



Speaker Biographies

Sharon Walmsley, MD, is the Director of the Immunodeficiency Clinic and HIV Clinical Research at Toronto General Hospital, University Health Network and a Professor, University of Toronto, Department of Medicine. She is a Senior Scientist at the Toronto General Hospital Research Institute and the Co-Chair of the CIHR- Canadian HIV Trials Network. She is actively involved in the design and conduct of many clinical trials, including trials in HIV therapy, prophylaxis and treatment of opportunistic infections, and management of the complications of treatment. She has been an advocate of gender specific analysis of clinical trials of antiretroviral therapy. Her current research is towards a better understanding of the interaction between HIV and aging. She is an expert in issues related to women's health and HIV. She holds numerous peer-reviewed publications and research awards related to clinical trials in HIV. She is the recipient of a Chair in HIV Clinical Management and Aging from the Ontario HIV Treatment Network. In June 2017, she was appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada for my contributions in HIV Research.

Kate Murzin, MPH, is the National Program Manager at Realize, a charitable organization committed to fostering optimal well-being for people living with HIV and other episodic disabilities. The research, education, policy, and practice change activities in which she engages are focused on the health and well-being of aging and older adults living with or vulnerable to HIV. Realize provides secretariat support to the National Coordinating Committee on HIV and Aging and Kate works closely with its diverse stakeholders, including older adults living with HIV, to effect change. She is the co-Principal Investigator on the PANACHE (Preferences And Needs for Aging Care among HIV-positive Elderly people) study, a community-based participatory research project.

Isabelle Wallach is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sexology at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) and a researcher affiliated with the Centre for Research and Expertise in Social Gerontology (CREGES), as well as the Research Chair on Sexual Diversity and Gender Plurality at UQAM. After a doctorate in ethnology at Paris7-Denis Diderot University in the field of HIV, she did a post-doctorate at CREGES where she became interested in HIV and aging. Specializing in the field of sexuality and aging, her research focuses on the perceptions of appearance and intimate life of heterosexual and lesbian older women, the use of sexopharmaceuticals and the sex life of older heterosexual and gay men, and more recently, the recognition of the sexuality of the elderly in the context of palliative care.

Patience Magagula is the current Executive Director and Co-founder of ACPNet BC, which started in November 2009. She has actively worked with refugees and immigrants from South of the Sahara, where she has successfully accepted, inspired, and involved, the racialized persons from Africa. She is a voice for the voiceless as she pursues their cause. As an advocate, her sense of social justice with a knowledge of the sub-Saharan African women's social terrain is combined with a sense of compassion and ambition that stimulates others to carry on the development work with her. She is a woman of so many hats. Patience is a known health educator who has given series of health promotion talks on socio structural challenges that act as barriers to ACB community. She is a Peer Research Associate (PRA) at BCCfE. As she facilitates community health education, she makes sure that the PRA is part of her educational approaches. She is engaged in a number of research teams across Canada. She has numerous lived experiences with stigma and discrimination from living open and positively with HIV. She says, "the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS cannot deter me but push me on to go into my community to find marginalized women in hiding so that disparities they face are reduced". Patience loves God, without God she is nothing.

I, **Claudette Cardinal**, identify as a Cree Indigenous woman and have significant experience in HIV, mental health, and Indigenous focused research initiatives. My familiarity with Indigenous knowledge and worldviews allows me to be an exceptional Peer Research Associate for all projects I am involved in, as I share my experiences and ensure that research is done mindfully and in a good way. When I am involved in research, I draw my strength and perseverance from the different modes of cultural teachings that I carry. I aim to keep learning about culture, to share what I have already learned, and to encourage others to be curious and to bring love to their work. My experiences include working as an Indigenous Peer Research Associate, a member of the International Community of Women Living with HIV–North America and collaborating with various organizations, including: the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, The Centre for Gender and Sexual Health Equity, THRIVE, COAST and the Canadian HIV Observational Cohort (CANOC), among others. I am currently involved in many research projects focused on Indigenous peoples living with HIV/AIDS and am passionate about the relationships between community and researchers, and how to develop meaningful ones in a good way. I am dedicated to bringing like-minded individuals together to share their her/histories and to honour all on a path of allyship. “Culture is within me. Culture is me. I am Culture.”

Dr. Surita Parashar (she/her) is a Research Scientist with the Division of Epidemiology and Population Health at the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, and an Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University. Surita’s program of research is grounded in strong community-academic collaborations, a commitment to capacity bridging, and strengths-based approaches to understanding and addressing social-structural factors that shape health inequities amongst people living with HIV. Surita is privileged to work with, and learn from, Peer Research Associates in all of the community-driven research projects in which she is involved. Surita has ancestral roots in India and is an honoured guest on the lands of the Coast Salish Peoples, the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish) and mi ce:p k^wətx^wiləm (Tsleil-Waututh). She is constantly working to practice allyship in a Good Way. Most of all, Surita is a tired and proud mom of a spirited toddler.

Dr. Samir Sinha is the Director of Geriatrics at Sinai Health System and the University Health Network in Toronto and a Professor of Medicine at the University of Toronto and the Director of Health Policy Research at Ryerson University’s National Institute on Ageing. A Rhodes Scholar, Samir is a highly regarded clinician and international expert in the care of older adults. He was recently appointed to serve as a member of the Government of Canada’s National Seniors Council and is also leading the development of new National Long-Term Care Standards for Canada.

Nancy Mayo is a James McGill Professor in the Department of Medicine (Divisions of Geriatrics, Experimental Medicine, and Clinical Epidemiology) and the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy (SPOT), McGill University. She is also Research Scientist at the McGill University Hospital Center Research Institute where she heads a research program on Function, Disability and Quality of Life in Canada’s Vulnerable Populations. Trained originally as a Physical Therapist, Dr. Mayo holds a PhD in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. She is one of the Principal Investigators in the Brain Health Now and Action for Brain Health cohorts where she has conducted research on quality of life, frailty, and successful aging and has developed measures of cognition, cognitive reserve, cardiovascular risk, and health-related quality of life.

Dr Mohammad-Ali Jenabian earned his D.V.M. degree in Veterinary Medicine in 2003 at the Karaj University, Iran. Then, he began his Ph.D. studies in Virology (2005-2009) at Pierre and Marie Curie University in Paris. During his first postdoctoral fellowship (2009-2011), he furthered his expertise in Viral Immunology at the Mondor Institute for Biomedical Research in Paris. He performed a second postdoctoral fellowship at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (2011-2014) in Clinical Immunology. He joined the Department of Biological Sciences of the Faculty of Sciences, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) in 2014 as an Assistant Professor in Virology and Immunology and became an Associate Professor with tenure in 2018. Dr Jenabian currently holds the Canada Research Chair in Immuno-Virology.

Dr. Jacqueline McMillan is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Geriatric Medicine at the University of Calgary. Prior to joining the University of Calgary, she completed medical school at the University of British Columbia, followed by Internal Medicine and Geriatric Medicine specialty training at the University of Calgary. She has completed a Master of Community Health Sciences at the University of Calgary with a focus on Frailty in older adults living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Her clinical and research interests include frailty, polypharmacy, osteoporosis, falls, cognitive decline and psychosocial determinants of health in older adults living with HIV. She is a member of the Canadian HIV-Aging Multidisciplinary Programmatic Strategy (CHAMPS) in NeuroHIV and has joined the Southern Alberta Clinic (SAC) to provide clinical care for the increasing numbers of patients over 50 years of age. Dr. McMillan has implemented clinical tools of frailty into clinic care for over 600 older patients at Southern Alberta Clinic.

Trevor Stratton is a 56-year-old, two-spirit citizen of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation near Toronto with mixed English and Ojibwe heritage. Diagnosed with HIV in 1990, he is the Coordinator for the International Indigenous Working Group on HIV & AIDS (IIWGHA) for its host organization, CAAN, now known as Communities, Alliances and Networks. Trevor also works as Executive Directors of the International Indigenous HIV & AIDS Community (IIHAC). Trevor is the President of the Board of 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations in Toronto and also a Board member of the Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange (CATIE).

Dr. Sheila Boamah is an Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing at McMaster University. Her clinical background and expertise is in critical care, and her research foci include leadership in health system transformation and innovation, and quality and outcomes of underserved populations. Dr. Boamah's work draws attention to the need for person-centered approaches to health care delivery and effective measures to enhance community-based health and social services for vulnerable and marginalized populations.

Dr Lawrence Mbuagbaw (MD, MPH, PhD) is an associate professor at McMaster University; associate professor extraordinary of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Stellenbosch University; and research methods scientist in the Research Institute of St Joseph's Health Care Hamilton (SJHH) where he provides methodological and statistical support for other researchers as the Director of the Biostatistics Unit. This includes research questions formulation, study design, data analysis and reporting.

Loulou Chayama (she/her) is a Qualitative Research Coordinator at the British Columbia Centre on Substance Use (BCCSU). In her role at the BCCSU, she coordinates an NIH-funded research project exploring the social, structural, and environmental factors that shape HIV prevention, treatment, and care among people who use drugs in Vancouver. Loulou is also a PhD student at the University of British Columbia. Her doctoral work explores how neighborhood displacement shapes the health of people living with HIV (PLHIV) in Vancouver. She holds a Master of Science in Global Health Sciences from the University of California, San Francisco, where she was involved with research on food support programs for PLHIV in San Francisco. Outside of work and school, she enjoys tenant organizing and reading graphic novels.

Leo Rutherford is a trans activist, and PhD candidate currently studying at the University of Victoria, on the traditional territory of the lək̓ʷəŋən peoples. Leo's work is focused on transgender health and gender-affirming care. He has worked on a number of research projects, including as a Research assistant for TransPulse Canada, and a Mitacs fellow for the Community-Based Research Centre's Sex Now project. Leo's dissertation is entitled PROGRESS (Patient-Reported Outcomes of Genital Reconstruction and Experiences of Surgical Satisfaction) for metoidioplasty and phalloplasty. This research project, led by trans community members and patients is innovative and will create invaluable knowledge for the trans community about these surgeries. For future updates and to learn more about the survey when it launches, bookmark progresscolab.net. Leo's work is supported by CIHR's Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research Transition to Leadership award.

Nathan Lachowsky (he, him, his) is a settler researcher and uninvited guest on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen peoples. He is Associate Professor in the School of Public Health and Social Policy at the University of Victoria and a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar. He also serves as Research Director for the national Community-Based Research Centre Society (www.cbrc.net). Championing interdisciplinary and community-based approaches, he has conducted population health research with sexual and gender minoritized communities across Canada and Aotearoa New Zealand. Nathan's research focuses on social and behavioural epidemiology and the importance of developing and analyzing mixed methods data to inform public health practice, health service provision, interventions, and policy. He conducts interdisciplinary research within a social justice framework in order to achieve health equity for marginalized communities.

Elizabeth King is a CTN fellow and Michael Smith trainee investigating the menopause experience in women living with HIV across Canada under the supervision of Drs. Melanie Murray and Mona Loutfy. She is an Infectious Diseases specialist having received her specialty training in Internal Medicine and subspecialty training in Infectious Diseases at UBC. She has a background of BSc in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Northern British Columbia. Her research and clinical interests are to better understand the implications of HIV on women's reproductive health.

Hannah Kia is an Assistant Professor at the University of British Columbia's School of Social Work. Her current program of research addresses a variety of issues pertaining to sexual and gender minority (SGM) populations. Hannah's work centres, in particular, questions related to SGM health, aging in SGM communities, as well as social work and other professional practice with SGM groups. Before arriving at the UBC School of Social Work, Hannah completed her doctoral training at the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health, where she investigated older gay men's healthcare experiences. This study was funded by a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) doctoral research award. Prior to starting her academic career, Hannah practiced as a social worker in healthcare settings.