

Courtney Howard



Short Biography

Dr. Courtney Howard is a Yellowknife ER doctor and President of the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE). Motivated by work on a *Médecins Sans Frontières* pediatric malnutrition project, and by climate-related health impacts on her majority-Indigenous Northern patient population, she led the successful campaign to have the Canadian Medical Association divest from fossil fuels. With CAPE she helps to organize MD-advocacy across Canada and has been involved in work on active transport, plant-rich diets, health impact assessments, carbon pricing, coal phase-out, and the health impacts of fracking. Research-wise, she led “FLOW,” an RCT comparing tampons to menstrual cups, and is finishing up “SOS! Summer of Smoke,” a study into NWT’s extreme wildfire season of 2014, done under the direction of Dr James Orbinski. Courtney was first author on the “2017 Lancet Countdown on Climate Change: Briefing for Canadian Policymakers,” represents CAPE on the board of the Global Climate and Health Alliance (GCHA), and was honoured to present at the GCHA/WHO summit at COP23. Her TEDx Talk: “Healthy People, Healthy Planet” is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgIYakIWOK4> and her blog about a recent trip to Health in Harmony/ASRI’s Planetary Health site in Borneo can be read here: <http://drcourtneyhoward.ca/blog/>.