



The 2018 British Columbia Science & Policy Conference

12:00 pm – 5:30 pm Friday May 11th, 2018

LSC1 Auditorium

The Life Sciences Institute

University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC, Canada

Leveraging connections between science and policy to benefit BC

Conference Program



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MICHAEL HIATT PhD
Senior Scientist, Bioengineering
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About the Conference

The expectation that government decision making be built on a foundation of evidence is a growing demand of Canadians. Our current federal government has reaffirmed its commitment to evidence-based decision making and we now have an opportunity to capitalize on this momentum at the provincial level. This is of particular importance given that many domains fall under the jurisdiction of provincial governments, including health, education, natural resources, and social services.

This conference aims to open a discussion on the current status of science for public policy in British Columbia. The goal is to bring forward ideas on how to facilitate the communication and mobilization of scientific knowledge in policy development. In addition, we will continue to stimulate motivation among researchers and government to better integrate science into everyday government decision making.

Themes

The conference will centre around 3 main themes:

1. *Showcasing how scientific research already contributes to government decision making and policy development.*

We will showcase the value of science in policy development through a series of lightning talks by academics, government employees and advocates.

2. *Evaluating the responsibility of scientists towards policy development, and how government can help maintain and strengthen this partnership.*

A panel of scientists and policy makers will explore the current relationship between the scientific community and government. Particular emphasis will be made on identifying the barriers and facilitators that exist within current processes used to integrate science into government.

3. *Developing a long-term BC science policy strategy.*

The audience will engage in a group discussion on how BC can better support and strengthen the use of science for policy development. We will aim to synthesize actionable items to implement such a strategy that can be sustained in the long-term.

Program

Conference Opening		
12:00	12:05	Dr. Julienne Jagdeo - Welcoming Remarks <i>Executive Director of the Science and Policy Integration Network (SPIN)</i>
12:05	12:15	Sam Sullivan <i>BC MLA for Vancouver- False Creek, Former Mayor of Vancouver</i>
Theme 1: Lightning Talks		
12:15	12:16	Speaker Introductions
12:16	12:21	Amani Saini - "Using Evidence to Inform Policy to Prevent Adverse Drug Reactions" <i>Founder & President of Adverse Drug Reaction Canada</i>
12:21	12:26	Dr. Maria Giammarco - "Putting People into Policy: Behavioural Insights in the BC Public Service" <i>Mitacs Canadian Science Policy Fellow in the BC Public Service Agency</i>
12:26	12:31	Dr. Conny Lin - "Opioid Agonist Treatment Psychosocial Support Framework" <i>Policy and Legislation Analyst for College of Pharmacists of BC, Director of Recruitment for the Science and Policy Integration Network (SPIN)</i>
12:31	12:36	Dr. Ashley Whillans - TBA <i>Assistant Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School</i>
12:36	12:41	Spencer Murch - "Your Attention Please: Eye-Tracking Slot Machine Play to Inform Gambling Policy" <i>PhD Candidate at the Centre for Gambling Research at the University of British Columbia</i>
12:41	12:45	Questions
Keynote Speaker Session 1		
12:45	1:05	Terry Lake - "From Evidence to Action - BC's Response to the Fentanyl Crisis" <i>Vice-President of The Hydropharmacy Corporation, Former BC MLA & Minister of Health</i>
1:05	1:25	Dr. Wendy Palen - TBA <i>Associate Professor of Biological Sciences at Simon Fraser University, Board Chair for Evidence for Democracy</i>
1:25	1:35	Questions
1:35	1:50	Coffee Break - Located in the East Atrium on the main floor

Theme 2: Panel Discussion		
1:50	1:55	Panel Introductions Moderator: Dr. Wendy Palen
1:55	2:45	Panelists: Dr. Lynn Raymond <i>Professor in Psychiatry at the University of British Columbia, Clinic Director of the Centre for Huntington Disease</i> Dr. Sally Otto <i>Professor of Zoology at the University of British Columbia, Founder of the Mitacs Canadian Science Policy Fellowship program</i> Dr. Laurel Schafer <i>Professor of Chemistry at the University of British Columbia, Canadian Research Chair in Catalyst Development</i> Dr. Max Cameron <i>Professor of Political Science at the University of British Columbia, Director of the Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions</i> Dr. David Castle <i>Vice-President, Research at the University of Victoria</i> Terry Lake <i>Vice-President of The Hydrothecary Corporation, Former BC MLA & Minister of Health</i>
2:45	2:55	Questions
2:55	3:05	Mitacs Canadian Science Policy Fellowship Program Olga Stachova <i>Chief Operating Officer, Mitacs</i>
Keynote Speaker Session 2		
3:05	3:30	Kei Koizumi - "Science for Policy, and Policy for Science in the US White House" <i>Visiting AAAS Scholar, Former Assistant Director for Federal Research and Development & Senior Advisor to the Director for the National Science and Technology Council at the White House Office of Science and Technology</i>
3:30	3:40	Questions
3:40	3:55	Coffee Break - Located in the East Atrium on the main floor
3:55	4:10	UBC School of Public Policy and Global Affairs Program & the Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions Ella Wright <i>Manager, Programs and Strategic Partnerships for the University of British Columbia School of Public Policy and Global Affairs</i> Dr. Max Cameron <i>Professor of Political Science at the University of British Columbia, Director of the Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions</i>

Theme 3: Audience Discussion		
4:10	5:10	Moderator: Dr. Dan Reist <i>Assistant Director (Knowledge Exchange) at the Centre for Addictions Research of BC</i>
Conference Closing		
5:10	5:11	Speaker Introductions
5:11	5:16	Dr. Tony Phillips <i>Professor of Psychology at the University of British Columbia, Director for Institute of Mental Health</i>
5:16	5:21	Dr. Susan Porter <i>Dean and Vice-Provost of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at the University of British Columbia</i>

Speakers



Sam Sullivan

Sam is a twice-elected Member of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia for the riding of Vancouver False Creek and served as Mayor of Vancouver from 2005 to 2008. He is a member of the Order of Canada and is the only non-medical doctor in the country to be made an Honorary Member of the 22,000-member College of Family Physicians of Canada. His work champions evidence-based policy development with respect to urban densification and drug prohibition alternatives that address social challenges.



Amani Saini

Amani is the President and Founder of Adverse Drug Reaction Canada, an organization committed to preventing the 4th leading cause of death for Canadians: adverse drug reactions. Her efforts are motivated by her sister's near-death experience from an adverse drug reaction to ibuprofen. Her organization brings together patients, families, policy-makers, scientists, researchers, health care providers and academics to advocate, develop policy solutions and advance research. Amani holds a Master of Public Administration from Dalhousie University and a BA in Political Science from UBC. She is also the 2016 recipient of the Canadian Science Policy Award of Excellence.



Dr. Maria Giammarco

Maria is a Mitacs Science Policy Fellow and Behavioural Scientist with the Behavioural Insights Group in the BC Public Service. As a public service scientist, Maria uses experimental research methodologies and knowledge of how humans behave in the real world to guide public policy challenges and to improve citizen services. Maria holds a PhD in Psychology and Neuroscience, and has formerly worked as a science policy researcher at the Council of Canadian Academies, as a consultant with Dialectic Solutions, and as a course instructor at the University of Guelph.



Dr. Conny Lin

Conny has over a decade of experience in addictions research and community leadership. She is a behavioural neuroscientist, currently a Policy and Legislation Analyst at the College of Pharmacists of British Columbia, and the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (Council) of the UBC Graduate Student Society. She ran for Member of the BC Legislative Assembly (MLA) in the 2017 election, is a cofounder of the Science Policy Integration Network, the Vice President of the Canadian Mental Health Association Vancouver Fraser Branch, and serves on the board of numerous non-profit organizations.



Dr. Ashley Whillans

Dr. Whillans is a tenure-track assistant professor at the Harvard Business School, teaching the Negotiations course to MBA students. Her research investigates how intangible incentives, such as experiential and time-saving rewards, affect employee motivation and well-being. In 2015, she was named a Rising Star of Behavioral Science by the International Behavioral Exchange and the Behavioral Science and Policy Association. In 2016, she was a founding member of the Department of Behavioral Science in the Policy, Innovation, and Engagement Division of the British Columbia Public Service. Ashley earned her BA, MA, and PhD in Social Psychology from the University of British Columbia and was a member of the UBC Public Scholar

Initiative. Her research has been published in numerous academic journals and popular media outlets including *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post*.



Spencer Murch

Spencer is a graduate student at the UBC Centre for Gambling Research, whose mandate is to improve evidence-based gambling policy and reduce the harms associated with problem gambling in British Columbia. Spencer uses a combination of behavioural and psychophysiological measures to examine human attention during modern Electronic Gaming Machine use (EGM, including slot machines and video-lottery terminals). These methods, which include eye tracking and impedance cardiography, shed light on the experience of immersion during EGM play, and represent an early step towards understanding the contribution of different EGM

features to these games' higher rates of problem gambling.



Terry Lake

Terry is the Vice President of Corporate Social Responsibility for Hydropharmacy Corporation, a licensed producer of medical cannabis in Gatineau, Quebec. Before returning to the private sector, Terry served as a member of the BC Legislature for Kamloops with appointments as Environment Minister and Health Minister. He was Mayor of Kamloops and an instructor of Animal Health Technology at Thompson Rivers University. Prior to his career as a veterinarian, Terry was a broadcast journalist in Alberta working for Broadcast News, a division of Canadian Press. Lake was awarded Canada's Public Health Hero Award by the Canadian Public Health Association for his ground-

breaking harm reduction initiatives launched in the face of BC's opioid epidemic. He maintains a keen interest in public health and is an advocate of exploring the use of cannabis as a substitute for opioids and other substances.



Dr. Wendy Palen

Dr. Palen is an Associate Professor in Biological Sciences at Simon Fraser where her research focuses on the ecology of aquatic communities in the Pacific Northwest. Her passion for aquatic conservation has led her to serve as Board Chair of Evidence for Democracy, an organization that advocates for science and smart decision making in Canada. She is also committed to training the next generation of scientists to resolve ecological and conservation problems through her work as a co-founder of Earth to Ocean Research Group and as an Associate Director of the Liber Ero Postdoctoral Fellows program in applied conservation.



Dr. Lynn Raymond

Dr. Lynn Raymond is a Professor in Psychiatry in the Faculty of Medicine and Clinical Director of the Centre for Huntington Disease at the University of British Columbia. Prior to this, she earned her MD/PhD from Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed a Neurology residency and postdoctoral fellowship at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institution. Her research focuses on gaining a better understanding of the neurological alterations that occur in the brains of Huntington disease patients. She is a strong advocate for advancing neuroscience research and innovation in Canada and serves as the President of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience. A part of this

advocacy is engaging politicians with the neuroscience research community to strengthen support for fundamental research and evidence-based decision making in government.



Dr. Sally Otto

Dr. Otto is a Professor in Zoology at the University of British Columbia, former Director of the Centre for Biodiversity Research, and a recipient of numerous awards including the coveted MacArthur Fellowship. Her research aims to understand how evolutionary processes have generated the wondrous diversity of biological features observed in the natural world. She addresses this fundamental topic using a combination of mathematical theory, statistical inference, and evolutionary experiments. In addition, she encourages scientists to engage in public policy through her work launching and directing the Liber Ero Fellowship Program and as

initiator and advisor of the Mitacs Canadian Science Policy Fellowships.



Dr. Laurel Schafer

Dr. Schafer fulfills her role as the Canada Research Chair in Catalyst Development by researching chemical catalysts that allow for safe, waste-free, and environmentally friendly methods of producing chemicals. Her work impacts the chemical, pharmaceutical, agrochemical, and petrochemical industries - everything from the preparation of compostable plastics to potential treatments for chronic pain. She has published over 80 research papers and received several prestigious awards for both her research and teaching, including the UBC Sustainability Fellowship (2011), the Killam Award for Excellence in Mentoring (2013), and the Clara Benson Award

(2015). She is also a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.



Dr. Maxwell Cameron

Dr. Cameron directs the Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions at UBC and founded the Summer Institute for Future Legislators. His research focuses on comparative democratization in Latin America, constitutions, and the role of wisdom and judgment in politics. His publications include Democracy and Authoritarianism in Peru, The Political Economy of North American Free Trade, and To Walk Without Fear: The Global Movement to Ban Landmines. Cameron created the Andean Democracy Research Network to monitor and report on the state of democracy in the Andean region, with funding from the Glyn Berry Program of the Department of

Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada, the Ford Foundation, and IDRC. His forthcoming book, Political Institutions and Practical Wisdom will be published by Oxford University Press later this year.



Dr. David Castle

Dr. Castle currently serves as Vice-President of Research at the University of Victoria. Previously, he was a Professor and Chair of Innovation in Life Sciences at the University of Edinburgh. His research interests include exploring social issues and government policy relating to innovation in the life science and biotechnology sectors. Prior to working in the UK, he served as the Canada Research Chair in Science and Society at the University of Ottawa where he facilitated the creation of the Institute for Science, Society and Policy. He recently served as a reviewer for the Council of Canadian Academies report “Science Policy: Considerations for Subnational Governments”.



Olga Stachova

Olga is the Chief Operating Officer of Mitacs. Her responsibilities include the oversight of all corporate operations and management, delivery strategy for all Mitacs programs and strategic initiatives, as well as their implementation, ongoing evaluation and monitoring, and allocation of Mitacs resources and oversight of budgetary expenditures. Olga has a Master’s Degree in English and Philosophy from the University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra, Slovakia. Prior to emigrating to Canada, she was Senior Project Manager at Management Partners, the leading HR consulting company in the Slovak market. She was highly successful in her role of recruiting personnel for international organizations opening subsidiaries in Slovakia. Olga is the recipient of the 2009 Business in Vancouver Top Forty Under 40 Award, as well as the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.



Kei Koizumi

Kei is a Visiting Scholar in science policy at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) where he explores ways to bring science, the public, and policy together. Previously, he served as Assistant Director for Federal Research and Development and Senior Advisor to the Director for the National Science and Technology Council at the White House Office of Science and Technology during the Obama-Biden administration. Kei is a leading authority on federal support for research and development, and coordinating federal policy in collaboration with White House staff, Federal agencies, Congress, and the science and technology community.



Ella Wright

Ella Wright is Manager, Programs and Strategic Partnerships for UBC's School of Public Policy and Global Affairs (SPPGA). Ella has over fifteen years of experience working as a Canadian and UK diplomat in education, providing strategic advice and support in planning and developing national and international partnerships for research and community engagement. At the Canadian High Commission in the UK, she led on academic affairs, managing key governmental, research institute and university relationships established by the High Commissioner. Ella has a B.Sc. in Global Resource Systems from UBC (2008); an M.Sc. in Comparative and International Education from

Oxford (2010); and a Graduate Program in Leadership and Equity in Education (Public Policy) from Harvard (2015).



Dr. Dan Reist

Dan Reist leads a team within the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research at the University of Victoria that focuses on communicating current evidence in a way that supports the evolution of effective policy and practice. With a background in continental philosophy and hermeneutics, Dan is quick to acknowledge that evidence is far more than statistics about patterns of use and harm and includes attention to the ways we as human beings experience and talk about drugs and drug use in our cultures and communities.



Dr. Tony Phillips

Dr. Anthony Phillips has expertise in brain function and behaviour. He was Scientific Director of the CIHR Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (2009-2017), Founding Director of the UBC Institute of Mental Health, and is currently Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Senior Investigator with the UBC Djavad Mowafhagian Centre for Brain Health. Dr. Phillips' research focuses on the neural bases of learning and memory and has contributed to better treatment of addiction and mental ill health. He has published over 300 peer-reviewed papers, is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. Dr.

Phillips has received numerous awards including the Heinz Lehmann Award from the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology and the Bill and Marilyn Weber Lifetime Achievement Award from the UBC Faculty of Medicine. In 2015 he became a member of the Order of Canada.

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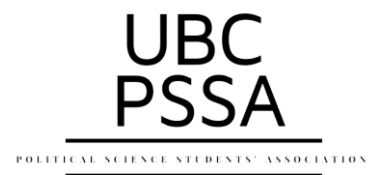
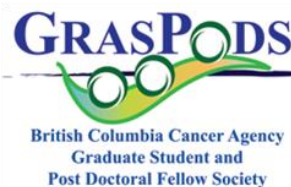
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About the Conference Organizers



The Science and Policy Integration Network (SPIN) is a Vancouver-based not-for-profit organization whose aim is to foster a culture of credible evidence-informed policy and decision making in our province of British Columbia, Canada. We serve as a networking hub for scientists and policy makers to mobilize knowledge between the government and scientific communities.



Julienne Jagdeo

Executive Director

PhD, Biochemistry and Molecular
Biology



Conny Lin

Recruitment and Operations

PhD, Neuroscience



Paloma Prieto

Communications

BSc, Chemistry



Christina Wiesmann

Development

MSc, Microbiology and
Immunology



Maric Tse

Science Coordinator

MSc, Neuroscience



Julian Prieto

Policy Coordinator

MSc, Mathematics



Vivian Lam

Data Analytics

PhD Candidate, Neuroscience



Nikki Schwitzky

Marketing

Entrepreneur/Civic Politics



Taran Dhillon

Media Relations

MA, Journalism