

Global Health Nourishing Equity

4th Annual College of Medicine Global Health Conference in partnership with the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition.
Location: Edwards School of Business, University of Saskatchewan

#ghcyxe



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**4th Annual Global Health Conference - *Global Health: Nourishing Equity*
Saturday, October 17, 2015**

Time	Event	University of Saskatchewan - 25 Campus Drive			
7:30 a.m. – noon	Registration	North Foyer – ESB1			
8:30 – 8:45 a.m.	Welcome: Co-Chairs: Mr. Jesse May and Ms. Mehrieh Rahimi Opening Remarks: Dr. Ryan Meili, Assistant Professor, Community Health & Epidemiology	= ESB18			
8:45 – 9:45 a.m.	Plenary Session	Dr. Ronald Labonté , Canada Research Chair in Globalization and Health Equity, University of Ottawa Topic: <i>Global Health: From Predatory Inequities to a Sustainable Future</i> = ESB18			
9:45 – 10:00 a.m.	Refreshment Break				
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Breakout Session #1	1.1 Globalization & Equity = ESB3	1.2 Food Security & Equity = ESB12	1.3. Low Resource Settings and Health Equity = ESB18	1.4 Culture, Nutrition, Newcomers & Equity = ESB16
		- Dr. Lori Hanson	- Dr. Rachel Engler-Stringer	- Dr. Ivar Mendez	- Ms. Mahasti Khakpour
		- Mr. Patrick Chasse	- Ms. Yvonne Hanson	- Dr. Ron Siemens	- Ms. Erin Wolfson
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Movement Break				
11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	Breakout Sessions #2	2.1. Aboriginal Health & Equity = ESB3	2.2. Food Production & Equity = ESB12	2.3. Health Care & Equity = ESB18	2.4. Climate Change & Equity = ESB16
		- Dr. Veronica McKinney	- Dr. Susan Whiting - Ms. Getenesh Berhanu	- Dr. Ryan Meili	- Mr. Peter Prebble
			- Dr. Robert Tyler - Mr. Esayas Kinfe	- Dr. Hassan Vatanparast - Ms. Ginny Lane	- Dr. Jasmine Hasselback
12:15 – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch (Catered by <i>Calories Restaurant</i>) = ESB1		Poster Judging – Displays: ARTS155 & ARTS155.1		
	Meeting of Public Health Nutrition Research Network members (Ms. Sarah Finch; Dr. Hassan Vatanparast) = ESB112				
1:30- 2:30 p.m.	Plenary Session	Dr. Valerie Tarasuk , Professor in the Department of Nutritional Science at the University of Toronto Topic: <i>Hunger in our own backyard: The food insecurity crisis in Canada</i> = ESB18			
2:30 – 2:45 p.m.	Refreshment Break				
2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Panel Discussion	Panel Topic: <i>A Healthy, Equitable and Sustainable Food Future: How do we get there?</i> Panelists: Dr. Maurice Moloney; Dr. Ronald Labonté, Dr. Valerie Tarasuk; Dr. Nettie Wiebe; Ms. Mehrieh Rahimi; Mr. Jesse May Moderator: Dr. Rachel Engler-Stringer = ESB18			
4:00 – 4:15 p.m.	Closing remarks. Dr. Kishor Wasan, Dean of the College of Pharmacy & Nutrition Thank you and Poster Awards: Co-Chairs: Ms. Mehrieh Rahimi and Mr. Jesse May	= ESB18			

Hello and Welcome to the 4th Annual Global Health Conference entitled Global Health: Nourishing Equity. This year the focus of the conference will be on equity, food security and nutrition. The discussion will interweave these themes with the manifestations of equity in climate policy, the food system and effective health care for low resource settings.

The impetus for this topic arose from a study released in early 2015 by OXFAM International which reported that 1% of individuals hold 50% of the world's wealth – a staggering figure. In order to explore the impact this has on health and wellness we have brought in some incredible speakers, including Dr. Ron Labonté who will help us make sense of the global impact of equity. Following Dr. Labonté the breakout sessions will explore diverse topics affected by equity issues including the unequal globalization of the world that prioritizes profits over people, and trade agreements that affect access to medicines globally. We will also explore how equity impacts health interventions in low resource settings, as well as its impact in international agreements on climate change policy. Throughout we will look to the future to discuss trends and potential solutions.

Bringing the discussion closer to home, we are fortunate to host great speakers to explore the issues relating to equity and its impacts here in Canada. In the spring the issue of food security in Canada was brought to light as the plight of the peoples in Canada's north became a national issue. We are excited to welcome Valerie Tarasuk, a leading scholar and advocate for food security, to discuss nutrition and food security in Canada. Similar issues exist on many reserves and northern communities even here in Saskatchewan including in Saskatoon, and we have many more speakers who will be sharing their knowledge and expertise on these issues, how they impact health, and how we can address them.

After a full day of having our minds expanded and filled by being exposed to the issues, we hope you will join us for our panel discussion further exploring solutions to the issues raised in the plenaries and breakout sessions earlier in the day.

In the past three years the Global Health conference has welcomed over 600 attendees, and hosted more than 30 amazing speakers. We thank you for joining us in another year of amazing speakers and discussion and hope you find the experience engaging and enlightening. Please do let us know if you have any questions or concerns as the day progresses.

Once again, welcome to the 2015 Global Health Conference!

Sincerely, **Jesse May and Mehrieh Rahimi** - Co-Chairs-Global Health Conference

Plenary Session #1



Dr. Ronald Labonté PhD, FCAHS, HonFFPH holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Globalization and Health Equity and is Professor in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa, the Faculty of Health Sciences, Flinders University, and Adjunct Professor, University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Labonté's earlier work focused on health promotion, community development, community empowerment and social determinants of health. From 1999 until 2004 he was inaugural director of the Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit, before taking up his CRC at the University of Ottawa. For the past 20 years he has led research and scholarship on the health equity impacts of contemporary globalization. Present research interests include health equity impacts of health worker migration; medical tourism; comprehensive primary health care reforms; global health diplomacy; globalization, trade and tobacco control; austerity and health; and trade and food security. He has published over 225 scientific papers, several hundred popular articles, several books and chapters in a number of books. In 2015 he was awarded the RD Defries Medal and Honorary Life Membership by the Canadian Public Health Association.

- **Title:** *Global Health: From Predatory Inequities to a Sustainable Future*
- **Description:** We have been living through an unprecedented period of globalization, where nations, peoples and economies have become increasingly integrated worldwide. There have been health benefits from this process; but also enormous health costs. These costs are directly linked to the political economy that has driven contemporary globalization: a neoliberal orthodoxy of free markets, government de-regulation and public policies that have allowed the wealth and power of global elites to grow to unimaginable scales. Dr. Labonté in his presentation will explore this neoliberal model, why it came to be, how it imperils health gains worldwide, what public health activists need to advocate for and how we can move toward a more sustainable and equitable future.

Plenary Session #2



Dr. Valerie Tarasuk is a professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Tarasuk's research extends to Canadian food policy, population-level dietary assessment, and the application and interpretation of Dietary Reference Intakes, but much of her 20-year research career has focused on food insecurity. She has worked to elucidate the scope and nature of household food insecurity in Canada and examined policy and programmatic responses, including studies of food banks and food bank users, homeless youth, and charitable meal programs, and analyses of population survey data to elucidate the health, nutritional, and socio-demographic correlates of household food insecurity in Canada. Currently she leads the PROOF, an interdisciplinary research program funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and designed to identify effective policy approaches to reduce household food insecurity in Canada.

- **Title:** *Hunger in our own backyard: The food insecurity crisis in Canada*
- **Description:** Professor Tarasuk will explore the meaning of household food insecurity in the Canadian context and discuss its measurement. She will outline the scope of food insecurity in Canada currently and discuss the damage associated with this problem, including individual health ramifications and the broader societal costs. After considering the root causes of food insecurity in Canada, Professor Tarasuk will present evidence of promising policy interventions to reduce food insecurity in the country.

Breakout Session # 1.1: Globalization and Equity

Dr. Lori Hanson, Associate Professor, Community Health & Epidemiology, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan

- **Title:** *Fair Trade: pathways to health and social equity*
- **Description:** This presentation introduces and examines the system and social movements behind Fair Trade (FT), exploring how FT can foster food security, democratic practices, improved human and environmental health and social justice within world food systems organized around unfair trade. Examples from the world of Coffee and from Nicaragua will ground the discussion.

Mr. Patrick Chasse, PhD candidate in History, College of Arts & Science, University of Saskatchewan

- **Title:** *Struggling with Hunger: Chronic Malnutrition, Inequality and Industrial Agriculture in Guatemala, 1950-2015.*
- **Description:** This presentation examines connections between nutritional science, food aid and industrial agriculture in Guatemala. In the late 1950s, one of the first widely available nutritional supplements, INCAPARINA, was invented in Guatemala and distributed around the world by the World Food Program. In this presentation arguments will be made that affordable INCAPARINA inadvertently masked systemic inequalities in Guatemala, which currently has the second highest level of chronic malnutrition in the Americas.

Breakout Session # 1.2: Food Security and Equity

Dr. Rachel Engler-Stringer, Associate Professor, Community Health & Epidemiology, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan

- **Title:** *Highlights from a Program of Nutrition Inequity Research in Saskatoon*
- **Description:** The purpose of this presentation is to highlight the findings of two research studies that focused on food environments and food security in Saskatoon: 1) study of a full-service grocery store intervention in a former food desert (the Good Food Junction Cooperative Grocery Store) that offers food access in Saskatoon's inner city and, 2) study that examined student food security at the University of Saskatchewan.

Ms. Yvonne Hanson, Executive Director of CHEP (NGO)

- **Title:** *Creating opportunity for enhancing food security: engaging youth in our core neighbourhoods*
- **Description:** CHEP Good Food provides a number of tangible programs that help community members experience greater food security. This presentation will highlight a new program that took place over the past two summers – an internship program of “Urban Ag” for youth with an emphasis on Aboriginal engagement, entrepreneurship and agro-food skills development. This internship has had a positive impact in improving both the individual interns’ – and the wider community’s – health and well-being.

Breakout session # 1.3: Low-resource Settings and Health Equity

Dr. Ivar Mendez, MD, PhD, FRCSC, FACS, DSc (hon), FCAHS

- **Title:** *Robotic Remote Presence Technology: Narrowing the Gap of Inequality in Health Care Delivery*
- **Description:** In this presentation Dr. Mendez will talk about the use of robotic remote presence technology in rural settings in Canada and internationally so that populations in remote areas can have equal access to diagnostic and other health care procedures similar to those available to urban populations.

Dr. Ron Siemens, MD, FRCSC

- **Title:** *Establishing Equitable International Partnerships: the joys and challenges*
- **Description:** This presentation will address pertinent issues that we have encountered while developing our international partnership. We will use our Alert Community/Prepared Hospital project in Nampula, Mozambique to give practical examples experienced while working with local colleagues, funding institutions, international institutes of learning and international governmental organizations.

Breakout session # 1.4: Culture, Nutrition, Newcomers and Equity

Ms. Erin Wolfson, Project Director, Moving Stories YXE Project, City of Saskatoon/U of S/ Open Door Society

- **Title:** *Rethinking Food Justice and Health Equity in Saskatoon: Refugee Stories and Perspectives*
- **Description:** This presentation will explore the experiences of a small, but growing population in Saskatchewan who are attempting to attain food security in their new homes and the constraints they are facing in the process. National and international examples will be highlighted to explore opportunities for engaging refugees in local urban agriculture as a strategy for establishing food justice, supporting sovereignty, and improving health outcomes. Participants are invited to discuss how access to adequate, nutritious, fresh, and culturally-relevant food influences and supports the health and well-being of refugees in Saskatoon.

Ms. Mahasti Khakpour, PhD candidate in Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan

- **Title:** *Equitable and Cultural Competency Health Care: experiences in working with immigrants and refugees*
- **Description:** Canada is a diverse nation due to migrant driven population growth, originating from different cultural backgrounds. Migrants choose Canada as their new home for a variety of reasons: better quality of life, prosperity, and peacefulness. The dynamic and growing population of migrants strive for cultural competent health care. This session will give you an overview of the migration in Canada, the status of health in the immigrant population, and the definition and application of cultural competency for health care professionals.

Breakout Session # 2.1: Aboriginal Health Equity

Dr. Veronica McKinney, MD, CCFP, Director of Northern Medical Services, University of Saskatchewan

- **Title:** *Health for Some: But Not for All*
- **Description:** In Canada, we pride ourselves on universal access to health care. However, we do not all have the same ability to receive health services. For our Indigenous populations, large gaps exist that lead to significant health disparities. In this presentation, we will look at where these gaps exist, and how we as health care providers can help address these health equity issues.

Breakout Session #2.2: Food Production and Equity

Dr. Susan Whiting, Professor, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan

Ms. Getenesh Berhanu, PhD candidate, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan

- **Title:** *Why promote pulse consumption in Ethiopia?*
- **Description:** Our work in Southern Ethiopia shows that child feeding practices may be contributing to the high prevalence of wasting and stunting seen there. In several small studies we find complementary foods are usually a watery gruel made from a local staple grain/cereal. Pulses (grain legumes) are grown and consumed in Ethiopia but not at levels sufficient to improve protein quality. Barriers to use of pulses will be described and opportunities for promoting pulse use will be described.

Dr. Robert Tyler, Professor, College of Agriculture & Bioscience; University of Saskatchewan

Mr. Esayas Kinfe, PhD candidate, College of Agriculture & Bioscience, University of Saskatchewan

- **Title:** *How can pulse consumption be increased in a sustainable, equitable way?*
- **Description:** Pulses grow well in Ethiopia but are not planted as a staple (main) crop, rather are grown as intercrop on residual water. However they have many advantages including providing nitrogen to the soil, and are a desired cash crop. Food industries struggle to produce food products of high quality using pulses, and so to provide better quality products as well as improve the food industry landscape, we are working with food industry to produce products that have nutritional qualities as well as creating viable business opportunities.

Breakout session # 2.3: Health Care and Equity

Dr. Ryan Meili, Assistant Professor, Department of CH&E, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan

- Title: *Doctors and Fairness: what is the role of physicians in achieving health equity*
- Description: It has long been recognized that social factors such as income, education, employment, housing, and food security have more impact on health outcomes than the medical interventions we traditionally associate with health care. There is a growing movement among physicians to incorporate this understanding of the social determinants of health into clinical practice, community involvement and system-level advocacy. Dr. Meili will explore the roots and the current directions of the expanding role for physicians in helping to achieve better and more equitable health outcomes for their patients and for society as a whole.

Dr. Hassan Vatanparast, Professor, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition, School of Public Health, University of Saskatchewan

Ms. Ginny Lane, Senior Policy Advisor and PhD student, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan

- Title: *Saskatchewan Newcomer Experiences in our Health Care System*
- Description: Newcomers to Saskatchewan have a variety of experiences with our health care system, which are related to how their social determinants of health intersect with health care services to create service access barriers, as well as the creation of supportive targeted services. Recent research conducted in Regina and Saskatoon outlines the barriers that newcomers experience such as awareness of services and special programs, language difficulties, transportation, and cultural and gender challenges. In addition, newcomer experiences with targeted health care services that meet their needs through addressing the social determinants of health, will be discussed. Overall service gaps in the health care system that stem from the social determinants of health will be highlighted.

Breakout Session #2.4: Climate Change and Equity

Mr. Peter Prebble, Director of Environmental Policy, Saskatchewan Environmental Society

Dr. Jasmine Hasselback, Public Health & Preventive Medicine Resident, PGY 4, University of Saskatchewan

- **Title:** *Climate Change and its Implications for Global Food Security and Public Health*
- **Description:** In this presentation Peter Prebble and Jasmine Hasselback will discuss the science of climate change and its observed and predicted impacts on global food security and health equity. They will also examine the broader public health consequences of climate change, including rising temperatures, extreme weather events and other health related impacts in selected regions of the world, including Saskatchewan. They will provide an overview of the scale and pace of fossil fuel reduction required in order to avoid many of the most severe consequences of climate change.

ON BEHALF OF THE 2015 PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Jesse May; Mehrieh Rahimi; Louise Buhler; Dylan Ginter; Jake Choi; Noura Sheikhalzoor; Mahasti Khakpour; Sarah Finch; Carlyn Séguin; Koreen Skjonsby

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