



**2009 Pacific Regional
Educational Conference**
Vancouver Airport Marriott
7571 Westminister Highway
Richmond, B.C.

October 27, 2009

19:00 | PAN PHA Forum

DAY 1 – October 28, 2009

8:00 | Breakfast and registration

8:45 | **Opening Prayer**
Elder Eugene Harry

Welcome
Conference Co-Chairs: Darren Lauscher (Vancouver Friends For Life Society) and Tsitsi Watt (CATIE)

9:00 | **Plenary: HIV and Mental Health**

Provincial Needs Assessment: "Trap Doors, Revolving Doors: A Mental Health and HIV/AIDS Needs Assessment"

Carlene Dingwall

Moderator: Co-Chair

10:00 | Break

10:30 | **Panel Presentation: HIV and Mental Health**

- Carlene Dingwall (Author of "Trap Doors, Revolving Doors: A Mental Health and HIV/AIDS Needs Assessment")
- Rosalind Baltzer-Turje (Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation)
- Janice Duddy (Provincial Health Services Authority)
- Ciro Panessa (Ministry of Healthy Living & Sport)
- Dr. Bill MacEwan (Psychiatrist, St. Paul's Hospital)

Moderator: Carlene Dingwall

12:00 | Lunch and PAN AGM

13:30	<p>Panel Presentation: IDU and Harm Reduction</p> <p>Introduction by Sheena Campbell (Vancouver Coastal Health)</p> <p>Innovative HR Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suzy Coulter (MAT Program, Vancouver Coastal Health) • Linda Keefe (Prince George Needle Exchange, Northern Health) • Erin Gibson (AIDS Vancouver Island) • Alex Sherstobitoff (ANKORS) <p>Moderator: Sheena Campbell</p>
15:00	<p>CATIE Special Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CATIE Ordering Centre and Other Services for Front-Line Organizations Melisa Dickie (CATIE) • Your Introduction to <i>the Programming Connection: Shared experience. Stronger programs</i> Christine Johnston (CATIE)
15:30	Break
15:45 – 17:45	<p>Building a PAN/Collective Response to Health Authority Funding Cuts</p> <p>Jennifer Evin Jones (ED PAN)</p>
18:00	Social Event

DAY 2 – October 29, 2009

8:00	Breakfast	
9:00	Plenary: PHAC Status Reports Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jackie Arthur (Public Health Agency of Canada) Clare Jackson (Public Health Agency of Canada) <p>Moderator: Co-Chair</p>	
10:30	Break	
11:00	Concurrent Breakout Sessions	
	<p><i>Gay Men and MSM Track</i></p> <p>PHAC Status Report Jackie Arthur (PHAC)</p> <p>National Gay Men's Health Forum Ed Jackson (CATIE)</p> <p>Provincial Perspective Mark Gilbert (BC Centre for Disease Control)</p> <p>Moderator: Moffatt Clarke</p>	<p><i>Aboriginal Track</i></p> <p>PHAC Status Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clare Jackson (PHAC) Christine Dockman (PHAC) <p>Renewing our Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Evan Adams (Aboriginal Health Physician Advisor – Office of the Provincial Health Officer) Melanie Rivers (Cheek Mamuk – BC Centre for Disease Control) <p>Moderator: Ken Buchanan</p>
12:30	Lunch	
13:30	Concurrent Panel Sessions	
	<p>Gay Men and MSM Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Captain Snowdon (Men's Wellness Program, AIDS Vancouver Island) Daryle Roberts (Living Positive Resource Centre) Carl Bognar (Health Initiative for Men) Elgin Lim (BC Persons with AIDS Society) <p>Moderator: Terry Howard</p>	<p>Aboriginal Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephanie Grant (YouthCO AIDS Society) Melanie Rivers (Cheek Mamuk – BC Centre for Disease Control) Vanessa West (Positive Living North) Doreen Littlejohn (Vancouver Native Health Society) <p>Moderator: Jessica Yee</p>

14:45	Break	
15:00	Concurrent Facilitated Discussions	
	Gay Men and MSM Track Moderator: Ed Jackson	Aboriginal Track Moderator: Jessica Yee
15:45	Rapporteur Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terry Howard (BC Persons with AIDS Society) • Jessica Yee (Native Youth Sexual Health Network) Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennifer Evin Jones (Executive Director, Pacific AIDS Network) • Laurie Edmiston (Executive Director, CATIE) • Conference Co-Chairs: Darren Lauscher (Vancouver Friends For Life Society) and Tsitsi Watt (CATIE) Closing Prayer Elder Eugene Harry	



2009 Pacific Regional Educational Conference

Vancouver Airport Marriott
7571 Westminster Highway
Richmond, B.C.

Speaker Biographies

During the past decade, **Alex Sherstobitoff** has provided Harm Reduction & Outreach program services for ANKORS (AIDS Network, Outreach & Support Society). ANKORS H.R.O. provides a regional service that stretches approximately 25,000 sq km throughout 16 plus rural communities. A highlight of the program is for people who are at risk of transmitting blood borne pathogens or perishing of an overdose to have easy and non-judgmental access to Harm Reduction Services in isolated rural areas of the West Kootenay/Boundary area. Through the evolution of the H.R.O. program, the real heroes of the program are the people accessing H.R.O. services. People who use drugs have taken the initiative to network with their peers to help reduce the harms associated with the use of drugs. In the West Kootenay & Boundary area, travel is a barrier and in the smaller rural areas stigma tends to be more deeply entrenched in core communities.

Christine Johnston is the Coordinator, Community Prevention Programs at CATIE. She leads the development and management of the Programming Connection, a new front-line program development- and delivery-focused knowledge exchange (KE) initiative for service providers. Prior to her role at CATIE, Christie worked on a number of community-based research and KE projects at the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN), AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT) and in South Africa, and acted as Volunteer Program Coordinator for the AIDS 2006 Local Host Secretariat.

Ciro Panessa currently works for the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport in Population and Public Health as the Director of Blood Borne Pathogens. His work involves aligning Blood Borne Pathogen policy with provincial strategic directions, supporting evidence based practice, building relationships, ensuring health system accountability and supporting positive health system structure and culture changes. In addition, he is currently an adjunct professor in the UBC School of Nursing where he occasionally teaches about Viral Hepatitis and pursues research interests in the area of behaviour change as it pertains to problematic substance use.

Clare Jackson is a policy analyst with the HIV/AIDS Policy, Coordination and Programs Division, Public Health Agency of Canada. She holds a Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management from Carleton University. Clare has worked for the federal government since 2005, in Health Canada's First Nations and Inuit Health Branch and presently at the Public Health Agency of Canada. Currently, her main project is the development and dissemination of the Population-Specific HIV/AIDS Status Report: Aboriginal Peoples.

Darren Lauscher brings a diverse portfolio to the Pacific AIDS Network table. His experience ranges from the hospitality industry and the brokerage world, to special events planning. Darren is a fitness enthusiast and is part of the Ultra-Marathon running community and loves being on the trails with friends. Darren is currently Chair on the Vancouver Friends For Life Society Board. His past long-time volunteerism at The Canadian Liver Foundation combined with the many hats he has worn at FFL, makes him an invaluable resource as the Vice-Chair of the Pacific AIDS Network. *"Acquire the attitude of gratitude and watch it expand; plain and simple, thoughts expand."*

Daryle Roberts is a gay man and currently the Executive Director of the Living Positive Resource Centre, in Kelowna, in the interior of British Columbia, Canada. The coverage area of the agency is approximately 48,000 sq. kilometers, which proves to be a challenge to deliver services to the entire region. The agency works with clients those living with and those affected by HIV/AIDS to establish a partnership relationship with their Doctor so that they can ask questions and get answers about their care and treatment. Daryle has been a leader in working to promote "Social Policy" issues in the Central and South Okanagan. Daryle became involved in this work firstly when he lost his partner in 1991 and felt that he needed to work to make it better for those that followed him.

Doreen Littlejohn, RN, has been the Nurse Coordinator of the Positive Outlook Program (POP) at the Vancouver Native Health Society (VNHS) since 1997. Doreen also has a private Nurse Counselling Practice with Chaldecott Medical Clinic. Doreen is passionate about making a difference in the lives of those who have no voice. Her dream of nursing in developing countries was unexpectedly realized in her own backyard. Vancouver is one of the richest cities in the world, but is also home to one of the most marginalized populations in Canada. The people of the Downtown Eastside (DTES) are very often homeless, poor, infected with HIV/HEP C, drug addicted, mentally ill, and far too often die on the streets. Doreen was instrumental in establishing the Positive Outlook Program at VNHS, which is a community-based, grassroots HIV/AIDS model that emphasizes multidisciplinary care to link clients with primary and specialized health care at health services in the neighbourhood. A core component of the program is informed by Aboriginal philosophies of health and well being, emphasizing holistic health by combining spiritual, traditional, mental, and emotional needs with the physical. It accounts for the specific socio-cultural context that shape participants' lives in the DTES, working to meet their needs for innovative interventions. Doreen has been given the greatest honour from her staff; an Ojibway name "Kanatamgate", meaning one who fights for the rights of others.

Ed Jackson has had a long history of involvement with LGBT and HIV/AIDS community organizing in Toronto, beginning in the Paleolithic period as an editor of the early gay liberation journal *The Body Politic*. He helped give direction to HIV prevention in Canada in the formative years as director of community education at the AIDS Committee of Toronto. During that time he developed some of the earliest prevention programming and research initiatives in Toronto targeting gay men. After a ten-year break in the corporate world of educational publishing, he returned to HIV work two years ago as the Director of Program Development at CATIE.

Erin Gibson works at AIDS Vancouver Island in Victoria managing AVI's harm reduction distribution program, Street Outreach Services. She also facilitates a Harm Reduction and Peer Education program in Victoria's men's Provincial Correctional Centre. Erin's time in the harm reduction field began through volunteerism 10 years ago, quickly evolving into a fulltime endeavor. She has a passion for social justice, health rights, drug law, and drug policy. She is an Interdisciplinary Masters student at the University of Victoria with a focus on the health and rights of people using currently illicit drugs.

Dr. Evan Adams is a Coast Salish actor and physician from the Sliammon Band near Powell River, BC, Canada. Evan has completed 3 years of pre-med studies at the University of British Columbia (UBC), a Medical Doctorate from the University of Calgary in 2002, and a Family Practice residency (as Chief Resident) in the Aboriginal Family Practice program at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver, BC. He is the 2005 winner of the (provincial) Family Medicine Resident Leadership Award from the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC), and the 2005 national winner of the Murray Stalker Award from the CFPC Research and Education Foundation. He is the past-President of the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada, and is currently the Director of the Division of Aboriginal Peoples' Health, UBC Department of Family Practice. He is an MPH candidate with the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health while working with the Office of the Provincial Health Officer. Evan is also an accomplished actor.

Jackie Arthur has been working in the field of HIV/AIDS for 15 years, previously as a front-line public health nurse and currently as the acting manager of the Populations Section within the Public Health Agency of Canada's HIV/AIDS Policy, Coordination and Programs Division. Jackie has extensive experience in health promotion, disease prevention and harm reduction programming.

Janice Duddy has worked on issues relating to HIV/AIDS for nearly 10 years. Currently, she is the Manager of the HIV/AIDS Program at the Provincial Health Services Authority. Prior to her work with the health authority, Janice completed her Masters degree in Environmental Studies from York University. Her Master focused on gender and development, HIV and participatory approaches and through this, she had the opportunity to work with women sex workers in the Downtown Eastside.

Jeff Reinhart is an Educator at CATIE with a focus on hepatitis C. While completing his Bachelors degree in Psychology, he started working in community development in Calgary, Alberta, with a focus in crisis intervention and sexual health before moving to Toronto. He has frontline experience with income maintenance programs in Ontario and the cycle of poverty that often exists in downtown Toronto. Currently, he coordinates CATIE's Hepatitis C program and has been involved with the development of its toolkit and website since the start of the project in 2007.

Jessica Yee is a 23 year old Two Spirited young woman from the Mohawk Nation. She is the founder and Executive Director of the Native Youth Sexual Health Network, a North America wide organization working on issues of healthy sexuality, reproductive justice, cultural competency, and youth empowerment. Her health research centres around empowering youth as researchers in the areas of sexual health promotion, decolonization, and reclaiming traditional knowledge. Jessica is a strong believer in the power of the youth voice, and you can see her activism up on sites like Indian Country Today, the CNN syndicated Racialicious, or pick up her recently released book "Sex Ed and Youth: Colonization, Communities of Colour, and Sexuality". She is the 2009 recipient of the YWCA Young Woman of Distinction, a 2009 Role Model for the National Aboriginal Health Organization, and was named one of 20 International Women's Health Heroes by Our Bodies/Our Blog.

Liam "Captain" Snowdon has been the Co-ordinator of Gay Men's Community Development since 2005. He is recently back from San Francisco where he completed his Doctorate in Sexology. He is currently interested in a number of topics relating to queer men's health including, sex and erotic workers developing prevention campaigns, peer support and training, support for acutely infected folks in rural areas, and conversations about the intersections of queer HIV positive men and transgender men on the topic of disclosure.

Linda Keefe started in Public Health nursing in 1984 and has had a long-standing passion for social justice issues. In Public Health, she was able to integrate the social justice interest with communicable disease work, particularly in the areas that encompass sexual/reproductive health in vulnerable/marginalized populations. This eventually led to working to develop and manage the PG needle exchange from 1991-current. The needle exchange work has provided a venue that combined both personal and professional objectives. As the mother of two young men, and the grandmother of a grandson, Linda feels any work that is done to challenge/intervene in transmission of diseases such as HIV/HCV, is a benefit to not only her clients, but also to her community and family. Linda takes this work, and its outcomes, in a very personal way, and always strives to ensure that "the end she's working towards would be one that she would want for a member of her own family or friend."

Dr. Mark Gilbert received his medical degree from the University of Ottawa in 2000, and his subsequent Masters degree in Health Sciences and fellowship in community medicine from UBC. As a field epidemiologist with the Public Health Agency of Canada in 2005, Dr. Gilbert was a lead investigator on collaborative research study titled "Prevalence of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) Colonization among Marginalized Urban Populations in Calgary." Prior to coming to work at BCCDC, he was a Medical Health Officer specializing in communicable diseases for the Vancouver Island Health Authority. His research interests include communicable diseases and gay men's health.

Melanie Rivers is the Program Manager for Chee Mamuk, a provincial Aboriginal Program at the BC Centre for Disease Control. Melanie has provided leadership in culturally appropriate HIV and sexually transmitted infection education in BC for the past eleven years. Melanie received her Bachelors of Arts in anthropology and psychology from the University of Victoria in 1995. Melanie works with a holistic and community-based approach sharing information and ideas in hopes of inspiring people to reduce harm to themselves, gain compassion for people living with HIV, and create sustainable prevention programming. Melanie is interested in seeing communities utilize their strengths to build healthy communities. Melanie has coordinated innovative projects such as the production of "The Gathering Tree" which is a culturally relevant book for children to learn about HIV and how a community can support a family member living with HIV. Melanie has coordinated positive sexual health campaigns created by Aboriginal youth in a project called "Star in Your Own Stories". Youth created a DVD and campaign that share positive messages about sex and condom use.

Melisa Dickie is the Manager, Health Publications at CATIE. She manages the collection of resources made available nationally through the CATIE Ordering Centre, promotion and distribution plans, and reprinting, revising and nationalizing requests. Prior to joining CATIE, Melisa worked extensively in sexual and reproductive health and rights, local organizations in Peru and Colombia, and the International Women's Health Coalition in New York. Melisa also worked at the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) in the community-based research and knowledge transfer and exchange programs.

Sheena Campbell started working in HIV prevention in Winnipeg in 1987. Since moving to BC in 1996, she worked with Positive Women's Network and AIDS Vancouver. Sheena is the former coordinator of Harm Reduction programs for Vancouver Coastal Health. In that role, she developed and implemented the expanded needle exchange program. Sheena is currently the coordinator of drug and alcohol prevention programs on the Sunshine Coast.

Stephanie Grant has been involved with youth and HIV/AIDS issues in British Columbia for over eight years, including her most recent roles as Executive Director of YouthCO AIDS Society and board member of the Pacific AIDS Network. One of Stephanie's most meaningful pieces of work during this time has been her work as a founding member of the Aboriginal Youth Harm Reduction Project Steering Committee (a partnership with Chee Mamuk and Healing Our Spirit) where she continues to play an active role. With a background in Social Work, specializing in vulnerable youth populations, Stephanie found her evolution into the HIV/AIDS community a natural next stage in her journey.

Suzy Coulter, a nurse, is currently the Clinical Coordinator of the MAT Program. She has been working in the DTES since 1997, primarily focused on health care research (VIDUS and INSITE Study) and health care delivery (MAT Program) for folks who use injection drugs.

Terry Howard is currently the BC HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research Facilitator, and actively promotes a community-based approach to research projects undertaken with people living with HIV/AIDS in BC. He works with any AIDS Service Organization or Community-Based Organization to develop research ideas, partner with University academics, and assist in finding funding opportunities for their ideas.

Tsitsi Watt is an Educator at CATIE and is the regional representative for British Columbia. She has also worked as educator with the CATIE Hepatitis C Program and was involved in developing the Hep C Toolkit and website. Before joining the CATIE team, she worked with children and youth affected by HIV/AIDS, poverty and conflict in East and Southern Africa. Her specific focus of work was with caregivers, Ministries of Education, Health and Social Welfare in the different countries to effect policy change and practice in sectors working with mental, social and emotional child & youth development. Her background is in Development Studies and Public Administration.

Vanessa West is presently the Co-Executive Director for Positive Living North, the Aboriginal ASO in Prince George. A First Nations woman from the Lheidli T'enneh Nation, she has worked in this capacity for nearly two years. Prior to this position, she worked as the Fire Pit Cultural Drop-In Centre Manager, PLN's street-level HIV/AIDS prevention program. Vanessa has been able to take her years of experience in administration, and utilize those skills at PLN. The ability to work with positive clients has expanded her understanding of the illness, while allowing her the chance to build relationships based upon trust and respect.