



OHTN 2012
ANNUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE
RESEARCH WITH REAL LIFE IMPACT





Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care

Office of the Minister

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Ontario

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings to those attending the Ontario HIV Treatment Network's Research Conference.

I was very excited to hear that the theme chosen for your forum is 'Research with Real-Life Impact'. I'm certain that your discussions and seminars this year will continue a long tradition of bringing forward dynamic and innovative ideas.

To the conference participants, thank you for taking on the challenge to do better for all Canadians living with HIV. Your work over the next two-and-a-half days to translate the research of today into the solutions of tomorrow will make a significant difference across the province. You are leading the discussion of the future.

We have come a long way when it comes to treatment and access to services for those living with HIV and AIDS, but there is a great deal more we can achieve together.

Thank you for your dedication to the continued fight against HIV and AIDS and I wish you a very successful conference.

Sincerely,

Deb Matthews
Minister

1671-01 (2008/06)

7530-4658

Dear Conference Delegates,

Welcome to the 2012 OHTN Research Conference! Each and every year since 1998, our conference has brought together researchers, clinicians, community-based organizations, policy makers, and people living with HIV to talk about research. This year's conference – **Research with Real-Life Impact** – will highlight research that has the potential to improve the health and well-being of people living with HIV and people at risk.

Over the next two-and-a-half days, we will celebrate the research done in Ontario and learn about work going on beyond our borders. The conference will feature nine plenary sessions that touch on all aspects of HIV, including prevention, cure and treatment, the impact of the virus on mental health and the brain, resilience, the impact of social determinants of health like housing, and both growing up and getting older with HIV. We are once again privileged to welcome some of the most distinguished researchers in our field from across the United States, Britain, New Zealand and Australia. We are also privileged to have people living with HIV who are leaders in our work moderating many plenary sessions and other sessions as well.

The 2012 conference is much more than the plenary sessions. It will also feature an impressive collection of sessions and events, including:

- 24 concurrent oral sessions, including four addressing women's issues, five examining basic science research, and three focussing on ASO programming
- a strong Aboriginal research stream, which includes the setting up of a sacred teaching lodge just outside the plenary room and culminating in a sharing circle
- six challenge panels – interactive forums where conference participants can discuss challenging issues such as HIV home testing, communicating research findings, the impact of smoking on people with HIV, challenges related to community-based research, hepatitis C treatment and the implications of the Supreme Court decision related to the criminalization of HIV
- 25 oral poster sessions where researchers will have five minutes to describe their work
- electronic posters available on computers outside the plenary room
- a World Café, which will examine different methods currently being explored in research
- arts-based approaches to research and KTE, including the *Tea Time* photo exhibition, a documentary theatre piece that brings to the stage voices of young, gay and gifted Black men, a special screening of *How to Survive a Plague* (the story of early HIV/AIDS activism) and other films and discussions
- wellness sessions that discuss ways to maintain and enhance health
- a closing rapporteur session led by the Universities Without Walls 4.0 Fellows – part of the next generation of HIV researchers in Ontario and Canada.

I encourage everyone to take advantage of the opportunity to talk and exchange ideas with others working in our field. Based on feedback from past conferences, we have added more time for networking because ultimately this conference is all about making connections that will lead to more relevant research and more evidence-based policies, programs and services.

This conference would not be possible without the goodwill and hard work of many people. The OHTN would like to thank our conference co-chairs – Art Zoccole and Lynne Leonard – and the members of the abstract review committee who helped develop the conference program by reviewing more than 150 abstract submissions. We appreciate the ongoing generous support of our industry sponsors and we would also like to acknowledge the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, which provides the funding for the OHTN.

Sincerely

Sean B. Rourke, PH.D.
Scientific and Executive Director, OHTN
Professor, University of Toronto
Scientist, CRICH, St. Michael's Hospital

Lynne Leonard
Director,
HIV and Hepatitis C Prevention Research Team,
University of Ottawa

Art Zoccole
Executive Director,
Two-Spirited People of the First Nations

The Conference by Type of Event

Plenary Events

Sunday November 11

4:00 - 6:00pm Welcome and Opening Remarks
Plenary: Closer to a Cure?
Plenary: HIV and Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM)

Monday November 12

8:30 - 10:00am Plenary: Is Treatment Enough Prevention?
10:00 - 10:15am Research Snaphots
12:45 - 1:15pm Dr. Susan King Memorial Lecture & Discussion
4:00 - 5:15pm Plenary: HIV, HAND and Brain Health

Tuesday November 13

8:30 - 10:00am Plenary: Building Resilience
10:00 - 10:15am Research Snaphots
12:00 - 1:00pm Lunch / Networking / Jay Browne Living Legacy Award Presentation
1:00 - 1:30pm Dr. Charles Roy Memorial Lecture & Discussion
4:00 - 5:30pm Plenary: Living Longer = Living Well? Aging with HIV
5:30 - 6:00pm Conference Closing: Cyber Digest – UWW 4.0 Fellows present the OHTN Conference in 30 Minutes

Challenge Panels

Interactive forums where conference participants can discuss challenging issues.

Monday November 12

10:15 - 11:00am Communicating Research Findings in a Real-Time World
1:15 - 2:00pm The Smoking Project
2:00 - 3:00pm Is it Time for HIV Home Testing?
3:00 - 4:00pm Challenges in Community-based HIV Research

Tuesday November 13

11:00am - 12:00pm Challenges in Hepatitis C Treatment
1:30 - 2:15pm Criminalization - Implications of the Supreme Court Ruling

Oral Poster Sessions

Monday November 12

10:15 - 11:00am Beyond the Virus: Social, Clinical, and Cohort Considerations
2:00 - 3:00pm Breaking Down Barriers to Services, Support and Care

Tuesday November 13

10:15 - 11:00am Refining Approaches to Education and Knowledge Translation & Exchange
2:15 - 3:00pm Focus on Women and Youth

Special Sessions

Arts-based sessions, workshops and Aboriginal sessions.

Sunday November 11

9:00am - 12:00pm Visioning Health Lodge
12:00 - 3:00pm Tea Time: Building Communities of Women Living with HIV
1:00 - 3:30pm Developing Community Based Intervention Research: The CHAMP Experience

Monday November 12

5:15 - 6:00pm Picasso's Black Canvas
6:00 - 7:00pm World Café: Dynamic Conversations about Arts-based and Other Methods for Meaningful Engagement of the HIV Community in Research
6:00 - 8:00pm Workshop: Building our HIV Intervention Evaluation Toolbox
7:00 - 8:30pm Sharing Our Stories: A Celebration in Recognition of The Positive Spaces
Healthy Places Peer Research Associates

Tuesday November 13

2:45 - 4:00pm Aboriginal Sharing Circle

Wellness Sessions

The OHTN and the Toronto People With AIDS Foundation (PWA) are pleased to offer a range of sessions on personal wellness.

Monday November 12

10:15 - 11:05am Self-Care
1:15 - 2:35pm You Are What You Eat!
2:35 - 2:00pm Pain Management using Naturopathic Principles

Tuesday November 13

10:15 - 11:05am Cessation – Smoking and Other Unwanted Habits/Addictions
11:10-12:00 Living Within Your Means – Planning for Financial Health
1:30 - 2:45pm De-Mystifying Energetic Therapies
1:30 - 2:45pm Mindfulness-Based Therapy for Front-Line Service Providers (Pre-Registration Required)
2:45 - 4:00pm Mindfulness-Based Therapy for People Living with HIV (Pre-Registration Required)

Films & Discussions

Monday November 12

10:15 - 11:00am Life Outside my Window
10:15 - 11:00am Opening-up a Space: A Short Documentary of New Directions for Critical Perspectives on HIV
7:30 - 9:30pm How to Survive a Plague

Tuesday November 13

10:15am - 12:00pm Positive Women - Exposing the Injustice of Criminalizing HIV Non-Disclosure



Program at a Glance

Sunday November 11

	Toronto I-II	Foyer	Tom Thomson	Varley
9:00am		Visioning Health Lodge		
12:00pm				Tea Time: Building Communities of Women Living with HIV
1:00pm		Registration	Developing Community-based Intervention Research: CHAMP	
2:00pm				
3:00pm				
4:00pm	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Plenary: Closer to a Cure?</p> <p>Plenary: HIV and Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM)</p>			
6:00pm		Reception / Networking		
7:00pm				



Lest we Forget

Program at a Glance

Monday November 12

	Toronto I-II	Foyer	Governor General	Varley		Carmichael/Jackson	Tom Thomson	Harris/MacDonald	Lismer
7:30am		Registration / Breakfast / Networking							
8:00am									
8:30am	Plenary: Is Treatment Enough Prevention?								
9:00am									
10:00am	Research Snapshots								
10:15am	Oral Poster Presentations	Break / Networking	Film: Opening-up a Space	Wellness Session: Self-Care		Film & Discussion: Life Outside my Window		Challenge Panel: Communicating Research Findings in a Real-Time World	
11:00am						On the Front Lines: Research and GIPA in ASOs	Gender Differences: HIV Risks and Prevention in Women	Stopping Stigma	Reproductive Systems: HIV Susceptibility in the Genital Tract
12:00pm	Lunch / Networking								
12:45pm	Plenary: Transition of Adolescents								
1:00pm	Living with HIV to Adult Care								
1:15pm			Challenge Panel: The Smoking Project	Wellness Session: You Are What You Eat!		Knowledge is Power: Improving Prevention and Care for Aboriginal Peoples	Evidence Matters: New Perspectives on Community-Based Evaluation	Growing Up with HIV: Building on the Strengths of Supportive Programming for Youth	Mother and Child: Understanding Risks During Pregnancy
2:00pm	Oral Poster Presentations	Break / Networking	Challenge Panel: Is it Time for HIV Home Testing?	Wellness Session: Pain Management using Naturopathic Principles					
2:30pm									
3:00pm	Challenge Panel: Challenges in Community-based HIV Research					Women's Health and Well-being: Psychological and Social Issues	Double Trouble: Co-Infection Among People Living with HIV/AIDS (OCS)	Risk and Resilience in Gay, Bisexual and Other Men who have Sex with Men	Under the Microscope: The Impact of ARTs
3:30pm									
4:00pm	Plenary: HIV, HAND and Brain Health								
5:15pm	Picasso's Black Canvas								
6:00pm	Workshop: Building our HIV Intervention Evaluation Toolbox							World Café: Dynamic Conversations about Arts-based and Other Methods for Meaningful Engagement of the HIV Community in Research	

Program at a Glance

Tuesday November 13

	Toronto I-II	Foyer	Governor General	Varley		Carmichael/Jackson	Tom Thomson	Harris/MacDonald	Lisner	Casson	
7:00am		Morning Fitness: 5km Run-3km Walk									
7:30am		Registration / Breakfast / Networking									
8:00am											
8:30am	Plenary: Building Resilience										
9:00am											
10:00am	Research Snaphots										
10:15am	Oral Poster Presentations	Break / Networking		Wellness Session: Cessation – Smoking and Other Unwanted Habits/Addictions						Film & Discussion: Positive Women – Exposing the Injustice of Criminalizing HIV Non-Disclosure	
11:00am			Challenge Panel: Challenges in Hepatitis C Treatment	Wellness Session: Living Within Your Means – Planning for Financial Health		Peer Pressure: Lessons Learned about Engaging Peers in Research	Decolonizing Methodologies	Harm Reduction Strategies: Impact? Opportunities for Improvement?	Going Global		
12:00pm	Lunch Networking / Jay Browne Living Legacy Award Presentation										
1:00pm	Raise the Roof: HIV, Housing and Health – Positive Spaces Healthy Places										
1:30pm			Challenge Panel: Criminalization – Implications of the Supreme Court Ruling	Wellness Session: De-Mystifying Energetic Therapies		Research Questions: A Critical Look at Methodologies	Organizing AIDS Services: Then and Now	Interventions that Work	Fighting the Virus	Mindfulness-Based Therapy for Front-Line Service Providers <i>(Registration Required)</i>	
2:15pm	Oral Poster Presentations	Break / Networking									
2:45pm			Aboriginal Sharing Circle								
3:00pm										Wellness Session: Mindfulness-Based Therapy for People Living with HIV <i>(Registration Required)</i>	
3:30pm						Roadblocks to Health and Well-Being	Finding and Closing Gaps in Care	Reducing Risks for Youth	HIV Ups its Game		
4:00pm	Living Longer = Living Well? Aging with HIV										
5:30pm	Conference Closing & UWW Cyber Digest										

9:00am-12:00pm **Visioning Health Lodge**

Foyer

The OHTN Research Conference is about teaching and learning. At this year's conference, we are honoured to have a traditional Ojibway lodge, built in the style of a sacred teaching lodge, built on site – in the foyer outside the plenary room. The Visioning Health Lodge honours Positive Aboriginal Women's (PAW) experiences of health, culture and gender in a safe and culturally relevant way.

The building of the lodge reminds us that we work and learn in community and gives conference participants an opportunity to experience Aboriginal approaches to sharing and learning. Please join traditional elder, Stan Peltier, and other members of the Aboriginal community in a ceremony to build the lodge on Sunday, November 11th from 9:00am to noon.

The willow saplings to build the lodge were harvested on Manitoulin Island and brought to the site where the lodge will be erected. Protocol requires that the lodge be built by community that is inclusive of all its members. Following the building of the lodge, there is a teaching on the lodge and its meaning, as well as prayers to invite the ancestors from the four directions into the lodge to help guide our learning over the three days of the conference. We look forward to seeing you at the lodge building ceremony.

12:00-3:00pm

Varley

Tea Time: Building Communities of Women Living with HIV

Tea Time creates spaces that challenge what knowledge is and who produces it. Jessica Whitbread has spent the past year on a body of work titled *Tea Time as Participatory Research: Mapping Informal Networks of Women Living with HIV*. Women living with HIV host tea parties in their respected cities – participants bring a teacup and a letter to leave behind. These teacups and letters become the means by which women connect with other women living with HIV. Over a warm cup of tea and yummy baked goods we build new bridges and strengthen old ones by talking about our role as women living with HIV in both research and the HIV movement.

This event is only for women living with HIV. Although we will try our best to ensure confidentiality, we cannot guarantee it.

This research made possible by the **Canadian Institutes of Health Research**.

1:00-3:30pm

Tom Thomson

Developing Community-Based Intervention Research: The CHAMP Experience

By Invitation Only

The Community Champions HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project (CHAMP) is community-based action research developed to evaluate anti-stigma strategies in culturally diverse communities in Ontario. Learn and share lessons about designing and implementing a community-based research intervention based on our project models. Participants will benefit from experiential learning opportunities with the two training interventions being evaluated by our project: *Acceptance Commitment Training* and *Social Justice Capacity Building*.

4:00-6:00pm

Toronto I-II

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Opening Prayer, Alita Sauvé, Elder

Welcome from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Frank McGee

Welcome from the OHTN, David Hoe

About the Program, Conference Co-Chairs, Lynne Leonard and Art Zoccole

Speakers:



Alita Sauvé is a woman of two nations, Tahltan and Cree, and a supervisor of an addiction & mental health case management team for Indigenous urban populations. A descendant of Traditional Medicine Societies both maternally and paternally, Alita has a lifetime of training from the female lineage holders of her bloodlines. These beautiful gifts given to her make it possible for her to share her teachings and ceremonies.



Frank McGee is the Manager, HIV and Hepatitis C Programs at the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Frank has played a pivotal role in guiding and shaping Ontario's response to HIV since the 1990s. He also serves on the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS and is an ex-officio member of the federal Minister of Health's Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS.



David Hoe is Chair of the OHTN board. He has worked in HIV/AIDS for more than 20 years. He was the first Executive Director of The AIDS Committee of Ottawa, a Senior Policy Advisor on HIV/AIDS with the Government of Canada, and a Co-Chair of the Ontario Ministry of Health's Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS.



Lynne Leonard, Director, HIV and Hepatitis C Prevention Research Team, is a social epidemiologist and Assistant Professor and Research Scientist in the Department of Epidemiology and Community Medicine at the University of Ottawa. A social scientist by training, Dr. Leonard is particularly interested in the social determinants of health and in conducting community-based research to affect policy and program change at the community, provincial and national level.



Art Zoccole, Executive Director, Two-Spirited People of the First Nations, Toronto, is Anishinawbe Ogokwe from Lac Des Mille Lacs First Nation in Ontario and currently resides in Toronto. He has been involved in activism for the last three decades on issues related to Aboriginal people and HIV/AIDS. He is a member of Ontario's Hepatitis C Task Force, a board member of the Ontario Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy, and a member of the Board of Directors for the Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council as well as the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network.

In 2012, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the U.S. will invest 10% of its total research budget – \$3.1 billion – in HIV research. Of that funding, more than \$14 million a year over five years will be devoted to finding a cure. The NIH is funding three teams focused on developing strategies that could help rid the body of HIV. Each research team is pursuing a unique and complementary approach while finding ways to work together. Later this year, CIHR will announce about \$10 million to support one to three multidisciplinary cure research teams, with a focus on basic science that can be translated into clinical applications. What is the potential for HIV cure research? What are we learning? Which approaches show the greatest promise? Will this work lead to better treatments for today as well as a cure for tomorrow? What is the role for Canadian and Ontario researchers in the search for the cure?

Speakers:



Robert F. Siliciano, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, will provide an overview of cure research, and discuss his experience as an investigator in two of the NIH-funded collaborative teams on HIV cure research. Siliciano is an investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, has a joint appointment in the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics at Johns Hopkins, and researches the mechanisms by which the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) remains latent in the human body.



Brad Jones, Ph.D., OHTN Junior Investigator and Research Associate, Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard, will describe his team's efforts to harness a technology developed at MIT to enhance the ability of T-cells to detect and kill latently HIV-infected cells. The ultimate goal of this work is to develop a therapeutic approach to flush this viral reservoir and thus achieve sterilizing cures of HIV.

Moderators:



Ron Rosenes, Hon. LL.D., is a Community Research and Treatment Advocate, a member of the OHTN Scientific Review Committee and Research Policy and Priorities Advisory Committee, a member of the CIHR HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee, and a member of the Community Advisory Board of the Canadian Treatment Action Council.

Colin Kovacs, M.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto, is a primary care physician currently practicing at the Maple Leaf Medical Clinic in Toronto. Colin has been in active full-time HIV/AIDS clinical care since 1994. He has been engaged in clinical and investigator-driven research since the mid-1990s with collaborations throughout Canada and abroad.

As the Lancet noted in its July 20, 2012 special issue: "Despite great progress in tackling the HIV epidemic worldwide in the past two decades, there is one population in which the epidemic continues to grow in countries of all incomes: men who have sex with men (MSM)." This plenary presentation will discuss the biological and behavioural factors that are driving the epidemic in gay men and other MSM as well as strategies that could curb that epidemic.

Speaker:



Patrick Sullivan, DVM, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health, who was a member of the Lancet team, will provide an overview of the Lancet series, describing the unique aspects of the HIV epidemic in men who have sex with men (MSM), showing that factors such as the biology of anal sex and the characteristics of MSM networks are driving the epidemic in this population. Dr. Sullivan worked as the Chief of the Behavioral and Clinical Surveillance Branch in the HIV Division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in its Behavioral and Clinical Surveillance Branch, implementing HIV research studies and surveillance systems to meet critical local, state and national HIV prevention needs. He is the PI of NIH-funded studies to determine reasons for black/white disparities in HIV among MSM, and to develop and test HIV testing interventions for male couples.

Moderator:



David Hoe, Chair of the Board of the Ontario HIV Treatment Network, has worked in HIV/AIDS for more than 20 years. He was the first Executive Director of The AIDS Committee of Ottawa, a Senior Policy Advisor on HIV/AIDS with the Government of Canada, a Co-Chair of the Ontario Ministry of Health's Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS, the Chairperson for the development of Ontario's Strategy on HIV/AIDS to 2008, a Consultant and Advisor to the Ontario Organizational Development Program and a Consultant to the Toronto PWA Foundation on Poz Prevention.

Is Treatment Enough Prevention?

Monday November 12 - 8:30-10:00am

Complexity science argues that some of the challenges in disease prevention and treatment are due to “the apparent compression of space and time.” Many of our decision-making processes were “created with the implicit assumption of space and time lags ... We used to have the luxury of a time lag between the discovery of an idea and the application into practice. This time lag is almost non-existent in many aspects of society today. In health care, medical research is reported on (often in ‘sound bites’ on the news). The public access to medical research has often created a push to put the ideas into application immediately.” North American Primary Care Research Group, Resources 2009.

- Adapted from Zimmerman B, Lindberg C, Plsek P. (1998). *Edgware: Lessons from Complexity Science for Health Care Leaders*. Dallas, TX: VHA Inc.

Many researchers would argue that their findings do not translate quickly enough into policies and programs. However, in the case of “treatment as prevention” trials, we have seen the findings that effective treatment can reduce new infections in serodiscordant, heterosexual couples translate almost instantaneously into prevention messages such as “treatment is better than condoms” and “undetectable viral load means uninfected.” Public health researchers and practitioners are seeing an increase in unprotected sex – particularly among gay men and other MSM – and fear that the current discourse could reverse hard-won progress in HIV prevention.

What is the research telling us? What are the implications of these findings for populations and individuals at risk in Ontario? How should they shape our prevention messages? This international panel brings together clinical, epidemiological, basic and social science research to explore the relationship between biology and behavior.

Speakers:



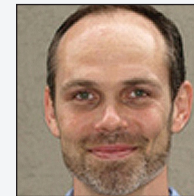
William C. Miller, M.D., Ph.D., MPH, Associate Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology, University of North Carolina, will discuss the implications of treatment as prevention research for our populations. Miller is currently leading a treatment as prevention project for acute HIV in Malawi. Miller is Director of the Program in Health Care Epidemiology, Curriculum Director for the NC Translational and Clinical Science Institute, and Director of the STD/HIV Training Program. His research has addressed the epidemiology of a variety of classical sexually transmitted diseases and HIV infection.



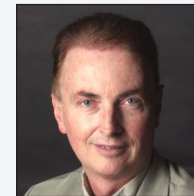
Susan Kippax, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor, University of New South Wales, Australia, will discuss the results of a study on the *Per-Contact Probability of HIV Transmission in Homosexual Men in Sydney in the Era of HAART*, and the implications for prevention programs. Kippax has published extensively in HIV/AIDS social research, including more than 200 papers in refereed journals. Through her research, teaching and advisory roles, Kippax plays a central role in framing Australia’s response to HIV/AIDS and in advancing social science in the field of HIV prevention.



Patrick Sullivan, DVM, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health, will present his research on *Successes and Challenges of HIV Prevention in Men who have Sex with Men* and present modeling and strategies designed to counter re-emerging HIV epidemics in MSM. Sullivan, Co-Director of the Prevention Sciences Core at Emory’s Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), focuses on HIV among men who have sex with men, including behavioral research, interventions, and surveillance.



Rupert Kaul, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Medicine and Immunology, University of Toronto, will discuss his research on factors that are associated with the HIV level in semen, which is one of the most important biologic predictors of sexual transmission. Kaul’s research interests include how local factors in the genital tract may increase HIV transmission, the interactions between HIV and herpes simplex virus type 2, the nature of immune responses, and the effects of microbicides in clinical testing on the immunology of the genital tract.



Barry Adam, Ph.D., Senior Scientist and Director of Prevention Research, OHTN, will discuss the impact of the “treatment as prevention” discourse on knowledge, attitudes and behaviour. Adam, Professor of Sociology at the University of Windsor, has a distinguished research and publication record devoted to issues of domination and empowerment. His books include *The Survival of Domination*, *The Rise of a Gay and Lesbian Movement*, *Experiencing HIV*, and *The Global Emergence of Gay and Lesbian Politics*.



Tony Hughes, BSc, MSc, QSM, Research Director, New Zealand AIDS Foundation, will discuss how his jurisdiction has assessed and used biological, epidemiological and behavioural research to shape its prevention strategies for gay men. Hughes has worked in HIV/AIDS management since November 1984. His particular focus has been on drawing together knowledge from the biology and epidemiology of HIV transmission with knowledge about the sexual partnering and sexual behaviours of MSM in order to inform HIV prevention praxis at the coalface and support condom use for anal sex as the primary HIV and STI prevention strategy for gay men.

Moderator:



Evan Collins, Consultant Psychiatrist, Immunodeficiency Clinic, University Health Network and Past-Chair of the OHTN.

10:00-10:15am

Toronto I-II

Research Snapshots

Acceptance and Commitment Training (ACT): The Experience of Adaptation and Application for HIV Stigma Reduction (Kenneth Fung)

2-Spirit Aboriginal People Living with HIV/AIDS who Participated in the Positive Spaces Healthy Places Study (Nathan J. Lachowsky)

Discussing HIV Prevention Strategies in Aboriginal Communities: Starting a Dialogue (Sherri Pooyak)

The Ontario Women's Study: What Ontario Women Have to Say about HIV Prevention: Implications for Policy and Program Development (Vijaya Chikermame)

What Enables GIPA, What Constrains GIPA? Participation of People Living with HIV and the Formalization of Toronto-Based AIDS Service Organizations (Alex McClelland)

10:15-11:00am

Toronto I-II

Oral Poster Presentations: Beyond the Virus: Social, Clinical, and Cohort Considerations

"Growing Up 'Normal' With HIV": Understanding the HIV-Related Transitions of Families (Orville Browne) (201)

Micronutrient Deficiency and Treatment Adherence in a Randomised Controlled Trial of Micronutrient Supplementation in Asymptomatic Persons with Untreated HIV Infection (Louise Balfour) (202)

Kidney Function and Chronic Kidney Disease among HIV-infected Individuals in Ontario: A Preliminary Analysis of the OHTN Cohort Study Data (Pierre Isogai) (203)

A 10 Minute Introduction to Competing Risks and Left Truncation, two Complicating Factors in Analyses of a Time to an Event (Janet Raboud) (204)

Development of an Algorithm to Impute Current ARV Therapy Regimens: Application to the Ontario HIV Treatment Network Cohort Study (OCS) (Sandra Blitz) (205)

The Long and Short of Replacing Abbreviated Versions of Long Questionnaires: Application to the Ontario HIV Treatment Network Cohort Study (OCS) (Sandra Blitz) (206)

Moderator:

Carol Major, OHTN

10:15-11:00am

Harris/MacDonald

Challenge Panel: Communicating Research Findings in a Real-Time World

The process for moving research into policy and practice has changed dramatically. In the past, research findings were published in academic journals, reviewed by peers, often replicated in other studies, assessed through systematic reviews and then translated into clinical guidelines and other tools, including safer sex guidelines which were shared with providers and patients. With the Internet and the democratization of information, that process has changed. Researchers now issue press releases – sometimes even before their research has been published or peer reviewed. Findings from one study can make headlines, pushing the system to respond and giving patients information in sound bites that may not capture the limitations of the research. Often the science itself is then debated within a highly politicized space by people who do not necessarily have the skills to interpret scientific research or understand it within the context of a larger body of literature. Participants will discuss the challenges facing researchers, policy makers and practitioners in communicating research findings and deriving meaning from science. This challenge panel will continue the discussion started in the plenary: *Is Treatment Enough Prevention?*

Panelists:

William Miller, Associate Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology, University of North Carolina

Susan Kippax, Emeritus Professor, University of New South Wales, Australia

Patrick Sullivan, Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health

Rupert Kaul, Associate Professor of Medicine and Immunology, University of Toronto

Barry Adam, Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology, University of Windsor Senior Scientist and Director of Prevention Research, OHTN

Tony Hughes, Research Director, New Zealand AIDS Foundation

Moderator:

James Murray, Senior Program Consultant, AIDS Bureau, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Schedule

Monday November 12

10:15-11:00am **Opening-up a Space: A Short Documentary of New Directions for Critical Perspectives on HIV**
Governor General

In April 2012, HIV researchers, people living with and/or affected by HIV, service providers, clinicians, community advocates, and activists came together for a one-day meeting called *New Directions for Critical Perspectives on HIV* (www.thinkinghiv.ca) in Montreal, Canada. The meeting provided a much-needed opportunity for people to come together to build on the momentum to revive the use of critical social science and humanities perspectives in HIV in Canada and beyond. This short film includes some of the main ideas, presentations and participant reactions to this dynamic event. It engagingly captures the information, and spirit, of this event, and features commentary from Dr. Viviane Namaste, Dr. Eric Mykhalovskiy, Dr. Cindy Patton, Dr. Carol Strike, Dr. Barry Adam, Mary Petty, Randy Jackson and others who attended the event. This video, and other “teachable moments” from the meeting are free to view online at www.thinkinghiv.ca.

10:15-11:00am **Life Outside my Window**

Carmichael/Jackson *Life Outside My Window* is inspired by fragments of stories of people living with HIV. The film focuses on the unique challenges of coping with HIV experienced by different communities. The strengths of each community at present can be defined as their best kept secret. We show the audience a glimpse of this through five characters: a gay man, a straight married man, a substance user, a long-term survivor and a pregnant woman. Through the discovery of strengths in common among them, they learn they have much to gain from one another. The experience helps them to make very different, life-altering choices.

10:15-11:05am **Wellness Session: Self-Care**

Varley Self-care is a concept we are hearing more about in the HIV/AIDS sector. We all work tirelessly to examine and improve the lives of people living with HIV. In doing so it is all too common to neglect to examine and take care of our own health and well being. This session will look at the dynamic and perhaps surprising considerations that are ideally included in your own plan to take care of you!

Please note there is a limit of three Wellness Sessions per conference participant.

10:15-11:00am **Break / Networking**



Concurrent Sessions

Monday November 12 - 11:00am-12:00pm

On the Front Lines: Research and GIPA in ASOs

Carmichael/Jackson

ASOs continue to progress and evolve in their efforts to apply research and ensure the more meaningful involvement of people with HIV. In this session, presenters discuss ASO efforts to identify evidence-based priorities, enhance the research literacy of people with HIV, and understand the factors that enhance or constrain GIPA.

- 101 Is It A Bird? Is It A Plane?: Exploring the Impact of Research on Community Responses to HIV (Jessica Cattaneo)
- 102 Effects of an Evidence Service on Community-Based AIDS Service Organizations' Use of Research Evidence: A Randomized Controlled Trial (Michael Wilson)
- 103 Research with a Purpose: Mobilizing Knowledge for Program Development in an AIDS Service Organization (Lydia Makoroka)
- 104 What Enables GIPA, What Constrains GIPA? Participation of People Living with HIV and the Formalization of Toronto-Based AIDS Service Organizations (Alex McClelland)

Moderator:

Murray Jose, Toronto People with AIDS Foundation

Gender Differences: HIV Risks and Prevention in Women

Tom Thomson

Women face different HIV risks, influenced by culture and social determinants of health. This session discusses HIV risk and prevention for women in prison, immigrant women and women in the Ontario Women's Study.

- 105 The Ontario Women's Study: What Ontario Women Have to Say about HIV Prevention: Implications for Policy and Program Development (Sue McWilliam, Wangari Tharao)
- 106 HIV Transmission and Prevention among Ontario Women in Prison: A Service Provider's Perspective (Sanjana Mitra)
- 107 Risk Factors Contributing to HIV Vulnerability of Immigrant Women of South Asian Descent in the GTA (Roula Kteily-Hawa)
- 108 Valacyclovir Suppressive Therapy does not Reduce Putative HIV Target Cells in the Genital Mucosa of HSV-2 Infected Individuals (Tae Joon Yi)

Moderator:

Vijaya Chikermane, Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention

Stopping Stigma

Harris/MacDonald

After more than 30 years, people with HIV still live with stigma. This session explores discrimination in health care providers and the experience of stigma in trans-PHAs, and presents promising interventions.

- 109 Conceptualizing HIV-Related Stigma in Terms of Discrimination, Stereotyping and Prejudice among Health Care Providers (Anne C. Wagner)
- 110 The Trans PULSE Project: Exploring Experiences of Stigma and the Use of Stigma-Management Strategies among Trans People Living with HIV (Lauren Munro)
- 111 Acceptance and Commitment Training (ACT): The Experience of Adaptation and Application for HIV Stigma Reduction (Kenneth Fung)
- 112 Social Justice Capacity Building Training for HIV Stigma Reduction: Insights From the CHAMP Study (Josephine P. Wong, Ciro Bisignano)

Moderator:

Rick Kennedy, Ontario AIDS Network

Reproductive Systems: HIV Susceptibility in the Genital Tract

Lismer

To stop HIV, we need to know more about how HIV is transmitted – in particular the factors that affect HIV susceptibility in the female and male genital tracts. In this basic science session, presenters will discuss recent findings about the impact of female hormones, seminal plasma, mucosal lining and herpes virus on HIV susceptibility.

- 113 Female Sex Hormones and Hormonal Contraceptives Affect Entry, but not Replication, of HIV-1 in Primary Genital Epithelial Cells (Victor H. Ferreira)
- 114 IL-22 Protects against HIV Mediated Mucosal Barrier Breakdown in Female Genital Tract (Aisha Nazli)
- 115 Examining the Role of Seminal Plasma from HIV-1 Infected and Uninfected Men on Female Genital Tract Barrier Function (Jessica Kafka)
- 116 Foreskin Immune Associations of Asymptomatic Herpes Simplex Virus-2 Infection (Jessica Prodger)

Moderator:

Ken Rosenthal, McMaster University

Monday November 12 - 12:00-1:15pm

Monday November 12

12:00-12:45pm Lunch / Networking
Toronto I-II

12:45-1:15pm Dr. Susan King Memorial Lecture & Discussion



Dr. Susan King was Professor of Paediatrics at the University of Toronto and co-director of the HIV/AIDS Comprehensive Care Program at The Hospital for Sick Children. Susan had a special focus on the care and treatment of families and children living with HIV through pediatric-related HIV research. A tireless advocate for families and children affected by HIV, Susan was a founding member of the Canadian Paediatric AIDS Research Group and the coordinator of the Canadian Perinatal HIV Surveillance Program. Susan died in 2009. The OHTN proudly honours the life of Dr. Susan King with a permanent lecture series in her name.

Teens with HIV – Movin’ On! Transition of Adolescents Living with HIV to Adult Care

This presentation will review the issues faced by HIV-infected youth transitioning from the pediatric to the adult care setting. A preliminary review of the SickKids Good2Go transition program in the HIV clinic from the perspective of caregivers and youth will be discussed.

Speakers:



Jason Brophy, M.D., Infectious Diseases Specialist, Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario, is also an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Ottawa. Brophy studied infectious diseases through a Canadian HIV Trials Network research fellowship in pediatric HIV at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. Brophy is the current chair of the Canadian Pediatric and Perinatal HIV Research Group, and serves as a liaison member on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Pediatric Antiretroviral Therapy Guidelines committee.



Ari Bitnun, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Toronto and a staff physician in the Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Pediatrics, The Hospital for Sick Children, received his MD from the University of British Columbia, and completed his pediatric residency training in Israel. Bitnun served as the Chair of the Canadian Pediatric AIDS Research Group from 2008 to 2012, is a steering committee member of the Canadian Perinatal HIV Surveillance Network (CPHSP) and is a member of the Scientific Review Committee of the Canadian HIV Trials Network (CTN).

Moderator:



Stan Read, M.D., is a Pediatric Infectious Diseases specialist at the Hospital for Sick Children and Professor emeritus of Pediatrics and Pathobiology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Toronto.

1:15-2:00pm Challenge Panel: The Smoking Project
Governor General

Smoking rates are significantly higher among people living with HIV than the general population. According to the OHTN Cohort Study, 54% of people with HIV in Ontario smoke – compared to 20% of HIV-negative adults in Canada. People with HIV who smoke are at higher risk of bacterial pneumonia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cardiovascular disease, malignancies and lower health-related quality of life. *The Smoking Project* is looking at ways to address this health issue by developing smoking cessation programs that meet the needs of people living with HIV. Learn about the research and smoking interventions now being studied. Discuss the possible role of the HIV community, ASOs and clinicians in smoking cessation.

Presenters:

Marek Smieja, Associate Professor, Pathology and Molecular Medicine, McMaster University
Louise Balfour, Clinical Research Psychologist at the Ottawa Hospital and Associate Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases, University of Ottawa
Adrian Betts, Executive Director, AIDS Committee of Durham Region

Moderator:

Bob Leahy, Editor, PositiveLite.com, Canada’s Online HIV Magazine

1:15-2:00pm Wellness Session: You Are What You Eat!
Varley

Wellness Session: You Are What You Eat!

In this session, dietician Stephanie Demaio will lead participants through the basics of managing a healthy diet referencing the Canada Food Guide. Melody Quinlan will delve deeper, looking at opportunities to detoxify our bodies by choosing to eat foods that support this function.

Presenters:

Stephanie Demaio (Dietician)
Melody Quinlan (Holistic Nutritionist)

Please note there is a limit of three Wellness Sessions per conference participant.

Knowledge is Power: Improving Prevention and Care for Aboriginal Peoples

Carmichael/Jackson

Aboriginal peoples in Canada continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV. Efforts to improve prevention and care have been hampered by lack of information about Aboriginal people's health and social needs or their use of health care services. This session reviews the literature on Aboriginal HIV prevention strategies and highlights new knowledge gained from two cohorts of Aboriginal people: the Positive Spaces Healthy Places cohort and the OHTN Cohort Study.

- 117 Engagement in Continuous Care between 1997 and 2009 among Aboriginal Participants in the Ontario HIV Treatment Network Cohort Study (OCS) (Laura Warren)
- 118 2-spirit Aboriginal People Living with HIV/AIDS who Participated in the Positive Spaces Healthy Places Study (Nathan J. Lachowsky)
- 119 Discussing HIV Prevention Strategies in Aboriginal Communities: Starting a dialogue (Sherri Pooyak)

Moderator:

Randy Jackson, McMaster University

Evidence Matters: New Perspectives on Community-Based Evaluation

Tom Thomson

In this session, perspectives on community-based evaluation of HIV prevention and support programs will be investigated. This special session will be informative and appeal to both researchers and practitioners.

- 120 Reviewing Evaluation Practice at the AIDS Committee of Toronto (Jessica Cattaneo)
- 121 Community-Based Evaluation of HIV Prevention Programs by ASOs: Preliminary Findings of a Case Study (Nicole R. Greenspan)
- 122 Case Studies of HIV Prevention Interventions in Canada: Informal Knowledge and Community-Based Evaluation (San Patten, Eric Mykhalovskiy)

Moderator:

San Patten, San Patten and Associates

Growing Up with HIV: Building on the Strengths of Supportive Programming for Youth

Harris/MacDonald

Young people who are infected with HIV face a number of unique challenges related to their transition from pediatric to adult care. This session will be introduced with presentations from the perspectives of service providers and youth participants, and will proceed with a guided discussion of how these unique challenges can be addressed, with a focus on the strengths that currently exist within the system.

- 123 A Camp-Model Community Building to Empower Kids who are Impacted by HIV in Canada (Ahmed Bechir Habre)
- 124 Evaluating a Therapeutic Group Program for Children and Youth with HIV: The Challenges and Benefits of Bringing Community Group Facilitators to a Pediatric Hospital Setting (Robyn Salter, Simone Shindler)

Moderator:

Cheryl Arneson, The Hospital for Sick Children

Mother and Child: Understanding Risks During Pregnancy

Lismer

Babies born to women with HIV have a higher risk of being born pre-term and/or being a low birthweight. This session looks at the biological, clinical and social factors associated with these adverse outcomes for women and their babies.

- 125 Lower Progesterone Levels Detected after Protease Inhibitor (Pi) Exposure in Vitro and in Vivo – A Potential Mechanism for Low Birth Weight and Preterm Delivery In HIV-Positive Cart Exposed Women (Eszter Papp)
- 126 Angiogenesis and Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes in Women with HIV: The AAPH Study (Lena Serghides)
- 127 Prevalence and Predictors of Adverse Obstetrical Outcomes in Women with HIV: A Twenty-year Single-center Chart Review (Sarah Buchan)

Moderator:

Mona Loutfy, Women's College Hospital

2:00-3:00pm

Toronto I-II

Oral Poster Presentations: Breaking Down Barriers to Services, Support and Care

The Trans PULSE Project: Exploring Barriers to HIV-related Care among Trans-people Living with HIV (Robb Travers) (207)

A Qualitative Study of the Help-seeking Experiences of Heterosexual Men Living with HIV Infection (Tony Antoniou) (208)

HIV Risk Perception and Distribution of HIV Risk among African, Caribbean and other Black People: Mixed Methods Results from the BLACCH Study (Shamara Baidooobonso) (209)

Challenges and Successes in Recruitment and Retention of Ethno-racial Community PHA and non-PHA Leaders in a Time-intensive Anti-Stigma Intervention Research (Alan Li) (210)

Responding to HIV and Aging: Surveying the Needs of a Diverse Group of Canadian Stakeholders (Le-Ann Dolan) (211)

Housing Status and the Health of People Living with HIV/AIDS: A Systematic Review (Michael Wilson) (212)

What Does the HIV Disability Questionnaire (HDQ) Measure? An Exploratory Factor Analysis (Kelly O'Brien) (213)

Moderator:

Lynne Leonard, University of Ottawa

2:00-3:00pm

Governor General

Challenge Panel: Is it Time for HIV Home Testing?

The United States has licensed an HIV home test, and researchers are looking at how that test can be used both as a testing tool and as a prevention tool. What can we learn from the experience in the U.S.? Is there a place for home testing here?

Presenter:

Alex Carballo-Diéguez, Professor of Clinical Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at Columbia University and Associate Director and Senior Research Scientist at the HIV Centre for Clinical and Behavioural Studies at New York State Psychiatric Institute, will talk about his work on primary prevention of HIV transmission, the use of rapid HIV home tests to screen sexual partners, and determinants of sexual risk behavior among men who have sex with men.

Respondents:

Frank McGee, Manager, AIDS and Hepatitis C Programs, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Ayden Scheim, MSc Candidate in Population Epidemiology at University of Western Ontario and a member of the TransPulse Project

Moderator:

Barry Adam, Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology, University of Windsor Senior Scientist and Director of Prevention Research, OHTN

2:00-3:00pm

2:35-4:00pm

Varley

Break / Networking

Wellness Session: Pain Management using Naturopathic Principles

Pain is part of the lived experience for so many. In some cases, it is momentary and in others it is lifelong. Regardless, we usually look for ways to manage it so that our lives can go on. In a world of pain management, because options can be rife with side effects and hard to access due to their often addictive traits, it is useful to explore alternatives.

Presenters:

Kieran Cooley, Associate Director of Research, CCNM

Guy Chamberland, Curaphyte Technologies

Please note there is a limit of three Wellness Sessions per conference participant.

3:00-4:00pm

Toronto I-II

Challenge Panel: Challenges in Community-based HIV Research

Ontario has made a strong commitment to community-based HIV research and, in fact, is seen as a leader in Canada in this field. But community-based research (CBR) is not without its challenges. Our panel will lead a discussion of issues related to CBR, including ethical issues, objectivity and potential bias, roles and responsibilities of team members, and the rigour of the research.

Presenter:

Susan Kippax, Emeritus Professor, University of New South Wales

Respondents:

Barry Adam, Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology,

University of Windsor Senior Scientist and Director of Prevention Research, OHTN

Sarah Flicker, Associate Professor, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University

Randy Jackson, Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network

Tola Mbulaheni, Research Coordinator, African and Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS of Ontario

Moderator:

Francisco Ibáñez-Carassco, Director of Education and Training, OHTN

Women's Health and Well-being: Psychological and Social Issues

Carmichael/Jackson

Many women living with HIV face psychological and social stresses, including poverty, marital distress, violence, stigma, issues with child protection services, and challenges with social participation. This session will explore these stresses and issues, and discuss the need for services and supports.

- 128 "I Guess She Just Needs to do her Homework...": HIV-Positive Mothers' Interactions with Child Protection Services across Ontario (Mary-Elizabeth Vaccaro, Doe O'Brien-Teengs)
- 129 Patterns of Sexual Behaviour among African and Caribbean Women Living with HIV in Toronto, Ontario (Wangari Tharao)
- 130 Correlates of Psychological Distress in Women Living with HIV in Ontario, Canada (Anita C. Benoit)
- 131 Challenges to Social Participation in Older Women Living with HIV (Patty Solomon)

Moderator:

Mohini Datta-Ray, AIDS Committee of Toronto

Double Trouble: Co-infection Among People Living with HIV/AIDS (OCS)

Tom Thomson

Co-infections create health challenges for people living with HIV/AIDS, adding to the stress of HIV. This session presents analyses done using the OHTN Cohort Study, looking specifically at the impact of another infection, such as hepatitis B, hepatitis C, chlamydia or gonorrhoea.

- 132 Prevalence and Incidence of Hepatitis C Virus Infection among HIV-positive MSM with no History of Injection Drug Use (Michael Manno)
- 133 Co-infection with Chlamydia Trachomatis and Neisseria Gonorrhoea among Persons in HIV Care in Ontario: Trends in Testing and Diagnosis, 2008-2011 (Ann N. Burchell)
- 134 Impact of Viral Hepatitis Co-infection on Mortality of HIV-positive Individuals Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy (Jennifer Gillis)
- 135 Incidence and Risk for Cardiovascular Disease among Antiretroviral-treated HIV-HCV and HIV-HBV Co-Infected Patients (Janet Raboud)

Moderator:

Marek Smieja, McMaster University

Risk and Resilience in Gay, Bisexual and Other Men who have Sex with Men

Harris/MacDonald

Complex factors affect risk in men who have sex with men. This session discusses the role of body image, perceived masculinity, psychosocial problems, and partner trust in sexual risk taking.

- 136 Intersectional Perspectives on Resilience in Gay Men's Health (Sarah A. Chown)
- 137 Imagine Men's Health Study: An Examination of Body Image, Masculinity and HIV Sexual Risk Behaviours among Ethnoracialized Gay, Bisexual and Other Men Who Have Sex with Men (David J. Brennan)
- 138 The Additive Effect of Multiple Psychosocial Problems Predicting Risky Sex Among Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) (Stanley Ing)
- 139 Non-Occupational HIV Post-Exposure Prophylaxis and Sexual-Risk Taking (Kathryn Marsilio)

Moderator:

James Murray, AIDS Bureau, Ontario Ministry of Health

Under the Microscope: The Impact of ARTs

Lismer

Since the advent of antiretroviral therapies, people with HIV have been living longer in better health. In this session, presenters discuss drug interactions and the impact of certain ARTs.

- 140 Nuclear Receptor Mediated Induction of P-glycoprotein (P-gp) by Antiretroviral Drugs (ARVs) in Human Brain Microvessel Endothelial Cells (Gary N.Y. Chan)
- 141 Raltegravir is not an Inhibitor but a Potential Substrate of the Drug Efflux Transporters, P-glycoprotein (P-gp) and Breast Cancer Resistance Protein (BCRP) (Tozammel Hoque)
- 142 Role of Drug Efflux Transporters in Atazanavir Tissue Distribution at Sanctuary Sites of HIV-1 Infection (Kevin Robillard)
- 143 Effect of Anti-Inflammatory Compounds on HIV-1 gp120-mediated Brain Inflammation (Tamima Ashraf)

Moderator:

Jeffrey Lee, University of Toronto

Up to 50% of people living with HIV can develop cognitive impairments that will affect their attention span, learning efficiency, reasoning/problem solving, word finding and psychomotor skills. In most cases these impairments overall tend to be mild, but even at this level, they can affect a person's ability to work and to carry out day-to-day activities, and can lead to difficulties in social situations. They can cause frustration, weaken confidence, reduce employability and threaten independence. To improve brain health and quality of life for people with HIV, we need better ways to detect cognitive impairments earlier, a better understanding of the natural history of HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disorders (HAND) and the treatments/interventions to reduce or delay them. And as people living with HIV age, we need to understand how the emergence of other medical conditions (related or unrelated to HIV) and mental health issues may complicate HAND diagnosis and treatment. This panel of international leaders in neuro-AIDS will discuss what we know about HAND and the work underway to address this urgent health need for people living with HIV.

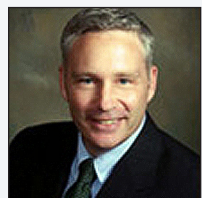
Speakers:



Robert Heaton, Ph.D. is a neuropsychologist and Distinguished Professor and Vice Chairman for Academic Affairs with the Department of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego. His research focus includes effects of HIV and comorbid conditions on brain and behaviour, particularly on how neurocognitive impairments can affect everyday functioning. In addition, his research has included a major focus on psychometric issues in neuropsychology, and studies focused on HAND in China. His talk will focus on the prevalence and HIV disease/treatment correlates of neurocognitive impairments which occur with HIV; studies of how these affect everyday functioning; and what we are learning from the CHARTER Study in the US about comorbidities and HAND, and the progression of HAND and associated risk factors.



Scott Letendre, M.D. is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of California, San Diego. He performs translational, patient-oriented research of the central nervous system, and consequences of chronic infections, including HIV, HCV, and malaria. As part of a multidisciplinary research team, he conducts treatment trials of adults with neurocognitive impairment and analyzes their response to therapy. He also studies the pharmacokinetics of antiretrovirals, the effect of co-morbidities, and biomarker correlates of disease. His presentation will focus on the latest evidence on the impact of various antiretroviral therapies on the nervous system (both benefits and potential neurotoxicities), recent lessons learned from treatment trials with persons receiving high and low CNS penetration ARV regimens, and current thinking about the early initiation of combination ARV at higher CD4 levels to potentially prevent or lessen the development of HAND.

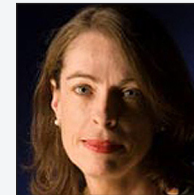


Victor Valcour, M.D. is an internist and geriatrician at the Memory and Aging Center at the University of California, San Francisco where he is an Associate Professor of Geriatric Medicine and Neurology. His main current research focus is on neurocognition in HIV and aging. Prior to joining UCSF he directed the Hawaii Aging with HIV Cohort of HIV-infected individuals over 50 years of age. This leading HIV-aging neuro-AIDS study began to unravel the neuro-epidemiology of aging with HIV. His presentation will focus on the latest research into aging with HIV, particularly in those over 60 years of age, and whether there is a potential for increased HAND with age. He will also address the major issues in the medical management of comorbidities with HAND, particularly cerebrovascular risks and risk for Alzheimer's Disease.



Sean B. Rourke, Ph.D., Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto, and Scientific and Executive Director of the OHTN, will describe his work as a neuropsychologist assessing neurocognitive impairments in people with HIV in Ontario and the neuroAIDS work currently underway in Canada. A neuropsychologist by training, Sean has been the Scientific and Executive Director of the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) since 2004 and the Director of the CIHR Centre for REACH in HIV/AIDS since it opened in 2009. A leader in the field of neuroAIDS, Rourke is a Scientist with the Centre for Research on Inner City Health in The Keenan Research Centre in the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute of St. Michael's Hospital at St. Michael's Hospital, a Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and a Full Graduate Member of the Institute of Medical Science at the University of Toronto, and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Windsor.

Moderator:



Maggie Atkinson, LLD is an AIDS activist and lawyer. She was the founding chair of Voices of Positive Women and of the Community Advisory Committee of the Canadian HIV Trials Network, co-chair of AIDS Action Now! and a founding director of the HIV/AIDS Legal Clinic of Ontario.

5:15-6:00pm

Toronto I-II

Picasso's Black Canvas

Picasso's Black Canvas brings to the mic the voices of young, gay and gifted Black men. Crafted by *Project: Humanity* from research interviews done through Black CAP's 3MV Program, this new documentary theatre piece has us encountering word-for-word accounts of discrimination, the HIV epidemic, and above all, resilience. With original spoken word poetry and interlocking episodes on family, community, school, sex, and faith, *Picasso's Black Canvas* looks to humanize a group too often understood through statistics alone.

6:00-7:00pm

Harris/MacDonald

World Café: Dynamic Conversations about Arts-based and Other Methods for Meaningful Engagement of the HIV Community in Research

This World Café focuses the conversation around a number of methods currently being explored in research. The aim of this event is to bring individuals together around common interests to engage in discussion and discover new opportunities for action. Tables will be set up by topic, and will be led by the following individuals:

Jessica Whitbread – *Tea Time as Participatory Research: Mapping Informal Networks of Women Living with HIV*

Ciann Wilson – *Let's Talk About Sex (photovoice)*

Jessica Danforth - *Native Youth Sexual Health Network – Taking Action!*

Sarah Switzer, Kamilah Apong, Andii Bykes – *Empower: Arts-based Peer Education Videos*

Tim Guimond – *Respondent Driven Sampling in Research with Gay Men – Friend or Foe?*

Angela Crawley – *Connecting HIV-HCV Co-Infected Individuals with Basic Research: Let's Talk and Help Each Other Out!*

Paul Sutton – *Policy Roundtable: Structures to Meaningfully Engage People Living with HIV in the Policy Development process*

7:00-8:30pm

Casson

Sharing Our Stories: A Celebration in Recognition of the Positive Spaces Healthy Places Peer Research Associates

By Invitation Only

To mark the end of the *Positive Spaces Healthy Places* study, we invite you to join us in celebrating the work of the Peer Research Associates. PSHP has been part of everyday life for many of us and as it comes to an end, let's remember the lives of those we have lost, commemorate our shared history, and take pride in the work we have done for the study and the community. We will merge art with story as we bring to a close this successful and transformative study.

6:00-8:00pm

Toronto I-II

Workshop: Building our HIV Intervention Evaluation Toolbox

Numerous innovative community-based HIV prevention and health promotion programs have been implemented by diverse groups across Canada. However, significant gaps exist in having meaningful and rigorous evaluative indicators to capture the true outcome and impact of these interventions. This has limited their effectiveness in knowledge transfer to inform frontline practices, program replication and policy changes.

The REACH intervention and ethno-racial working groups launched an action research project to engage four HIV prevention and health promotion intervention projects to learn from their evaluative processes in order to formulate best practices in advancing evidence-based evaluation methodologies to inform improved HIV prevention and health promotion programming and knowledge transfer strategies.

This session will consist of a series of short "ignite talk" style presentations followed by structured interactive discussion on:

- Highlights of the four HIV prevention and health promotion interventions: *Mano en Mano*, *3MV*, *Legacy* and *ETSN* peer counselor training
- Key lessons learned in the evaluation processes and data
- Cross cutting and unique domains identified for outcome and impact evaluations, such as "self-management health efficacy" and "sense of empowerment"
- Evaluative tools to measure these identified domains for outcome impact evaluation

Facilitators:

Alan Li, Primary care physician at Regent Park Community Health Centre
Barry Adam, Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology, University of Windsor Senior Scientist and Director of Prevention Research, OHTN

7:30-9:30pm

Jackman Hall, AGO

How to Survive a Plague

A Night at the Movies? HIV research owes a great debt to the community activists who lobbied for research funding and helped drive the research agenda. To acknowledge the impact the community has had and continues to have, the OHTN is pleased to sponsor a special screening of *How to Survive a Plague*: the story of two coalitions — ACT UP and TAG (Treatment Action Group). Their activism and innovation turned AIDS from a death sentence into a manageable condition by challenging community and big pharma. Come celebrate our past and contribute to our future.

Location: Jackman Hall, AGO (Art Gallery of Ontario) 317 Dundas Street West

Cost: Admission by donation. *All proceeds will go to the Friends for Life Bikerally, in Support of Toronto People With AIDS Foundation.*

Resilience is the ability to cope with stress and adversity. People living with HIV and the populations most affected by HIV have shown remarkable resilience in the face of a life-threatening illness, stigma and marginalization. As Ron Stall notes in his work on syndemics, it is concerning that one in four gay men in the U.S. who have three or more psychosocial health problems (e.g., depression, substance use, violence or abuse) reports engaging in high risk behaviour, but it is reassuring – and a sign of resilience – that three of four gay men who are coping with these complex psychosocial issues do not. There is growing evidence that resilience is the result of individuals interacting with their environments in a way that promotes well-being or protects them against the influence of risk factors. In this plenary session, panelists will discuss approaches and interventions that have the potential to empower people living with or at risk of HIV and build resilience.

Speakers:



Conall O'Cleirigh, Ph.D., Associate Director of Behavioural Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital and Research Scientist at the Fenway Institute in Boston, will talk briefly about Fenway Health's holistic approach to gay men's health and well-being, and describe his own work examining the efficacy of integrated treatment to address childhood sexual abuse-related trauma and HIV sexual risk about gay and bisexual men. O'Cleirigh's research focuses on adapting cognitive behavioral therapy for integrated treatment platforms to support HIV prevention and treatment. Dr. O'Cleirigh is also collaborating with research teams in Zimbabwe and South Africa to extend integrated HIV treatment models to address depression and adherence in resource-limited settings and with Canadian collaborators to address the intersection of anxiety, substance use and sexual risk among at-risk MSM.



Catherine Dodds, Ph.D., Lecturer in the Department of Social and Environmental Health Research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in the U.K., will discuss her prevention and intervention work with the African community in the UK, and the lessons learned about resilience that could be applied in Ontario. Dodds has been undertaking research in the field of HIV prevention for more than 13 years and specializes in tailor-made research dissemination for diverse audiences. She has extensive qualitative research experience into the interaction between social inequality and HIV prevention need among homosexually active men, and among African migrants to the UK. Catherine has led the development of key policy and planning frameworks including: *The Knowledge, The Will and The Power* (2008) and the *African HIV Prevention Handbook* (2009) for the National African HIV Prevention (NAHIP) programme. She also led Bass Line 2007, a national HIV prevention needs assessment of Africans in England.



Samuel R. Friedman, Ph.D., Director of HIV/AIDS Research at National Development and Research Institutes and Director of the Interdisciplinary Theoretical Synthesis Core in the Centre for Drug Use and HIV Research in New York, will describe his work looking at the dialectic among drug users' agency, their social environments, and "staying safe" from HIV and hepatitis C. Friedman has appointments at the Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins University, and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto. An author of about 400 publications on HIV, STI, and drug use epidemiology and prevention, Friedman engages in many international collaborative projects with the WHO MultiCentre Study of Drugs and HIV and with researchers in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, the Netherlands, Spain, Ukraine, Greece and other countries. Dr. Friedman is also a published poet who often reads his poems at HIV/AIDS conferences.



Carrielynn Lund, a Métis consultant from Gift Lake, Alberta, will discuss her work assisting Aboriginal communities to identify and address health and social issues that have a negative impact on children and families. She will also talk about her experience coordinating two resilience-based Aboriginal research projects in western Canada. Lund has a degree from the Royal Conservatory of Music and a Master's degree in Social Work. She has done extensive work in the area of health research ethics, much of which focused on Aboriginal protocols around community ethical guidelines, intellectual property rights, ownership of data, and knowledge translation. An Aboriginal person with disabilities, she also works with governments, businesses, and educational institutions to identify and remove barriers that prevent or discourage people with disabilities from full participation in community.

Moderator:



Marvelous Muchenje is currently Community Health Coordinator at Women's Health in Women's Hands CHC. She has spent the last 15 years involved in the AIDS movement starting from volunteering, providing programming support to support groups of individuals living with HIV/AIDS, and promoting HIV awareness internationally.

Sean LeBlanc, Chair, Drug User Advocacy League, Ottawa

10:00-10:15am	Research Snapshots	10:15am-12:00pm	Positive Women: Exposing the Injustice of Criminalizing HIV Non-Disclosure
<i>Toronto I-II</i>	<p>What Differences Have We Made? Developing Rigorous and Meaningful Indicators to Evaluate Program Outcome and Impact in Community-Based HIV Prevention and Health Promotion Interventions (Alan Li)</p> <p>Preliminary Findings of the Population-Specific HIV/AIDS Status Report for Youth in Canada – A Determinants of Health Perspective (Caroline Babin)</p> <p>Preparing for PrEP: Assessing the Readiness of Front-Line Service Providers for the Implementation of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for HIV Prevention (Heather Senn)</p> <p>My Substances, My Care and My Hospital Experience (Karen de Prinse)</p> <p>How is the Diagnosis Experience of People Diagnosed with HIV through the Immigration Medical Exam Different from People Diagnosed through Other Ways? (Uitsile Ndlovu)</p> <p>Moderator: Michael Wilson, McMaster University</p>	<i>Casson</i>	<p><i>Positive Women: Exposing Injustice</i> is a 45-minute documentary film that tells the personal stories of four women living with HIV in Canada – including a Quebec woman who was charged for not telling her partner that she had HIV at the beginning of an ultimately abusive relationship, a young woman who chose not to pursue charges against the man who infected her, an Aboriginal woman who has personally faced extreme stigma and threats, and a Latina woman who describes the challenges of disclosure and intimate relationships for women living with HIV. This issue could not be more timely: the case of “Diane” from Quebec, featured in <i>Positive Women</i>, was recently decided by the Supreme Court of Canada.</p> <p>Following the film, there will be a Q&A session to explore the far-reaching impact of the Supreme Court’s October 2012 decision regarding HIV non-disclosure. The discussion will address the implications of the ruling for people living with HIV, service providers and researchers.</p>
10:15-11:00am	Oral Poster Presentations: Refining Approaches to Education and Knowledge Translation & Exchange	10:15-11:05am	Wellness Session: Cessation – Smoking and Other Unwanted Habits/Addictions
<i>Toronto I-II</i>	<p>Getting the Word Out & Strengthening Community: Knowledge Transfer Exchange and Capacity Building Program for HIV/Hepatitis Co-infected Community, Frontline and Other Relevant Stakeholders (Colleen Price) (214)</p> <p>Community Peer-Based Naloxone – A Provincial Pilot (Nadia Zurba) (215)</p> <p>HIV Awareness among Gay Latino Migrants to Canada (Barry Adam) (216)</p> <p>The Use of National Youth Service Corp Members to Build AIDS Competent Communities in Rural Edo State Nigeria (Francisca Omorodion) (217)</p> <p>Exploring Lived Experience as a Catalyst for Change in HIV Medical Education (Tutsirai Makuwaza) (218)</p> <p>Evaluating CATIE’s New Mandate (Laurel Challacombe) (219)</p> <p>Stakeholder Engagement in Knowledge Translation and Exchange: The Difference ACT Research Day Makes (Lydia Makoroka) (220)</p>	<i>Varley</i>	<p>Acupuncturist Renée Pilgrim will explore the principles of the NADA acupuncture protocol – stimulation of points in the ear to aid in the curbing of habits and addictions. While most will identify with the use of this protocol in smoking cessation efforts, it is applicable much more widely and can be used by anyone looking to change behaviours or even as a general detox strategy. Practitioners will be on hand to apply the protocol to all interested session participants.</p> <p>Presenters: Renée Pilgrim and NADA Practitioners</p> <p><i>Please note there is a limit of three Wellness Sessions per conference participant.</i></p>
10:15-11:00am	Break / Networking	11:10am-12:00pm	Wellness Session: Living Within Your Means – Planning for Financial Health
		<i>Varley</i>	<p>While our individual incomes can and do vary substantially, many of us face the same planning dilemmas around how to best use our money. What should we spend on housing, on transportation, on food, on entertainment, and other expenses. What is the bare minimum we should aim to save? What should we shoot for to achieve our dreams?</p> <p>Presenter: Marian Koh, Investors Group</p> <p><i>Please note there is a limit of three Wellness Sessions per conference participant.</i></p>

11:00am-12:00pm Challenge Panel: Challenges in Hepatitis C Treatment

Governor General HCV treatment is changing rapidly. But effective treatment isn't just about the medications. It's about the challenges that people face making treatment decisions, and taking and adhering to treatment – particularly when faced with the complications of co-infection with HIV and other health issues. This panel will discuss recent developments in HCV treatment and how that treatment plays out in the real world. What are the issues people face? What strategies are providers using to support clients with hepatitis C?

Presenters:

Susan Woolhouse, Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto and Western University, Physician at the South Riverdale Community Health Centre, and founding member of the East Toronto Hepatitis C Program
Jason Altenberg, Director of Program and Services, South Riverdale Community Health Centre
Colleen Price, Chair of the CTAC Hepatitis/HIV Co-infection Working Group
Marty Behm, Co-Chair of the East Toronto Hep C Program's Patient Advisory Board and a community support worker with the program

Moderator:

Paul Sutton, Policy and Research Manager, Canadian Treatment Action Council (CTAC)



Peer Pressure: Lessons Learned about Engaging Peers in Research

Carmichael/Jackson

In addition to creating knowledge, research can engage and empower people living with HIV. Peer involvement in research is a critical component of community-based research. This session takes a closer look at the role of peer researchers, and discusses the lessons learned about how to successfully engage peers in research.

- 144 Prioritizing Community Engagement and Ownership in Developing Data Collection Tools in PROUD, an Ottawa CBPR Study (Lisa Lazarus, Sean LeBlanc)
- 145 Ripple Effects of the Tuskegee Experiment: Implementing a Peer Recruiter Strategy in a Community-Based Clinical Research Study for African & Caribbean Men (Jamie Thomas-Pavanel)
- 146 Facilitating Peer Research Associates to be HIV Champions: Experiences and Lessons Learnt from the CHAMP Study (Christian Hui, Henry Luyombya)
- 147 CHIWOS Formative Phase Focus Group Analysis: Exploring the Complexities of Peer Involvement in Women's HIV Care (Johanna Lewis, Gladys Kwaramba)

Moderator:

Cathy Worthington, University of Victoria

Decolonizing Methodologies

Tom Thomson

Scientific language and research methodologies may be a barrier to Aboriginal peoples participating in research. This session highlights decolonizing methodologies that may help Aboriginal people build on their strengths and engage in research in a way that feels authentic and communicates their experience.

- 148 N'ginaajiwimi: An Indigenous Framework for Resisting the Language of HIV in Research from a Place of Strength (Doris Peltier)
- 149 The Power of Stories: How Aboriginal Youth HIV Leaders are Taking Action! (Sarah Flicker, Jessica Danforth & Renée Monchalin)
- 150 Our Bodies Are Not Terra Nullius: Métis Voice on Connections between HIV, Health and Place (Erin Konsmo)
- 151 The Canadian Journal of Aboriginal Community-Based HIV/AIDS Research; CAAN's Peer Reviewed Journal (Marni Amirault)

Moderator:

Wanda Whitebird, Ontario Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy

Harm Reduction Strategies: Impact? Opportunities for Improvement?

Harris/MacDonald

Ontario is committed to a harm reduction approach to substance use, and wants to know what is working and what can be done better. This session discusses an evaluation of the province's IDU outreach programs, shifts in injection practices and changes in prevalence rates in Ottawa, the potential role of drug sellers in prevention programs, and harm reduction in a hospital setting.

- 180 What Can 15 Years of Data Collected Among Women and Men in Ottawa Who Inject Drugs Tell Us and How Do We Interpret It? (Lynne Leonard)
- 181 Intersection of Drug Selling and HIV Risk Behaviours (Gillian Kolla)
- 182 My Substances, My Care and My Hospital Experience (Karen de Prinse)
- 183 "Someone who thinks I matter": The Impact of Injection Drug Use Outreach Programs across Ontario (Joanne Lush)

Moderator:

Nick Boyce, Ontario HIV and Substance Use Training Program

Going Global

Lismer

Canadian researchers in partnership with researchers in other countries are helping to understand and solve global HIV issues. This session takes us beyond our borders to look at international initiatives to address stigma and risk.

- 156 Adapting a Canadian Diaspora Health Promotion Intervention Cross Culturally to Address HIV Stigma in China: Experience of an Innovative International Collaborative Research Partnership (Alan Li)
- 157 Efficacy of a Daily Web-Administered Diary as a Tool to Collect Information about Context and Sexual Risk among MSM in Shanghai, China (Sarah Jane Steele nee Taleski)
- 158 Contributing to the Effectiveness of Nationwide Roll-out of Programming to Reduce HIV Vulnerability Among Youth in Kenya (Rhulangane Mungwete)
- 159 Lessons Learned from Research with HIV+ Female Sex Workers in Kibera, a Large Informal Settlement in Nairobi, Kenya (Eric Roth)

Moderator:

Stephanie Nixon, University of Toronto

Tuesday November 13 - 12:00-1:00pm

12:00-1:00pm Lunch / Networking

Toronto I-II

Presentation of Diamond Jubilee Award to Dr. J. A. Browne

Help us celebrate the excellence, leadership, courage and dedication exemplified by honorary OHTN Board member Jay Browne. The award will be presented by Frank McGee, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, and Sean B. Rourke, Scientific and Executive Director, OHTN.

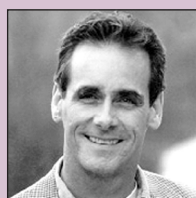


Jay Browne received his Masters in Social Work from Ohio State University and a Ph.D. in interdisciplinary studies (sociology, community health, applied psychology and adult education) from the University of Toronto (OISE). Jay was Director of Social Work at Chedoke-McMaster Hospitals and held a faculty appointment in the Department of Psychiatry at McMaster University as an Associate Professor. As the Chair of the Ontario Public Education Panel on AIDS in the 1980s, Jay was instrumental in helping the Ontario government launch a very successful prevention/education campaign. Jay was a member of the Ontario AIDS Advisory Committee and coordinator of AIDS programs for Ontario. An inspirational force in the creation of the OHTN, Jay briefly served as the OHTN's interim executive director, and continues to advise the OHTN as an honorary director.

12:00-12:45pm Presenting the Jay Browne Living Legacy Award – Celebrating Innovation in Supporting Gay-Straight Alliances

The OHTN created the Jay Browne Living Legacy Award in 2008 in recognition of Jay Browne's outstanding contribution to HIV in Ontario. This award honours those who have contributed to Ontario's response to HIV since the epidemic began. Their leadership, courage and dedication resulted in meaningful, lasting improvements in HIV awareness and prevention, in care, treatment and support for people living with HIV/AIDS, in HIV policy, and in support for the communities who have struggled and continue to struggle with the risk of HIV. The 2012 award recognizes organizations who are leaders in supporting gay-straight alliances for at-risk youth in their communities.

Dr. Charles Roy Memorial Lecture & Discussion



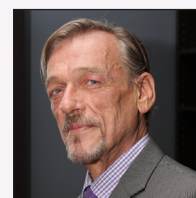
Dr. Charles Roy Charles Roy was an active advocate in the early years of the HIV epidemic, organizing the first support group at the Montreal AIDS Resource Centre and acting as the social worker at the Hemophilia Clinic of the Montreal Children's Hospital. Upon moving to Ontario, he was involved with numerous HIV organizations eventually becoming the Executive Director of the AIDS Committee of Toronto. Diagnosed with HIV in 1987, Charles played an important leadership role in the Canadian PWA movement, tirelessly advocating for the meaningful involvement of people with HIV in research and service organizations. He died of HIV-related complications in 2002 after a professional and personal life dedicated to the AIDS movement, community-based research, and social justice issues.

Tuesday November 13 - 1:00-1:30pm

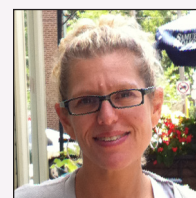
Raise the Roof: HIV, Housing and Health - Positive Spaces Healthy Places

A growing body of evidence has reinforced the critical importance of stable, affordable, appropriate housing and support services for people living with HIV. Housing is health. Housing is prevention. Housing is health care. In this plenary, members of the research team will highlight the findings of the five-year Positive Spaces Healthy Places study in Ontario, and its impact on research, the role of peers, policy, programs and services for people with HIV. They will make the case that housing is a key part of effective HIV prevention and treatment programs.

Speakers:



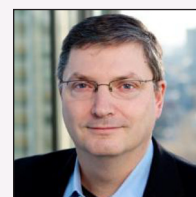
J.J. (Jay) Koornstra is Executive Director of Bruce House, a supportive housing program for people with HIV in Ottawa. Over the past 20 years, he has served on several boards and committees including: the boards of AIDS Niagara, the Canadian AIDS Society and Ontario AIDS Network; and as co-chair of an advisory committee for Ottawa Public Health's Needle Exchange Program.



Saara Greene is an Assistant Professor at the School of Social Work, McMaster University. Saara's current research focuses on the impact of housing instability and homelessness on families with children who are affected by HIV. She is particularly interested in highlighting how the intersecting issues of racism, sexism and poverty result in marginalizing HIV positive women and their children.



James Watson, Coordinator, Community-based Research, OHTN, oversees the Positive Spaces Healthy Places (PSHP) study and the Employment Change and Health Outcomes (ECHO) study. He comes to this work following experiences as a Peer Research Assistant with PSHP Phase I & II and the Sustaining Health Sustaining Housing study conducted at Fife House.



Keith Hambly, Executive Director, Fife House Foundation, is active in the AIDS service community and is currently Co-Chair of the Toronto HIV/AIDS Network and Co-Chair of the Housing Priorities working group. Keith is actively involved in research projects related to HIV and housing. He has extensive experience working in the non-profit housing sector.



Sean B. Rourke, Ph.D. is Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto, Scientific and Executive Director of the OHTN, and the Director of the CIHR Centre for REACH in HIV/AIDS since it opened in 2009.



Moderator:

Henry Luyombya, Project Coordinator, CHAMP, CAAT

1:30-2:15pm

Governor General

Challenge Panel: Criminalization - Implications of the Supreme Court Decision

In October, the Supreme Court released its decision on one of the HIV-disclosure cases. What are the legal implications of that decision? What are the implications for counselling practice and prevention programs? How do people living with HIV perceive the law and how does the current legal environment affect the decisions they make about disclosure and safer sex?

Presenters:

Barry Adam, Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology, University of Windsor Senior Scientist and Director of Prevention Research, OHTN
Richard Elliott, Executive Director, Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
Tim Guimond, St. Michael's Hospital

Moderator:

David Hoe, Chair of the Board of the Ontario HIV Treatment Network

1:30-2:45pm

Varley

Wellness Session: De-Mystifying Energetic Therapies

As we consider approaching our own wellness more and more dynamically, it is common to stumble across modalities that are intriguing but maybe not entirely clear to us. In this session we will examine the principles of energetic approaches to wellness, including Craniosacral Therapy, Reiki and yoga.

Presenters:

Anastasia Watson
Lee Pui-Ming
Piera Bonventre

1:30-2:45pm

Casson

Wellness Session: Mindfulness-Based Therapy for Front-Line Service Providers

Registration Required

Mindfulness is an evidence-based intervention that has been shown to reduce stress, anxiety, depression and distress. Mindfulness has been described as paying attention to the present moment, in a particular way and without judgment.

Presenter:

Evan Collins, Consultant Psychiatrist, Immunodeficiency Clinic, University Health Network and Past-Chair of the OHTN
Pat Rockman, Associate Professor, University of Toronto, Department of Family and Community Medicine, and Director of Education, Centre for Mindfulness Studies



Research Questions: A Critical Look at Methodologies

Carmichael/Jackson

Methodological design and data collection tools are critical to rigorous effective research. In this session, presenters discuss methodological challenges and opportunities.

- 160 “It snowed and then it rained. Can’t go out now”: Opportunities and Challenges of Using Photo-Elicitation with People Managing Advanced HIV Disease (Sarah Switzer)
- 161 Challenges and Opportunities in Using Respondent Driven Sampling to Recruit MSM for HIV Bio-behavioural Research (Jamie I. Forrest)
- 162 Conducting Online Survey Research with People Living with HIV: Lessons Learned from Piloting the HIV, Health and Rehabilitation Survey (Kelly O’Brien)

Moderator:

Ann Burchell, Director of the OCS, OHTN

Organizing AIDS Services: Then and Now

Tom Thomson

In the 30-plus years since the first Ontario AIDS service organization was formed, needs, structures and services have evolved. In this session, presenters discuss the challenges in structuring these organizations, providing services and ensuring the meaningful involvement of people with HIV/AIDS.

- 163 The Historical Development of Toronto-based AIDS Service Organizations: Factors of Growth, Formalization and Implications for the Future (Alex McClelland)
- 164 “Being Everything to Everybody” An Environmental Scan of Support Services Provided by AIDS Service Organizations (ASOs) across Ontario (Roy Cain, Joanne Lush, Alekhya Mascarenhas)
- 165 Turning To One Another Year Three Participant Meeting: Comparing Baseline to Final Year Findings, Model Input and Local Implementation Challenges (Anna Demetrakopoulos)

Moderator:

Rick Kennedy, Ontario AIDS Network

Interventions that Work

Harris/MacDonald

Effective interventions are key to preventing HIV and supporting people with or at-risk of HIV. In this session, presenters discuss interventions and the indicators that can be used to evaluate their impact.

- 166 Gay Poz Sex (GPS): Qualitative Findings of a Community-based Counselling Intervention for HIV-Positive Gay and Bisexual Men (Trevor Hart)
- 167 Promoting International Interventions that Aim to Promote Community Resilience and HIV Prevention Practices among MSM/Gay Spanish-Speaking Speaking Men in Colombia by using Evidence-Based Projects from Canada: The Mano En Mano Case Study (Gerardo Betancourt)
- 168 What Differences Have we Made? Developing Rigorous and Meaningful Indicators to Evaluate Program Outcome and Impact in Community-based HIV Prevention and Health Promotion Interventions (Alan Li, Sheila Omom)

Moderator:

Shannon Ryan, Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention

Fighting the Virus

Lismer

Science has yet to discover a cure for HIV, but it has identified ways to fight and slow the virus. This session discusses strategies to improve immunogenicity as well as the role of cellular proteins and oncolytic viruses. This work has the potential to lead to new treatments.

- 169 Enhancing Immunogenicity of HIV-1 Antigens using B-cell Immunogens (Kiera Clayton)
- 170 Interferon Induced HERC5 Restricts HIV-1 Replication by Two Novel Mechanisms (Matthew Woods)
- 171 Oncolytic Viruses as a Potential Approach to Eliminate the HIV Reservoir (Cecilia T. Costiniuk)

Moderator:

Brad Jones, Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT, and Harvard

2:15-3:00pm Break / Networking

2:15-3:00pm Oral Poster Presentations: Focus on Women and Youth

Toronto I-II

Using the Web and Social Media to Get Youth to Sex it Smart: An Innovative Condom Campaign (Julie Turcotte) (221)

“...They should understand why...” Knowledge, Perception and Impact of Criminalizing HIV on Women Living with HIV (lydia Kapiriri) (222)

Ethical and Cultural Aspects of Collecting Breast Fluid Research Samples from HIV Positive Immigrant, Refugee and non-status Women Groups (Lydia Kapiriri) (223)

Few HIV-positive Women Report Sexual Activity: An Examination of Factors that Influence Sexual Behaviours of HIV-positive Women Enrolled in the OHTN Cohort Study (Samantha Robinson) (224)

Risk Factors for Being in Discontinuous HIV Care: An Examination of Women Participating in the OHTN Cohort Study (OCS) (Lucia Light) (225)

Moderator:

Saara Greene, McMaster University

2:45-4:00pm Aboriginal Sharing Circle

Governor General

A sharing circle, or talking circle, is a traditional method that has been used by Aboriginal peoples in North America to talk about different issues that are important to the community. In this circle, participants will have an opportunity to reflect on what has been heard at the conference, identify new and important areas for further research, and identify research methods and approaches to knowledge translation and exchange that work and that respect Indigenous knowledges and approaches. Aboriginal people and people who are interested and involved in doing research with Aboriginal peoples in a respectful way are encouraged to attend.

Session Leaders:

Kerrigan Beaver, Wanda Whitebird

2:45-4:00pm Wellness Session: Mindfulness-Based Therapy for People Living with HIV

Casson

Registration Required

Mindfulness is an evidence-based intervention that has been shown to reduce stress, anxiety, depression and distress. Mindfulness has been described as paying attention to the present moment, in a particular way and without judgment.

Presenter:

Evan Collins, Consultant Psychiatrist, Immunodeficiency Clinic, University Health Network and Past-Chair of the OHTN

Pat Rockman, Associate Professor, University of Toronto, Department of Family and Community Medicine, and Director of Education, Centre for Mindfulness Studies



Roadblocks to Health and Well-being

Carmichael/Jackson

At many stages of their lives, people with HIV face roadblocks to maintaining or improving their health. In some cases, the barriers are due to lack of resources; in others, to determinants that affect their ability to live well and enjoy life. In this session, presenters discuss some of these roadblocks, including the cost of treatment and lack of transitional housing for recent immigrants or refugee claimants, barriers to employment, and barriers to physical and sexual intimacy.

- 172 “Show Me the Love:” Using Community-based Research to Understand the Barriers to Sexual Intimacy among People Living with HIV & AIDS in Guelph, Ontario (Megan DePutter)
- 173 Initial Findings of the Transitional Housing Study: The Needs of Refugee Claimants in Transitional Housing for PHAs in Ontario (Amrita Ahluwalia)
- 174 Characteristics of Patients Receiving Compassionate Supply of Antiretroviral Medications and Associated Medication Costs in a Toronto HIV Speciality Clinic (Deborah M. Yoong)
- 175 The Development of a Business Case to Support the Employment of People Living with HIV and Other Episodic Disabilities (Wendy Porch)

Moderator:

Sergio Rueda, OHTN

Finding and Closing Gaps in Care

Tom Thomson

The care needs of people living with HIV continue to evolve. How can clinical settings keep pace? How can we improve care? In this session, presenters discuss a range of strategies to close gaps in care, including training medical students, enhancing the skills of front-line workers in ASOs and rehabilitation professionals, and comparing the impact of different testing settings for recent immigrants.

- 176 Evidence-Informed Recommendations in Rehabilitation for Older Adults Living with HIV: A Knowledge Synthesis (Kelly O'Brien)
- 177 The Preclerkship HIV Elective: Continuing to Address Gaps in Health Care Education of Medical Students (Zenita Alidina, Madiha Naseem)
- 178 Getting the News: How is the Diagnosis Experience of People Diagnosed with HIV through the Immigration Medical Exam Different from those Diagnosed through Other Means? (Maureen Owino)
- 179 Preparing for PrEP: Assessing the Readiness of Front-line Service Providers for the Implementation of Pre-exposure Prophylaxis for HIV Prevention (Heather Senn)
- 188 Testing the Limits: Lessons Learned from a Prison-Based HIV Rapid Point-Of-Care Testing Pilot Program (Adam Higeli, Sue Gallaher)

Moderator:

Anita Rachlis, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

Reducing Risks for Youth

Harris/MacDonald

Complex factors affect youths' risk of engaging in risk behaviours and acquiring sexually transmitted diseases and/or bloodborne infections. In this session, presenters discuss a range of risk factors, including childhood sexual abuse, crack use and social determinants of health – as well as strategies, such as tension reduction activities, access to safer smoking equipment and social media, to help youth reduce or manage risk.

- 152 Childhood Sexual Abuse and Sex Trading Among Homeless Youth in Canada: The Mediating Roles of Emotional Dysregulation and Tension Reduction Activities (Trevor A. Hart)
- 153 Preliminary Findings of the Population-Specific HIV/AIDS Status Report for Youth and Youth at-Risk in Canada – A Determinants of Health Perspective (Caroline Babin)
- 154 Learning from the Voices of Youth: A Participatory Research Study Exploring the HIV and Hepatitis C Prevention Needs of Youth Who Smoke Crack (Karen White-Jones)
- 155 The Use of Social Media to Address Youth Sexually Transmitted Infections. Do People Really Download an Online Form To Get Tested? An Evaluation of Year 1 of the “GET TESTED. WHY NOT?” Campaign. (Zhaida Uddin)

Moderator:

Robb Travers, Wilfrid Laurier University

HIV Ups its Game

Lismer

HIV attacks the body in many ways, making it extremely difficult to find vaccines or cures or effective ways to fight back. This session presents new evidence about the impact of the virus on mucosal inflammation, immune function and the production of regulatory B cells.

- 184 Functional Dysregulation of Mucosal Th17 Cells During HIV Infection and Treatment is Associated with Microbial Translocation and Immune Activation (Connie J. Kim)
- 185 In Vitro HIV Infection Reduces IL-17 Production by Human Th17 Cells (Jason Fernandes)
- 186 HIV Inhibits LPS-induced IL-23 and IL-27 Production through Decreased Activation of the p38 and JNK MAPK Pathways in Human Macrophages (Shifawn O'Hara)
- 187 Regulatory B Cells are Induced in Untreated HIV-1 Infection and Suppress HIV-1 Specific T Cell Responses (Jun Liu)

Moderator:

Mario Ostrowski, University of Toronto

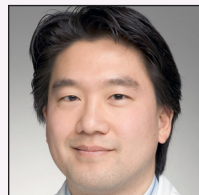
Living Longer = Living Well? Aging with HIV

Tuesday November 13 - 4:00-5:30pm

Thanks to highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), people with HIV are now living much longer. But aging with HIV is not without its challenges. In addition to the normal aging process, people aging with HIV face complications associated with the virus, side effects of treatment and high rates of comorbidities with conditions such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, renal disease, arthritis and osteoporosis.

Ontario is watching the greying of HIV. Almost half the people who use the support services of community-based AIDS service organizations are over the age of 40, and 45% of new HIV diagnoses in 2011 involved people over the age of 40. What are the physical, social and mental health challenges of being older with HIV? What are the key concerns of people aging with HIV? What services do they need? What should service providers be doing differently to help people stay healthy and active into old age? In this plenary session, panelists will discuss some of the challenges of aging with HIV as well as strategies to support people as they age.

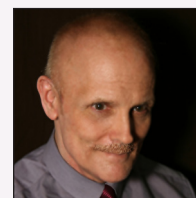
Speakers:



Michael Yin, M.D., M.S., Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Columbia University Medical Center in New York, will discuss his work on bone health and other metabolic complications in people with HIV, including the effects of menopause on bone and muscle outcomes in women. In the Women's Interagency HIV study, Dr. Yin's primary research focus is on the metabolic complications of HIV infection and antiretroviral therapy. As a member of the Bone and Metabolic Working Groups for the WIHS, Veterans Aging Cohort Study (VACS) and AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG), Dr. Yin is involved in other studies on bone metabolism, fracture, and other metabolic complications in HIV-infected individuals.



Lisa Power, MBE, Policy Director at the Terrence Higgins Trust in the U.K., will present the findings of their 50+ study, including the challenges that older people with HIV face related to work, money, housing, physical and mental health care needs, sexual health and lifestyle issues and discrimination. She will also describe how the Terrence Higgins Trust is changing its services to meet these emerging needs. Power developed the organization's work on HIV treatments and with African communities in the U.K. In 1999 she established a team to manage THT's high profile policy and campaigning work. Their publications include research into aging and HIV, stigma and discrimination, experiences of living with HIV and a range of policy booklets and briefings. She is also responsible for THT's membership and for the involvement of people with HIV within THT.

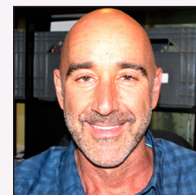


Stephen Karpiak, Ph.D., Associate Director for Research at the AIDS Community Research Initiative of America (ACRIA), and on faculty at New York University, will discuss ROAH (Research on Aging and HIV), a study of 1000 people in New York City aging with HIV. ACRIA's recent research includes studies of service utilization, social support needs and the AIDS community's fragile social networks. He will describe ongoing research at ACRIA, which is assessing the MacArthur Foundation Initiative on Depression that uses a telephone intervention to reduce depression in a sample of older adults with HIV. Karpiak has been involved in HIV since 1995. As Executive Director for Pride Senior Network, which advocated for and did research on the aging LGBT community in New York City, he contributed to a White House Meeting on HIV and Aging in 2010 and to national programs developed by the U.S. Agency on Aging.



David Brennan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto, will discuss recent results examining older adults living with HIV in Ontario and enrolled in the OHTN Cohort Study. He will present on HIV stigma and mental health quality of life among older adults in the sample, as well as comparisons of these two outcomes between older adults and other age cohorts. Brennan has been a clinical social worker in the HIV/AIDS and health care field since 1983. His research focuses on: the health and well-being of marginalized gay, bisexual, two-spirit and other men who have sex with men; body image, eating attitudes and behaviors among queer men, particularly racialized queer men in Toronto; the psychosocial needs of older adults living with HIV; and the impact of several factors on HIV risk for gay and bisexual men including histories of childhood sexual abuse, optimistic beliefs about HIV treatment and the roles of intimacy and pleasure in sexual risk behavior.

Moderators:



Duncan MacLachlan, who has been living with HIV for more than twenty-five years, brings two decades of community development experience. Duncan is a community based researcher, a CIHR-Universities Without Walls Fellow and the Manager of Community Health Programs for the AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT).



Doris Peltier is an Aboriginal HIV-positive woman who has been involved in HIV/AIDS activism within the Aboriginal community at the regional, national and (more recently) international level with the International Indigenous Working Group on HIV/AIDS. She has served on the Board of Directors for the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network filling her current role of Aboriginal Women and Leadership Project Coordinator as well as APHA Advocate.

Schedule

Tuesday November 13

5:30-6:00pm
Toronto I-II

Conference Closing and Rapporteur Session: Cyber Digest – Universities Without Walls 4.0 Fellows present the OHTN Conference in 30 Minutes

Closing remarks from the Chair of the OHTN Board, David Hoe, and conference Co-Chairs, Lynne Leonard and Art Zoccole.

Watch in real-time as UWW Fellows consolidate and ratify their conference summary document in a synchronous online environment.



OHTN Board of Directors

The OHTN is governed by a Board of Directors selected from the following stakeholder groups: Community Members (People Living with HIV and/or Community-Based Service Providers) selected by the Ontario AIDS Network; HIV Primary Care Physicians selected by the Primary Care Physicians Groups in Toronto and Ottawa; HIV Health Care Providers selected by the Ontario HIV Outpatient Clinic Directors and Coordinators Group; Researchers selected by the Canadian Association for HIV Research Ontario; and representatives from Ontario's Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ontario AIDS Network also sit on the Board as non-voting members. At least four members of the board are to be People Living with HIV.

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Special Thanks

The OHTN would like to extend a special thank you to the reviewers responsible for evaluating the abstracts submitted to this year's conference:

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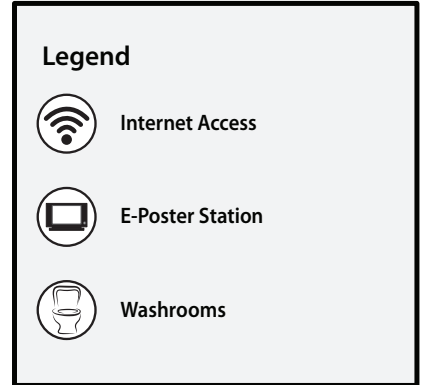
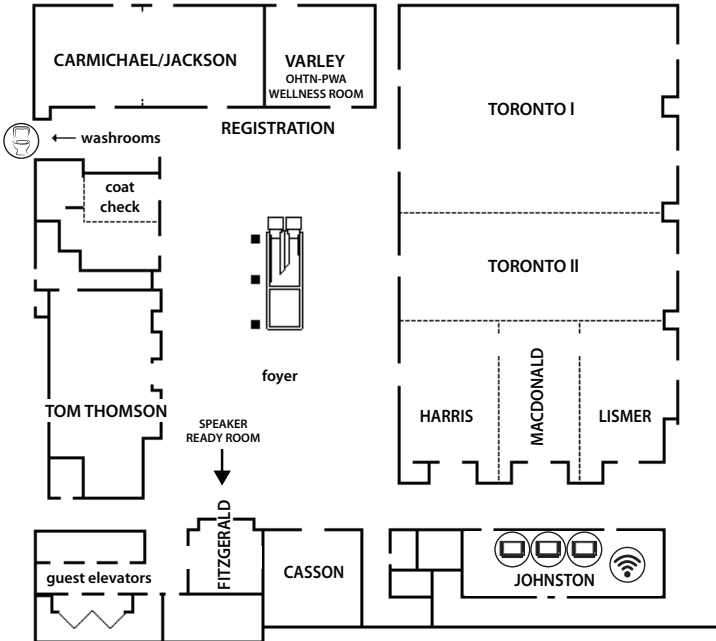
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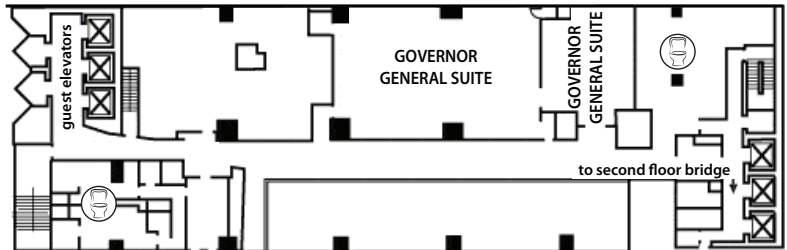
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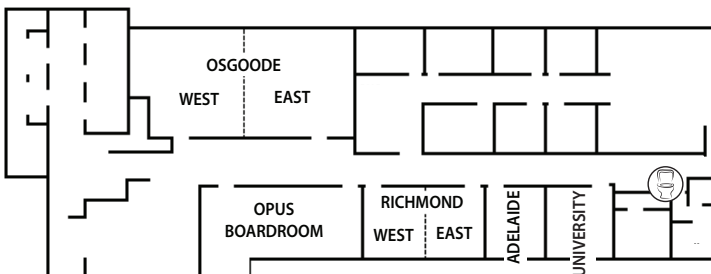
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