midwifery, abortion, and street health, as well as in several First Nations, prisons, queer and trans communities. He is currently serving as President of CPATH, is a founding member of the New Brunswick Transgender Health Network, and sits on the Board of Directors for AIDS New Brunswick.

Lindsay Elin, MSW, RSW, is an individual, family and group therapist with an interest in attachment-focused and trauma-informed work with trans youth and their parents. She works in the Pride and Prejudice (LGBTQ2S) Program at Central Toronto Youth Services (CTYS) and has a small private practice in Toronto. She is a contributing author of second edition of “Families in TRANSition: A Resource Guide for Families of Transgender Youth” (2016), and the developer and facilitator of the “Families in TRANSition Group,” an attachment-informed group for parents/caregivers of gender diverse youth at CTYS.

Dr. Melinda Fowler, MD, knew she wanted to care for people from a young age. She is a Métis/ Mi’kmaw woman who grew up on the east coast of Canada in Newfoundland and Southern Labrador. She received her Bachelor of Nursing (BScN) in 2001 from Memorial University of Newfoundland & Labrador. While working as a full time nurse at Sunnybrook Hospital, she returned to her education and received her Doctor of Chiropractic (CD) in 2006 at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College. While working as a nurse and chiropractor, she again returned to education and completed her undergraduate medical degree (MD) in 2010 and her residency in family medicine in 2012; both at McMaster University. She is passionate about being an advocate for Indigenous youth and encouraging them to recognize their power and potential. She also encourages culturally safe spaces for Indigenous student learners in medicine, addressing and removing barriers and promoting curriculum which will educate both students and educators. Dr. Fowler is Medical Director & Family Physician at Mount Carmel Clinic in Winnipeg.

Bon Fabian is a proud Two Spirit living in Vancouver, who runs Two Spirit sweat lodges and is called to provide spiritual support for Aboriginal people who are sick in hospitals.

Maxime Faddoul est un étudiant-chercheur et militant trans, queer, féministe et arabe. Il réalise son mémoire en travail social à l’UQAM intitulé Articulation des questions trans en travail social : pratiques et points de vue des intervenant.e.s sociaux, sous la direction de Maria Nengeh Mensah.

Maxime Faddoul is a student-researcher and a queer, feminist and Arab trans activist. He is working on his dissertation in social work at UQAM entitled “Articulation of trans issues in social work: practices and points of view of social workers”, under the direction of Maria Nengeh Mensah.

barbara findlay is a fat old white cisgender lawyer of British background, adopted by the Wet’suwet’en people, and having disabilities. She has been working on trans legal issues for more than 20 years.

Brenda Finlayson is a registered nurse and social worker who has worked in health care for over 25 years in a variety of roles including community and hospital mental health services as well as working for government. She has held a variety of leadership roles in children’s mental health where she worked to enhance service continuity between sectors and organizations for children and their families. Over the past 5 years at CAMH, her responsibilities have included research coordination, management of inpatient units and currently she is managing several specialty outpatient services including the Gender Identity Clinic. Brenda is passionate about improving access to health care services and communication between primary care and specialty services as well as encouraging integration of research and clinical services.

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Dr. Hélène Frohard-Dourlent, PhD, MA, (they/them/their or she/her/hers) is a post-doctoral fellow at the University of British Columbia. Hélène’s research has focused on educators who work with trans and gender-nonconforming students and more broadly on gender diversity within K-12 settings. Hélène’s time is shared between the School of Nursing where they lead evaluation projects on gender-affirming care and the Faculty of Education, where they contributes to the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Fund University Network through the Promoting Trans Literacies workshops and the Teacher Education for All! project.

G

Fin Gareau is a trans and Two-Spirit nurse originally from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, who fully embraces the importance of community reciprocity. He began his queer and trans activism in the early 2000’s facilitating the Safe Spaces youth group in the Kootenays, and delivering trans workshops to rural social service agencies. He then began volunteering with the Trans Youth Drop-in and coordinated the program for over 8 years. He has worked with gender diverse and questioning youth and their families for over 15 years. Fin is nearly completed his Master of Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner degree and has a strong passion for working with gender diverse and Two-Spirit people. Recognizing the need to create more trans specific and inclusive health care services, Fin was a founding organizer of the Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre. Providing trans visibility and ‘first contact’ with isolated trans youth is an experience that continues to resonate with and motivate Fin, today.

Lauren Goldman is a registered nurse whose practice has focused on increasing access to low-barrier, gender affirming care. She is particularly passionate about sexual health and teaching clinicians how to create health care experiences that are considerate of gender, orientation, kink practices, bodies and ability. Lauren has been privileged to work with the Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre, the STI/HIV Clinic at the BC Centre for Disease Control, Options for Sexual Health, Insite and the Sexual Assault Service. As the Nurse Educator for Trans Care BC, Lauren works with the Education Team to develop educational resources for care providers that promote comprehensive, affirming health services for trans individuals across BC. Lauren is a queer woman of Middle Eastern and European descent, currently living in the unceded Coast Salish Territory of Vancouver. She has a cheeky dog named Arthur, loves hot sauce, and is always on the lookout for foods that remind her of home.

Cory Grandinetti is an occupational therapist, manager, and educator. He graduated from St. Edward’s University in 2005 with a BA in psychology then completed his MA program in occupational therapy in 2007. Cory specializes in neurological rehabilitation – working with people with brain injury, spinal cord injury, and complex injuries. He worked on the inpatient rehabilitation unit at Harborview Medical Center from 2008-2015. He is currently the Director of Clinical Management for the Rehab Without Walls Home and Community program in the Pacific Northwest. Rehab Without Walls is a comprehensive, intensive, neuro rehabilitation program serving people in their homes and the community. Cory enjoys supporting clinicians in Washington, Oregon, and Alaska, to provide meaningful rehab where life happens. He has been presenting on transgender health and sex after disability since 2009. Cory has presented locally at the University of Washington and at the Washington Occupational Therapy Association annual conference, nationally at the Academy for Spinal Cord Injury Professionals annual conference, and internationally at the World Professional Association for Transgender Health conference in Bangkok, Thailand. He is passionate about merging his experiences as a healthcare professional, disability advocate, and a transgender man to educate healthcare providers across the continuum of care in order to improve outcomes for all patients.

Gillian Grevstad is a speech-language pathologist currently offering the Changing Keys program in downtown Vancouver, British Columbia. Her interest in transgender voice therapy emerged in 2004 when she first heard about Shelagh Davies’ work in this area. She was delighted to be brought on as a Changing Keys provider in 2016. As an undergraduate Gillian studied French and Spanish, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of British Columbia. She later continued her linguistic bent at UBC in the School of Audiology and Speech Sciences, earning her M.Sc. in Speech-Language Pathology. In addition to her work with transgender voice, Gillian is a speech-language pathologist working with elementary school children with communication disorders in the Burnaby School District.

Lorraine Grieves, MA, RCC, is a queer, cisgender, registered clinical counsellor and health care leader who has worked in a range of roles, from therapist to program director, supporting the wellness of youth, families and adults in diverse settings. She is thankful to live and work on unceded territories of the S̱ílú’wa1tał, X̱wmetym, & S̱wx̱wú7mesh (Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam & Squamish) peoples in Vancouver, BC. Before moving to her current role as provincial program director with the Provincial Health Authority’s Trans Care BC, Lorraine worked at Vancouver Coastal Health in community services where she was an operational manager responsible for the Trans Health Information Program, C.A.L.L. Out and a portfolio of youth substance use and concurrent disorder services. In all of her work she strives to centre the expert, lived experience wisdom of service participants in informing work that impacts them.

Sandy Gunderson is a Surgical Coordinator nurse and cis-gender ally with Trans Care BC and part of the Care Coordination Team. Her work has taken her to remote northern communities as well as urban and inner city locations where she has had the privilege of working with diverse communities. Before finding her way to Trans Care BC, she worked in a remote health centre in Nunavut, with the Sexual Assault Service, Sheway, Vancouver Native Health and Three Bridges Primary Care where she worked with
many gender diverse clients. Sandy is excited to be able to continue supporting gender diverse people through her role at Trans Care BC. Sandy is passionate about accessible and competent health care for all British Columbians, and is currently enrolled in a Masters of Public Health program through the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Sandy was born and raised in the Lower Mainland and in her spare time likes to watch scary movies and dog videos on Facebook.

Dr. Gloria Gutman developed the Gerontology Research Centre and Department of Gerontology at Simon Fraser University (SFU) and was director of both from 1982-2005. She is currently a Research Associate and Professor Emerita at SFU. Dr. Gutman has received many awards including the prestigious Rosalie Wolf Award presented by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (2005), the Order of British Columbia (2010), an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Western Ontario (2010), a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal presented by the Canadian Association on Gerontology (2012) and Order of Canada (2016). She is author/editor of 22 books and monographs, the most recent (with Andrew Sixsmith), Technologies for Active Aging (Springer, 2013). Her research interests include seniors’ housing, long term care, health promotion, seniors and emergency preparedness, gerontechnology, prevention of elder abuse and neglect, and LGBT aging.

Nesa Hamidi Tousi, RN (c), is a queer, gender fluid Iranian registered nurse living on the traditional and unceded territories of the Musqueam, Suquamish, and Tseil-waututh Nations. They are currently working at Three Bridges Primary Care Clinic and volunteer at Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre, a volunteer-run clinic supporting trans and non-binary individuals seeking low barrier care. They believe in advocating for and practicing using a consent based, harm reduction focused lens that centres the individual and their care needs.

Teresa Hardy is a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Science at the University of Alberta. She also is a licensed speech-language pathologist with more than 10 years experience working in a variety of settings. In her clinical practice, Teresa currently works with people who are trans-identified and seeking to modify their communication to be more in line with their affirmed gender identity. She has been working with transwomen for about ten years and loves to see the transformations her clients go through, both in terms of their communication and their self-confidence. Teresa’s dissertation research will aim to identify communication-based predictors of gender attribution and explore relationships between communication, perception, and quality of life for transwomen.

Stacy Harris joined Sherbourne Health Centre as the Intake & Admissions RN for the Infirmary program in 2013. Having worked in hospital, community and home environments in Ontario and the United Kingdom, she has extensive nursing experience in acute and chronic health care, mental health and substance use issues. Stacy has a strong passion for holistic, client-centred, evidence-based practice. She understands and appreciates the intersectionality of the social determinants of health on an individual’s health and well-being. Her non-judgmental, compassionate approach enables vulnerable and marginalized individuals feel welcome, supported and empowered during their stay in the Infirmary. Stacy also represents the Infirmary program on the Trans Health Expansion Committee.

Gwen Haworth MFA, is a trans-feminine gender diversity advocate currently working as the Education Project Manager with Trans Care BC. She has European settler roots; born, living and an uninvited guest on unceded Coast Salish Territory. Prior to her current role, Gwen worked for five years as the LGBT2Q+ educator with Prism Services, Vancouver Coastal Health, and also worked front line for nearly a decade with RainCity Housing and Support Society, focusing on harm-reduction, self-determination, and low barrier access to housing, shelter and services. Gwen has volunteer stints with the Vancouver Parks Board’s Trans Inclusion Working Group, the City of Vancouver’s LGBTQ advisory committee, the Trans Alliance Society, and the Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre. Gwen is likely best known outside of Vancouver for her past film work, primarily her feature documentary She’s a Boy I Knew, which screened internationally at over 100 film festivals and continues to be used in curriculum at post-secondary institutions across North America.

Jack Heard is currently in his third year of medicine at the Max Rady College of Medicine at the University of Manitoba. He has worked over the past two years on a research project with the Gender Dysphoria Assessment and Action for Youth (GDAAY) program in Winnipeg. This research involves the healthcare services available to trans youth in Manitoba and their experiences accessing healthcare.

William Hébert is a PhD candidate in social-cultural anthropology at the University of Toronto. Funded by SSHRC and Trudeau Foundation doctoral scholarships, his dissertation research examines the policies, laws, regulations, and projects that are being developed for and by trans people affected by criminalization and incarceration across Canada. This work also includes examining how Canada fits within transnational discourses on such questions. In the fall of 2015, he was a visiting scholar at the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul in Porto Alegre, Brazil, where he conducted preliminary comparative research on state policies and civic mobilization surrounding trans people’s incarceration. William has also worked and volunteered on numerous community-based projects, notably as the project manager of a research and intervention initiative on elder trans people’s access to healthcare and social services in
Quebec. He is currently the research coordinator of a SSHRC-funded qualitative community-based participatory action research project on trans youth’s wellbeing, under the direction of Dr. Annie Pullen Sansfaçon (Université de Montréal).

Matthew Heinz is Professor and Dean of the College of Interdisciplinary Studies at Royal Roads University. He engages in applied research concerning the communication needs and characteristics of trans-identified and gender non-conforming people.

Mieke Heyns is a 3rd year medical student at the University of Calgary and co-president of Medical Students for Gender and Sexual Diversity (GSD). She is passionate about improving LGBTQ+ health outcomes and creating learning opportunities for fellow students.

Abby Hipolito (hih-poe-li-to) is a queer student studying to become a librarian in the Greater Vancouver Area. She is an out and about transgender woman seeking a fight to fight and folks to share stories with.

Sandy Hirsch, MS, CCC-SLP, is a speech-language pathologist with an expertise in voice. She is internationally renowned for voice and communication training with transgender and gender non-conforming people. Ms. Hirsch has over 25 years of experience working in the gender non-conforming community. She has made this the focus of her private practice, Give Voice. She is an active member of the Ingersoll Transgender Professional Consult Group in Seattle. Ms. Hirsch has co-edited two editions of Voice and Communication Therapy for the Transgender / Transsexual Client (Adler, R.; Hirsch, S.; Mordaunt, M. 2012 and 2006). She is currently working on a 3rd edition. Since 2007, Ms. Hirsch has been training voice clinicians who are committed to improving the quality of life of gender non-conforming people. It is her goal to ensure that voice and communication services are provided with the highest possible integrity. Ms. Hirsch presents internationally at transgender, professional speech and hearing and voice conferences and trainings. She has been featured in print, radio and television media. Ms. Hirsch lives in Seattle, WA. She is a classical and jazz singer, and is passionate about combining her art and clinical expertise in training clients and clinicians.

Dr. Cindy Holmes, PhD, is a community engagement consultant, educator and researcher with over 25 years experience in community health and social work. She recently completed postdoctoral health research fellowships with the National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health at the University of Northern British Columbia and the Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University. She recently coordinated a community-based participatory research study that examined the connections between safety, belonging, wellbeing and place in the lives of transgender, Two-Spirit and gender non-conforming people. She is currently an Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University. Cindy has taught courses on gender and health at Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia and has recently worked as a consultant with the new Trans Care BC program of the Provincial Health Services Authority in British Columbia. She is a white, queer, cisgender woman, and a loved one and family member of trans and gender diverse people. Cindy currently lives and works in the ancestral and unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh people in Vancouver BC.

Suza Hranilovic considers herself an “old nurse” and a “newer nurse practitioner”. As a Masters-prepared Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner and an AIDS Certified Nurse, Sue has provided hospital, community and primary health care in Toronto’s inner city for over 25 years. She has a commitment to continuing involvement in professional development and community-based volunteer activities which have included Board of Directors positions for the Canadian Association of Nurses in AIDS Care, the Ontario HIV Treatment Network and Fife House Foundation. Sue is proud to have been one of the founding members of the Committee for Accessible AIDS Treatment and to have participated in volunteer nursing in Zimbabwe. She has done over 60 presentations to colleagues, patients and community and has received ten awards related to excellence in academia and clinical care. Sue’s high level of expertise and commitment to working with diverse, marginalized, stigmatized, at-risk and vulnerable populations has served her both locally and internationally, and she hopes to continue nurturing the resilience of the clients she walks with, learns from and serves.

Sheena Jamieson is the Youth Project’s Support Services Coordinator, providing support to youth for issues around sexual orientation and gender identity. She holds degrees in Gender & Women’s Studies (King’s) and Social Work (Dalhousie). Born in Nova Scotia, Sheena’s been a part of The Youth Project for many years, starting as a youth and summer student.

Thomas Johnson is a cultural anthropologist who originally specialized in Japanese studies. His first major work was on the social development of adolescent boys in rural Japan. He later studied child development, folk religion, rural economics and village festivals. He taught Japanese and Korean culture at Chico State for 30 years and taught English and American culture in Japanese and Korean universities. About the time he retired from active teaching, he stumbled into a topic that was poorly understood and decided to pursue it. For the past several years his work has focused on gender dysphoria beyond the well-studied male-to-female and female-to-male binary. Together with several colleagues he has published and lectured widely on Male-to-Eunuch gender dysphoria. His goal is to expand our knowledge and acceptance of gender diversity.
Sharalyn Jordan is an Assistant Professor in Counselling Psychology at Simon Fraser University located on the Unceded territory of Coast Salish peoples. Since 2006 she has engaged in research and advocacy with queer and trans refugees. Published work includes pieces for Refuge and Forced Migration Review.

Dr. Sabra Katz-Wise, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in Adolescent/Young Adult Medicine at Boston Children's Hospital and in Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. She is trained in developmental psychology, gender and women's studies, and social epidemiology. Her research investigates sexual orientation and gender identity development, sexual fluidity, health disparities related to sexual orientation and gender identity in adolescents and young adults, and psychosocial functioning in families with transgender youth. She is currently working on an NIH-funded community-based longitudinal mixed-methods study to examine how the family environment affects the health and well-being of transgender youth. In addition to research, Dr. Katz-Wise is involved with advocacy efforts at Boston Children's Hospital to improve the workplace climate and patient care for LGBTQ employees, patients, and families.

Dr. Gail Knudson MD, MEd, FRCP, is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine, Consultant Psychiatrist at Vancouver Coastal Health, Expert Medical Advisor for Trans Care BC, and Chair of the BC Trans Clinical Care Group. Dr. Knudson currently serves as President of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) and Co-Chair of WPATH's Global Education Initiative. She is a founder and former President of the Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health (CPATH). She has also held leadership positions within the American Society for Reproductive Medicine and the International Society for the Study of Women’s Sexual Health.

Ashley Lacombe-Duncan is a fourth year PhD student in the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto. Ashley has worked in community and hospital-based settings with women living with HIV who were experiencing homelessness, mental health and substance use issues and who experienced intersecting HIV-related stigma, sexism, racism, classism, and transphobia. Her major research interests include health equity, with a particular focus on healthcare access for women who experience multiple forms of intersecting oppressions. As a co-investigator of the CIHR-funded Canadian HIV Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Health Cohort Study (CHIWOS) and a student member of the CHIWOS team, Ashley works to understand issues of access to and experience of HIV-related healthcare for trans women. She has participated in several research projects focused on LGBTQ health in Canada and continues to support a CIHR-funded project exploring social and systemic drivers of HIV and STI vulnerability among LGBTQ youth in Jamaica.

Lu Lam MEd, CCC, is a Chinese-Taiwanese trans-identified Clinical Counsellor in private practice, Mindfulness Consultant and Educator with a Master’s of Education in Counselling Psychology (Ontario Institute for Study in Education/University of Toronto). His graduate research focused on developing conceptual counselling frameworks for diverse trans and gender diverse clients by integrating anti-oppression and trauma informed approaches. Lu offers mindfulness based groups for clients and employees, clinical and organizational training specializing in gender identity awareness, embodied anti-oppression practices, and clinical resilience for mental and primary health professionals. He has over 18 years of experience in front line counselling, group facilitation, program design and curriculum development serving marginalized communities in educational, community health and social service settings. Lu thrives from teaching embodied curriculum for social transformation. To find a wakeful balance in his work, Lu has a daily meditation practice of 8 years. www.lulam.ca

Carrie Lawford is a Social Worker in the Adult Gender Identity Clinic at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) in Toronto. She was been appointed Adjunct Lecturer (Status Only) at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto in 2014. She has a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Manitoba and a Masters of Social Work with a Collaborative Program in Addiction Studies from the University of Toronto. Carrie has worked in a number of hospital-based programs in a clinical social work capacity over the last several years, often working closely with trans and gender diverse clients around advocacy and systems navigation.

Dr. Margaret Lawson is a pediatric endocrinologist at the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario and Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Ottawa. She has been providing hormone therapy to trans youth since 2006, is the co-director of CHEO’s Diversity Clinic, and a member of the Ontario Advisory Committee for the Independent Children’s Project, Rainbow Health Ontario. Margaret has a Master’s in Clinical Epidemiology and more than 20 years experience designing and conducting pediatric clinical trials. She is the Co-PI and Clinical Lead on Trans Youth CAN! Margaret is very excited to be working with the multidisciplinary Trans Youth CAN! Research Team, which will be gaining and translating knowledge about best practices for trans youth, families and health professionals.
Kerry Layton is a Registered Psychiatric Nurse practicing within the Northern Health Authority providing frontline care across Northern Health programs that include the Northern Gender Clinic, located in Prince George, British Columbia. The focus of Kerry’s work through the Northern Gender clinic is to provide psychosocial support and services for Trans individuals, their significant others, family, friends, and allies during their journey through transition. Point of care is established early so that system navigation can unfold as needs may present during the transition journey. Kerry was raised in a large diverse extended family that shares a view of equality and the unique value that each person holds regardless of orientation, identity, gender or race.

Gabrielle Leblanc is a trans woman who has lived in many different cities from coast to coast. After working for many years as a barmaid in a bar mostly frequented by trans women sex workers, she left to start working as an outreach worker at Action Santé Travesti(e)s & Transsexuel(le)s du Québec (ASTTeQ), a community based organization that directly helps trans people in need. Through her work she is able to reach a particularly vulnerable population that is not often served by community organizations of more formal social and health services. Through REACH 2.0, Gabrielle is a core team member of the Trans Priorities Project – a national research study aimed at trans women living with and affected by HIV in Canada.

Tara Lyons is Faculty member in the Department of Criminology at Kwantlen Polytechnic University and a Research Scientist with the Gender and Sexual Health Initiative of the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS. She lives on unceded Coast Salish territories.

M

Trevor MacDonald is a transgender man from Manitoba who birthed both his children at home and nursed them. Trevor started the first online support group for transgender individuals interested in birth and breast/chestfeeding. He initiated and led a University of Ottawa research project that received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to study transmasculine experiences of pregnancy, birth, and infant feeding. Trevor has written for publications including The Guardian, The Advocate, and Breastfeeding Today, and is the author of the memoir, Where’s the Mother? Stories from a Transgender Dad.

Devon MacFarlane, MA, serves as the Director for Rainbow Health Ontario, which is a program of Sherbourne Health Centre. In this capacity, Devon is chairing an initiative between Sherbourne Health Centre, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, and Women’s College Hospital to implement new means to support access and flow for trans people to transition-related surgical referrals and surgeries. Prior to moving to Ontario, Devon worked in roles related to community development, program development, management, and systems change in the health sector in British Columbia for almost 20 years. In BC, a substantial focus of Devon’s work included advancing the health and wellbeing of lesbian, gay, bi, queer, Two Spirit, and trans communities, using an intersectional approach – work that is close to Devon’s heart as an out trans and queer person. As a volunteer, Devon currently serves as the Past-President of CPATH (the Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health), and chaired the 2017 CPATH Conference Committee.

Michelle MacLean is a queer doula serving Vancouver Families for 12 years. She is a full spectrum doula and Childbirth educator, as well as the program coordinator and Doula Trainer for the Holistic Doula Certificate program at Pacific Rim College. Michelle volunteers at South Community Birth program, there she assists marginalized and low income families. Michelle is also the co-facilitator of The Queer and Trans Pregnancy and Parenting group based out of Strathcona Midwifery Collective.

Alyx MacAdams, works alongside Two-Spirit, trans, and gender creative children, youth, and families in Victoria, in the unceded territories of the Lekwungen and W SANE people. Alyx has started a drop-in program for queer and trans youth, a support group for parents and caregivers of trans and gender diverse children and youth, and a drop-in program for trans families with children under 12. Currently, Alyx is an MSW student at the University of Victoria. Before beginning this program, Alyx worked at a centre for queer and trans youth in Montreal, coordinated a project to make services at the Victoria Sexual Assault Centre accessible to trans survivors, and has facilitated and developed educational curriculum on trans inclusion, consent and sexualized violence, and anti-oppression. Alyx is white, genderqueer, trans-masculine, and committed to building relationships and solidarity across movements for social change.

Albert McLeod is a Status Indian with ancestry from Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation and the Metis community of Norway House in northern Manitoba. He has over twenty years of experience as a human rights activist and is one of the directors of the Two-Spirited People of Manitoba. Albert lives in Winnipeg, where he works as a consultant specializing in HIV/AIDS and Aboriginal peoples, Aboriginal cultural reclamation, decolonization, and cross-cultural training.

Dr. Sheila Marshall is an associate professor in the School of Social work and an associate faculty member of the Division of Adolescent Health and Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine at UBC. She received her BASc in Family Studies, MSc and PhD in Family Relations and Human Development from the University of Guelph. Her research focuses on psychosocial development during adolescence and young adulthood with an emphasis on the contexts of family and peer relationships. Particular research interests include examining the ways adolescents’ actively engage in uptake of rights and responsibilities during interactions with parents and peers. Sheila is an associate editor with the Journal of Adolescence.
Zack Marshall is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Development Studies and the School of Social Work at Renison University College, University of Waterloo. He is a member of the Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health - Research Committee, and co-lead of the REACH 2.0 Trans Research Program.

Dr. Carys Massarella, MD, FRCPC, is an attending emergency physician at St. Joseph’s Health care in Hamilton and is also the lead physician for the Transgender Care Program at Quest Community Health Centre in St. Catharines. Dr. Massarella sees and treats transgender identified clients of all ages and is a leading expert in transgender care in Ontario. She teaches at the Degroote School of Medicine and is an Assistant Clinical Professor there. Dr. Massarella lectures widely on transgender health care and has also done a TEDx talk on “The Depathologization of Trans Identity”. She recently appeared at TEDx Hamilton where she presented “The False Narrative of Deception”. Dr. Massarella also appeared in the CBC doc zone documentary “Transforming Gender”. She was the first transgendered person to be a President of a large teaching hospital medical staff anywhere in the world and was named one of the World’s 50 Transgender icons by the Huffington Post. She also sits on the gender advisory committee for gender independent children for Rainbow Health Ontario, is a member of WPATH.

Jenn Matsui De Roo, MA, RCC, is a genderqueer, Japanese Canadian, mixed race settler living and working in Vancouver, BC on unceded Coast Salish territories. Jenn is a registered clinical counsellor in private practice, and also volunteers as the clinical counselling supervisor for the Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre. Jenn’s work is grounded in anti-oppression and feminist theory and practice, with a focus on supporting trans and gender diverse individuals. Areas of interest include healing from trauma and abuse; sexual health, wellness and pleasure; living with chronic pain and illness, and thriving in intercultural and queer relationships.

Lau Mehes is known by many as a sequin-clad organizing wizard, queer glitter femme, and snazzy-outfit-enthusiast. She is also a youth worker and facilitator, and an artist and performer involved in various musical, theatrical and social justice projects across Vancouver She also grew up as a queer youth in rural BC. For the past 8 years she has worked in queer and trans communities as a community organizer and youth worker, facilitating and doing support work with youth across the province. She has worked with LGBT2Q+ youth in a variety of settings, including QMUNITY’s Youth Program, as the Education Coordinator for C.A.L.L. Out! Program at Vancouver Coastal Health’s Transgender Health Information Program, and currently as the Health Navigator for Trans Youth and Families at Trans Care BC. Her personal and professional experience includes supporting LGBT2Q+ youth in a variety of settings, as well as facilitating workshops on anti-oppression, queer and trans allyship, and youth leadership. In her spare time she likes to imitate dance videos in her living room, eat pie and drink tea, and make music.

Arthur “Dave” Miller is a 40-year-old Mi’kmaq HIV+ activist. After living many lives doing many different things in many different parts of Canada, he lives and works from Halifax, Nova Scotia and supports many AIDS service organizations across Canada in both paid and volunteer capacities. Enduring Board positions in various national AIDS organizations as well as working collectively with others living with HIV – Dave’s work as an HIV activist has kept him busy over the years and includes roles with a variety of national organizations focused on various aspects of HIV. Currently, Dave is one of the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN) APHA Liaisons and is also coordinating a national project for CAAN about gender inclusivity with a special focus on Trans experiences; he was also Co-Coordinator for the 6th International Indigenous Pre-Conference on HIV and AIDS in Durban, South Africa with the International Indigenous Working Group on HIV and AIDS. Dave is a fun, free-spirited guy who serves his communities in whatever way he can – he is a community builder. For these reasons, it is not surprising he is most proud of his 2014 Atlantic Canada Volunteer of the Year award and 2016 Halifax Regional Municipality Volunteer Award. While juggling all of his volunteer and paid work he continues to do HIV education locally as he can, and provides support to those in need. Dave has ASIST Training and Safe Talk Training. He welcomes all new opportunities to help.

LeeAndra Miller, MA, has more than 20 years’ experience as a psychotherapist specializing in arts based therapy. LeeAndra works at Central Toronto Youth Services in the Pride & Prejudice Program since 2001, providing individual counselling and facilitating groups for Transgender youth. LeeAndra’s expertise is in providing positive and affirming psychotherapy for Transgender youth, adults and their families. LeeAndra has a Master’s degree and is a Registered Psychotherapist.

Sfé R. Monster is a trans, queer comic creator who is deeply invested in the telling of queer and transgender stories. They are the editor of the Lambda award-winning Beyond: The Queer Sci-Fi & Fantasy Comic Anthology, co-founder of Beyond Press, and creator of the ongoing comic Eth’s Skin. Sfé lives and works in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and has had their work published by Harper Collins, Oni Comics, and Boom.

Dr. Rylie Moore is a psychologist (supervised practice) in the Adult Gender Identity Clinic at the Center for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and a neuropsychologist at the Inner City Family Health Team in Toronto. He completed his doctoral degree at the University of Victoria in Clinical Psychology – Neuropsychology emphasis and his honour’s undergraduate degree in Psychology at the University of British Columbia. Dr. Moore has developed a specialty in LGBTQ2A+ mental health and neuropsychology. He is honored to work with underserved and underrepresented populations, including adult and youth gender-diverse and homeless individuals.
Dr. Marlene Moretti, PhD, is a psychology professor at Simon Fraser University. She has focused her research on developmental factors related to psychological health and well being, particularly as they relate to the transition through adolescence and into young adulthood. She has developed deep and lasting partnerships with community and government stakeholders in Canada and elsewhere, which provide the foundation for translating research into practice to better serve youth and their families. Drawing on findings from her longitudinal research on risk and protective factors for adolescent health, she has worked with community partners and stakeholders to develop a manualized intervention program (Connect©) that builds on the primary and continuing role of parents and caregivers in promoting adolescent health.

Catherine Morley, Sfé Monster’s mom, works as a nutrition researcher, professor at Acadia University (Wolfville NS), and writer, and has decades of experience working in clinical nutrition. Catherine is interested in seeking guidance toward trans-friendly and trans-appropriate nutrition assessment approaches and nutrition education/counselling approaches for use in training health and human service workers. The shortcomings of standard approaches to nutrition assessment (based entirely on parameters and guidelines that assume a gender binary) became obvious when discussing questions of gender identity and transitioning with Sfé. Catherine has researched and published on client-centred nutrition counselling, and is keen to raise awareness among nutrition workers about how this applies when working with trans people.

Neshama Nicole Nussbaum is a London, Ontario, based lawyer and advocate with experience in the areas of employment, human rights, and family law. She has a particular focus on Trans* legal issues and extensive experience with advocacy, law, and policy work related to gender identity and gender expression. Nicole joined Legal Aid Ontario in December 2012 in a staff lawyer role and assists unrepresented litigants navigate a wide variety of family law issues. In this role, she is seconded to act as project lead for Transforming Justice: Trans* Legal Needs Assessment Ontario, which is administered by the HIV & Aids Legal Clinic Ontario (HALCO) with funding from Legal Aid Ontario and the Ontario HIV Treatment Network.

Melanie Oda is a Registered Nurse with specialty in mental health and community health, and holds a Masters in Health Science from the University of the Ryukyus in Okinawa, Japan. She is currently the Director, Infirmary and Mental Health and since April 2016, Melanie has been chair of the Trans Health Expansion Committee at Sherbourne Health Centre. Prior to joining SHC in 2013, Melanie was an independent trainer and organizational development consultant within the health, social service, justice and educational sectors as well as working with all levels of government. She has worked in the health sector in front-line, educational, management and consultant roles. Melanie has always approached her work with a commitment to social justice, quality, equity and access issues, with a focus on increasing effectiveness in working with vulnerable populations.

Celeste Pang is currently pursuing a PhD in Social-Cultural and Medical Anthropology from the University of Toronto. Her ethnographic research, based in Toronto, explores LGBTQ older adults’ experiences of aging and of giving and receiving care. As part of this, she has been working with older adults living in long-term care homes and in the community for the last year, spending time with them in order to learn more about how they navigate everyday life. She was involved in the research collected for this presentation as a research assistant.

Yasmeen Persad is a trans woman of colour originally from the Caribbean. She is a Trans Education and Training Facilitator for The 519. She has been providing education and training around LGBTT related issues for the past 10 years. Her experience ranges from working with Trans Youth, HIV Positive Women, Sex Workers to many other diverse populations. She provides training to frontline workers (housing, corrections, etc.) around Trans community inclusion and support and runs a group called the Trans Sex Worker Empowerment Project (TSWEP). Yasmeen has participated in several research projects focused on advancing Trans health, including Trans PULSE, The Trans Priorities Project: Cross Country Trans Women and HIV Priority Setting, and the Canadian HIV Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Health Cohort Study (CHIWOS). Yasmeen has presented at many universities across North America on various topics about access for Trans people. She has been part of ground-breaking recognition of trans women as women in the Violence Against Women sector.

Cheryl Prescott has over twenty years of nursing experience with the bulk of practice in sexual health. The STI and HIV Clinical Prevention Services (CPS) division of the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) is her primary workplace since 1995. Clinical practice experiences include STI assessment, diagnosis, treatment and partner follow up and HIV testing in both clinical and outreach settings. Current responsibilities include providing leadership, practice supports and collaboration at the provincial level for STI, HIV and Viral Hepatitis and Harm Reduction within
the areas of education programs, provincial guideline development, health promotion and professional practice. Cheryl holds CRNBC certified practice in reproductive health – STI and a Masters degree in Public Health and Social Policy. Professional responsibilities also include knowledge and application of the social determinants of health and health equity in policy and practice.

**Kathleen Pye**, MSc, MEd, CCC, PhD(c), is the Director of Research and Policy at Egale Canada Human Rights Trust. She is Canadian Certified Counsellor and interdisciplinary health researcher with a specialization in mental health within stigmatized communities and gender-based violence.

**R**

**Cherese Reemaul** is a co-researcher on a Photovoice project about safety, belonging, wellbeing and place in the lives of trans, two-spirit and gender non-conforming people funded by the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research at Simon Fraser University. She is an immigrant-black transwoman who resides in the Lower Mainland.

**Ashleigh Rich**, MPH, is a doctoral student in the School of Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia and a trainee with the Youth Sexual Health Team at UBC. Ashleigh has worked with the Epidemiology and Population Health Program at the British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS since 2012, primarily with the gay, bisexual, queer and other men who have sex with men research team. Her research interests centre on the intersection of sex, gender and health, as well as health inequities for sexual and gender minority populations.

**Alexa Robin** is a white settler and Trans woman who’s grown up both on unceded Coast Salish territories and on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe (Ojibway) people. Alexa holds a complicated mix of a Tech/Computer Science background as well as years of experience as an activist, supporter, educator, and facilitator - and is presently a support worker and the “Trans Inclusion Coordinator” for the Victoria Sexual Assault Centre. In her role there she works to make VSAC’s services as well as the wider community are more open and accessible to all Trans, Two-Spirit, and Gender Diverse people - including through initiatives such as VSAC’s new clinic, community/service provider training and education, and relationship building. Throughout all of her work, Alexa strives to explicitly center the needs of Trans women and Transfeminine people, and she is staunchly dedicated to the destruction of Homophobia, Transphobia, and Transmisogyny. Her pronouns are She/Her or They/Them.

**Kinnon Ross MacKinnon** is a PhD Candidate in public health at the University of Toronto where he studies the clinical relationships of trans people and mental health care providers. He is a member of the Re:Searching for LGBTQ Health team, and a doctoral fellow with the Comparative Program on Health and Society at the Munk School of Global Affairs in Toronto. He has authored and co-authored numerous publications related to improving the health and well-being of sexual and gender minorities. He is originally from Antigonish, Nova Scotia.

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**Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc**, RN, FSAHM, FCAHS, FAAN, is an internationally recognized leader in research about vulnerable and marginalized adolescents. Over the past 20 years, she has conducted mix-methods research with many different groups of vulnerable youth, including runaway and street-involved youth; sexually abused and sexually exploited teens; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, Two Spirit, queer and questioning (LGBTQ) adolescents; youth in custody; immigrants, home-stay students and refugees; and Indigenous youth. Her research emphasizes how stigma, violence, and trauma affect adolescent health and risk behaviours, as well as the protective factors that foster resilience among these vulnerable populations of youth. Her research has influenced public health and policy in Canada, the US, and internationally. She also led SARAVYC in conducting the first Canadian national health survey of transgender youth in 2014, which has influenced clinical practice, human rights cases, and laws.

**Kyle Shaughnessy**, RSW, is a métis (Dene, Irish, Ukrainian), Two-Spirit, trans social worker and writer who grew up in the Northwest Territories and rural BC. He has supported trans youth and their families in varying capacities since 2001 and has a strong background in youth education and queer & trans community building. Kyle has worked extensively with school districts, health care providers and communities in their efforts to build capacity to support trans and Two-Spirit youth. Kyle is the Lead for Indigenous and Family Education at Trans Care BC and is currently completing a Master of Social Work degree at Dalhousie University, where he is focusing his studies on storytelling as postvention/healing work with trans and Two-Spirit youth.

**Laura Sheils** has a BA in Communications and Women’s Studies and is a sexuality educator for youth. She is the Community Programs Facilitator at Calgary Sexual Health Centre where she develops and delivers non-judgmental, LGBTQ+ inclusive sexual health programming for youth experiencing systemic barriers. Laura co-facilitates Gender Creative Families Night, a monthly support group for parents of gender creative children in Calgary, Alberta. Since 2013, she has volunteered with Camp fyrefly Calgary, a leadership retreat for LGBTQ+ youth, where she has planned camp programming, developed trans competent sex education, and mentored youth. Laura is a white, cisgender, queer woman whose partner is transgender.
Kate Shewan is the Executive Director of the Youth Project, an organisation supporting Nova Scotia youth 25 and under around issues of sexual orientation and gender identity. Kate also serves as treasurer of CPATH and previously served as chair of the Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project, an advocacy organisation that took a lead role in trans advocacy in N.S. In recognition of her work with the Youth Project and the Trans Community, Kate was the 2015 Halifax Pride Parade Grand Marshall.

Adrienne Smith is a human rights activist and drug policy lawyer. They graduated from UBC law school and were called to the bar in British Columbia in 2014. Adrienne Smith lives and works in the Downtown Eastside where they are working to reduce the harm which law causes on marginalized communities. Adrienne’s recent work involves litigation and advocacy on behalf of drug users, prisoners in provincial correctional facilities, and transgender people. They made arguments about the deleterious effects of mandatory minimum sentences on women, aboriginal offenders and drug users at the Supreme Court of Canada and the BC Court of Appeal, in their first two years of call. They recently settled a BC Supreme Court case which changed provincial prison policy and secured access to opiate replacement therapy for prisoners in BC jails. Adrienne spoke at the Vancouver School Board and Park Board meetings in support of trans inclusion policies. As part of a group of activists they worked to introduce trans inclusion policies in their political party at the provincial and federal levels. They presented at last year’s Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health conference on legal issues faced by transgender people in the Downtown Eastside. They volunteer in a summary legal advice clinic as part of the Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre, a community health and wellness program organized by and for transgender people. At the centre, they give free human rights, criminal, family, and employment law advice, and notarize name change forms. They also participated in producing the transrightsbc.ca know-your-rights web tool, and they run workshops on this and on other legal issues for service providers and members of their community. They make frequent public appearances in person and in the media, where they are an inspiration to others by being an out transgender lawyer.

Kelly Speck, MSC, is a graduate of the Biomedical Communications MSc program at the University of Toronto, strives to close health care gaps through improved visual communication. With a background in both art and science, she develops visual solutions to translate complex scientific, medical or health-related information for researchers, educators, health care providers and the public. She trusts in interdisciplinary, community-based research and collaboration.

Velvet Steele is an advocate on sexual health and as an activist, crusades for the rights of others. She has been an advisor to the City of Vancouver Task Force on Sex Work, the Canadian Alliance for Sex Work Law Reform and is a member of the British Columbia Coalition of Experiential Communities.

Taylor Straw was born in Vancouver, Canada and is now living in Gibsons, BC with her wife and three amazing children. In her early 20s she landed a job doing demolition. It was at that job, at the age of 24 that she broke her neck at the C4-5 level, rendering her an incomplete quadriplegic. Years later she met and married her wife and over the course of the next six years their family grew from two to five. Taylor and her wife own a small hobby farm and raise chickens, honey bees and grow various fruits and veggies. She has been involved in education and advocacy for persons with spinal cord injury and disability over the years and is active in her community. In 2015 she came out to her family and friends as transgender. In early 2016 she began working with a GP specializing in gender issues. She is now well on her way to transitioning from male to female. She loves her wife, kids and supportive family. She enjoys eating good food, listening to music, dancing, reading and supporting her kids with their activities. She is proud to be transgender and is working closely with the LGBTQ2S community to build a better more inclusive society.

Françoise Susset is a clinical psychologist, a couple and family therapist and clinical supervisor with over 25 years of experience working with LGBT populations. Her clinical work centers on trans adults and teens, during transition and beyond. She also focuses on supporting gender creative children, helping families and schools challenge notions regarding sexuality, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression. Françoise is a member of WPATH and is past president of the Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health (CPATH).

Sulin Tan is a PsyD Clinical Psychology graduate student at Adler University. Sulin works with transgender children and youth at Child and Youth Mental Health in Surrey, B.C. Sulin is also conducting research on transgender children and youth from Asian backgrounds.

Evan Taylor text to come

Dr. Julie Temple Newhook is a Professional Associate with the Janeway Pediatric Research Unit, Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University. She founded the Trans Health Research Group at Memorial, which recently completed the TransKidsNL Study, and works closely with the newly established Gender Wellness Clinic at the Janeway Children’s Health and Rehabilitation Centre in St. John’s. In 2014, Dr. Temple Newhook founded Canadian Parents of Gender Creative Kids/Parents d’enfants transgenres Canada and Parents of Gender Creative Kids - Newfoundland and Labrador (PGCK-NL), the national and provincial peer support groups for parents of trans and gender diverse children. PGCK-NL is connected to the Trans Youth Group, for young people between 12 and 18 years of age, and the Gender Creative Kids Playgroup for children between 5 and 11 years. The parent and youth groups are located in St. John’s and linked to families throughout the province.
Dr. Jemma Tosh is a Chartered Psychologist with the British Psychological Society and Director of Psygentra Consulting Inc - a company that specializes in research and training on psychology, gender, and trauma. She is the author of ‘Perverse Psychology: The Pathologization of Sexual Violence and Transgenderism’ (Routledge, 2015), ‘Psychology and Gender Dysphoria: Feminist and Transgender Perspectives’ (Routledge, 2016), and the forthcoming, ‘A Critical Examination of Psychology, Psychiatry, and the Normalization of Coercion: The Body and Consent in Medical Settings’ (Routledge, 2018).

Dr. Marria Townsend, MD, CCFP, Medical Director, Trans Care BC, Provincial Health Services Authority, is a queer cis gender family physician who is passionate about improving health services to trans and gender diverse people. She is grateful to have been doing this work for the past decade on the unceded land of the S’lilwa’ta , X(ignore), k’w y m, & S’xw wú7mesh peoples. In addition to providing gender affirming care in her clinical practice, she enjoys teaching and mentoring students, residents and other health care providers to better enable them to serve trans and gender diverse communities.

Tina Tsobanis, MSW, RSW, is a graduate of UBC’s Bachelor of Social Work (1994) and Master of Social Work programs (2004). Tina started her social work career in mental health services where she worked in both tertiary and community settings for ten years before moving to an interdisciplinary primary care setting at Three Bridges Community Health Centre in Vancouver at Vancouver Coastal Health in 2006. At Three Bridges, Tina worked as a social worker in primary care for five years providing social work and counselling services to clients of the clinic, the majority of whom identified as transgender. For the next four years she was the clinical supervisor for the youth substance use and concurrent disorders team and prevention and health promotion portfolio of services with Vancouver Coastal Health in Vancouver. She provided clinical support to three teams that provide direct care to youth and their families who may or may not have been affected by their own or someone else’s substance use. In this role she created clinical guidelines and supported the advancement of strengths-based care that has assisted in providing these services in a youth and family/person-centred manner. Tina is now the Collaborative Practice Lead with a focus on youth, children and their families at Trans Care BC with the Provincial Health Services Authority.

Linda Van Pelt, NP, has been a health care professional for over 30 years. She started her career as a registered psychiatric and general nursing working in the areas of forensic psychiatry, community health, critical care and trauma, and flight medicine. She continued her career as a remote advanced practice nurse working in remote outpost health clinics in the Canadian Arctic and far North of the provinces. It was in the North where her interest in equitable and just access to health care began. Linda began her Family Nurse Practitioner Education in 2005 at the University of Northern BC. She was the first graduate of the program in 2007. Upon graduation from the FNP program Linda began work developing the Unattached Patient Clinic with Northern Health, a clinic designed to provide low barrier access to health care for populations that were marginalized from tradition medical practices. Linda continues to work as Nurse Practitioner at the Blue Pine Primary Health Care Clinic and Northern Trans Care Clinic in Prince George, a multidisciplinary clinic that evolved from the Unattached Patient Clinic. Her current practice specifically focuses on providing Transgender care to patients from across Northern BC. Linda has been the Coordinator of the UNBC Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Program since 2009, and is a clinical instructor for both FNP and medical students. In her teaching roles she is able to share her passion for Transgender care and the delivery of barrier-less primary health care. Her current research work includes examining perceived barriers to primary health care by those with mental health, addictions and chronic pain conditions. Linda is also involved with primary care access work in rural India.

Dr. Jaimie Veale, PhD, is a Lecturer in psychology at the University of Waikato, New Zealand. marginalized from tradition medical practices. Linda continues to work as Nurse Practitioner at the Blue Pine Primary Health Care Clinic and Northern Trans Care Clinic in Prince George, a multidisciplinary clinic that evolved from the Unattached Patient Clinic. Her current practice specifically focuses on providing Transgender care to patients from across Northern BC. Linda has been the Coordinator
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Zarghoona Wakil, Manager of MOSAIC Settlement and Integration Program. Prior to MOSAIC Settlement program, was involved with the Cross Cultural Health Broker’s program at BC Multicultural Health Services Society and the MOSAIC Vulnerable Immigrant Population Program. All of the above programs were providing services to LGBTQ newcomers.

Michelle Walks is a cis femme and Momma who teaches Sociology, Anthropology, and Gender, Sexuality, & Women’s Studies at a variety of post-secondary institutions in BC. She splits her time between Kelowna and Metro Vancouver.

Nena Wang is a PhD graduate student in the Clinical Psychology program at Simon Fraser University. Nena has clinical experience in working with transgender children and youth as well as adults with mental health issues. She serves these populations at the SFU Clinical Psychology Centre and Child and Youth Mental Health in Surrey, BC. Further, Nena’s research examines the health of persons living in Vancouver’s Downtown East side.

Dr. Richard Wassersug is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Medical Neuroscience at Dalhousie University in Halifax and at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health, and Society at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia. He has a broad research background, but for the last decade has been largely focusing on issues related to human sexuality and neuroendocrinology.

Dr. Ryan J. Watson, PhD, is an Assistant Professor at the University of Connecticut. His research interests include the health and well-being of LGBTQ youth, including examining protective factors for young people. He uses mixed-methodologies and works with various community organizations, including the Human Rights Campaign, to explore intersectionality among sexual and gender minorities.

Elliot Wheatcroft is a Child and Youth Care worker who has worked with queer and trans children and youth and their families for the past 12 years. He is currently on maternity leave with his second child. He believes strongly in trans people’s rights to competent care from reproductive health professionals and is passionate about discussing the diverse and unique needs of trans people in the birthing community.

Dr. Ian Whetter, MD, Primary Care Physician, Klinic CHC, is a family doctor with a special interest in care for transgender patients. He works in the Trans Health program at Klinic Community Health in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He also works for the University of Manitoba in the Northern Remote Family Medicine Stream and at the Northern Medical Unit.

Anna White lives on the unceded ancestral land of the Musqueam, Squamish, Stó:lo, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. As the Camp Director for UBC’s CampOUT! (http://campout.ubc.ca/), her work is informed by 20 years of social justice leadership, facilitation, and program development in intergenerational settings. Her passion drives intersectional community development projects which: strive to embody radical welcome, create space for personal and group development, share tools for building inclusive communities, and spark positive and meaningful social change. You may also find her hiking in the forest with her pup or reading nerdy science fiction to fuel her imagination.

Dr. Erik Wibowo has a primary research interest in the topics of neuroendocrinology and psychosexuality in androgen deprived males. He has conducted studies using animal models, as well as in various male populations including prostate cancer patients and men who voluntarily seek castration. His interest is to find ways for androgen deprived males to manage the side effects of androgen deprivation in order to have better quality of life.

Chase Willier Nirkwuscin is a Two Spirit Cree (nehiyaw) transman from Sucker Creek & Saddle Lake First Nations in Alberta. He spent most of his service in the RCMP working with Aboriginal peoples and was traditionally adopted by the Syilx Nation while working in their territory. Since retirement, he has been actively involved in numerous initiatives in the trans community.

Dr. David Wilson is a GP who does locums for VCH including trans clinics for a # of trans care specialists. in Halifax and at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health, and Society at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia. He has a broad research background, but for the last decade has been largely focusing on issues.

Lucas Wilson is a youth worker and educator living and working on unceded Coast Salish Territory. Previously, Lucas has worked for Qmunity as a Youth Worker, where he sat on the VSB Pride Committee and consulted with several schools and school-boards to help facilitate supports and transition plans for students transitioning in schools. Lucas has also worked for the Transgender Health Information Program as a Health Liaison and with the CALLOut education initiative which facilitated workshops on trans competency for youth service providers in rural and remote communities in BC. He currently works as a Health Navigator for Trans Care BC and brings with him lived experience as a white, transgender man as well as 6 years of experience working closely with trans/gender diverse people, communities, allies, service providers and families from around the province. Health equity, inclusivity, accessibility, compassion and anti-oppression are pillars that Lucas utilizes in his work to ensure that each person is at the centre of their own care and feel empowered to guide their own journeys. In his spare time, Lucas enjoys cartoons, sports and watching movies so bad they’re good.
Mary Wilson, known to many as Grandmother Of Four Directions and She Who Walks With Wolves. Renowned in Canada and many parts of the world as a spiritual teacher, Spirit Walker, and Healer Mary’s gentle presence has touched many lives over the past forty years helping people heal, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. Mary is presently working as a Resident Elder at the University of Manitoba, Manitoba Adolescent Treatment Centre. Mary has worked as an Elder at the Circle Of Life Thunderbird House co-creating programs with Elder Mary Richard. She has served as an Elder and Spiritual Care person at Neeginan Emergency Centre (First Nations Homeless Shelter). While she was there, Mary created addiction therapy groups, a literacy program, and a safe place for individuals to lay down their pain. As the founder Core Area Christmas she orchestrated a dinner and gift giving for thousands of children for many years. Recently she provided support as Elder for the movie We were Children (Residential School survival) and also with the murdered and missing series Taken. She has been asked by the Province of Manitoba to support as Elder/Therapist for The 60’s Scoop (stolen Aboriginal children). Frequently involved as a psychotherapist and interventionist she provides support to many as well as providing individual life coaching and healing. Over the years she has worked in conjunction with medical specialists (psychiatrists and psychologists), family physicians, as well as social workers, teachers, and lawyers. As well as providing Elder Services to the staff and students of the Section, Mary is available to all faculty, staff, and students of the Faculty of Health Sciences. She is available for blessings, ceremonies, teachings, individual counselling/healing, and more.

Samantha Wong is an undergraduate behavioural neuroscience student at the University of British Columbia. She is also interested in the development of and changes in sexuality. For the past year, Samantha has been involved in a survey project aimed at understanding the origin of castration desire in some males and how hormone supplementation influences their psychosexuality.

Dr. Wallace Wong is a registered Clinical Psychologist who has been working with children and youth with a variety of sexual issues for over sixteen years. He has published several papers, book chapters, and books on transgender children and youth. He has also spoken at various national and international conferences and workshops addressing the clinical issues of transgender children and youth.

Stacy Wood is a registered social worker who has spent the last decade involved in supporting the trans community throughout the lower mainland in multiple roles within community-based health and social work. His passion for improving health outcomes has lead him to a work as part of a clinical integrated health team, providing counselling and medical support to youth and young adults in the Fraser Valley. Stacy also has had the pleasure of providing consultation to agencies related to the development of best practices for trans health services, served as a facilitator for a trans support group and is an active member of peer reference and steering committees related to trans health.

Cheryl Woodman, ND, MHSc, CHE, is a healthcare professional and strategist, energized by transformative work that improves individual lives, population health and creates a more effective, responsive, and integrated health care system. In her role as Chief Strategy & Quality Officer at Women’s College Hospital, Cheryl is responsible for strategic planning and partnerships and provides leadership to advance clinical quality, health equity and patient/client experience and engagement at Women’s College Hospital in Toronto, Canada. Cheryl is privileged to work with the Trans Health Expansion partnership of Rainbow Health Ontario, Sherbourne Health Centre, Women’s College Hospital and CAMH on system redesign to improve the quality of healthcare outcomes, experience, and access for trans communities across Ontario.

Christina Yager is a Social Worker in the Adult Gender Identity Clinic at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). She has a Masters of Social Work Degree from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Certificate in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender studies from Queen’s University. Christina has been working with LGBT communities for the last 8 years in both research and clinical capacities. She feels honoured to be of working with trans and gender-diverse communities for the last 3 years.

Dr. Ashleigh Yule, MA, RPsych, is a child psychologist specializing in transgender health. She works regularly with gender creative children, transgender youth, and their families. She also provides teacher education in supporting trans and gender diverse students. Ashleigh has been a member of the counselling team for Camp fFrefly – Calgary since 2013. She facilitates the Gender Creative Families support group through Calgary Sexual Health Centre and the Families Matter programs. She is a doctoral candidate in school and applied child psychology at the University of Calgary. Her research interests include facilitating health and wellbeing for transgender youth, and her dissertation research focuses on gender diversity in individuals on the autism spectrum. Ashleigh is a white, cisgender, straight mother of three children, one of whom is gender creative.

Dr. Morag Yule is a Psychologist (in supervised practice) at the Adult Gender Identity Clinic at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). She received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from UBC in 2016. Morag’s research focuses on human sexuality, with a specialty in asexuality. Clinically, Morag has worked with transgender individuals for the past five years. She also works with clients seeking help with sexual difficulties and/or anxiety disorders.
Jordan Zaitzow is a social worker and currently the Trans Health Connection Coordinator at Rainbow Health Ontario, building the capacity of primary health teams across the province to provide timely and informed services to trans communities close to home. He is an experienced educator and has been leading and coordinating trans health training for over a decade.

Sherri K. Zelazny, RSLP, CCC-SLP, is a clinical speech pathologist with 29 years of experience. Sherri has specialized in voice and laryngeal airway assessment and treatment for the past 15 years. She has been providing Changing Keys voice training for the transgender community with the Transgender Health Information Program in Vancouver BC since 2015.