

SUSTAINABILITY



Warren Bell

Warren Bell was born and raised in Vancouver, B.C., he has been a family physician for 40 years, having graduated from McGill University in 1974, and completed a residency there in 1976. For over three decades he has been concerned about and involved in issues of social development and the environment, as well as the peace and anti-nuclear movement, global health and development (with an emphasis on the role of multinationals — especially drug companies — and patents), and the integration of healing modalities of all kinds. He has written and spoken in many settings on these and related issues, and participated in a number of projects both locally and nationally. For ten years he wrote a weekly newspaper column entitled “Global Health”.

He is a past president of Physicians for Global Survival, and past founding president of Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment. He is a past president of the Association of Complementary and Integrative Physicians of B.C.. He lives in a small town in south-central B.C. running an active practice which integrates conventional and alternative or complementary remedies. He was for 5 years president of the medical staff of the Shuswap Lake General Hospital.



Kim Perrotta

Kim Perrotta has spent 34 researching and promoting environmental policies that improve human health for organizations such as Toronto Public Health, OPHA, the Clean Air Partnership, and Healthy Canada by Design.

She has prepared over 20 reports health-based policy report including: ***Beyond Coal: Power, Public Health and the Environment and Public Health and Land Use Planning: How Ten Public Health Units are Working to Create Healthy and Sustainable Communities.*** Kim is currently the Executive Director for CAPE - the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment.



Blake Poland

Dr. Blake Poland is an Associate Professor in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto, with a cross-appointment in the Department of Geography. A social geographer by training, his research focuses primarily on urban community development in North America, inter-sectoral collaboration, the role of place in intervention design and evaluation, social justice, and issues of theory and method in critical qualitative research. He has published 21 book chapters and 70 peer-reviewed articles in a wide range of journals. Since 1993 he has led 18 grants as principal investigator, and participated as co-investigator in 37 others. Since 2008 Dr. Poland has increasingly reoriented his work to issues of urban environmental justice, community resilience, and the role of social movements in the transition to a low-carbon future. This has included leading a SSHRC-funded study on the emergence of the Transition Town movement in Canada, multi-university research network in environmental justice, and participation several funded research projects looking the green energy and green job sectors.

Dr. Poland has been recognized with awards for excellence in graduate teaching (2001), interdisciplinary mentorship (2007), and “paper of the year” by the Society of Public Health Education (2010). Along with Dr. Patricia O’Campo, Dr. Poland is the co-lead of the Healthier Cities & Communities Hub at the Dalla Lana School of Public. The Hub encompasses education, research, knowledge translation, and service activities focused on informing, designing and evaluating solutions for complex urban problems impacting population health, and is currently focusing on resilient cities, the built environment and health, and place-based interventions.



Cathy Vakil

Dr. Cathy Vakil is a family doctor working at the Queen’s University Family Medicine Centre in Kingston, Ontario where she has a family practice and also teaches Family Medicine residents. She has been a long-time active member of Physicians for Global Survival, and was on the Environmental Health Committee of the Ontario College of Family Physicians for many years. She has and continues to be a Board member of Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment for over 15 years.

Dr. Vakil has done literature reviews and public speaking on many environmental topics including nuclear energy, pesticides, climate change and air pollution. She has presented at numerous conferences and hearings, and has been an invited speaker for a number of courses and speaker’s series. Dr. Vakil is a strong believer in physician advocacy for environmental protection and health.



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