Accreditation

MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION
Attendance at this program entitles certified Canadian College of Health Leaders members (CHE / Fellow) to
2 Category II credits for pre-Conference and
0.75 Category II credits for post-Conference workshop and
7.25 Category II credits for Conference toward their maintenance of certification requirement.

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Craig Mitton (Co-Chair), Canada
Duncan Campbell, Canada
David Chinitz, Israel
Jennifer Gibson, Canada
Mimi Lowi-Young, Canada
Dwight Nelson, Canada
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Steve Pearson, United States
John Sproule, Canada
Laurel Taylor, Canada
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Conference Secretariat
BUKSA Strategic Conference Services
Suite 307, 10328 – 81 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T6E 1X2
priorities2012@buksa.com
www.priorities2012.com
On behalf of the International Society on Priorities in Health Care, welcome to Vancouver, and to PRIORITIES 2012: Partnerships for Improving Health Systems.

Through this meeting, we will examine the interface between researchers, clinicians, managers, policy makers, patients and members of the public, and how these key stakeholders can best work together to improve our health systems. We are delighted to have attendees join us from many different countries as we discuss priority setting and the challenges facing those in low-, middle- and high-income countries.

We hope that this meeting will provide you with a rich opportunity to learn from each other through our plenary panels, organized sessions, and both oral and poster abstract presentations. Through opportunities to network, we would also hope that you are able to forge new connections, and reconnect with colleagues from around the world.

As the venue for PRIORITIES 2012, Vancouver is one of Canada’s most exciting cities. You will find an abundance of nature, art, museums, restaurants, and shopping within close proximity. Please take time to enjoy!

We look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stuart Peacock, Co-Chair, Priorities 2012
Co-Director, Canadian Centre for Applied Research in Cancer Control (ARCC)
Associate Professor, School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia

Dr. Craig Mitton, Co-Chair, Priorities 2012
Senior Scientist, Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation, Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute
Associate Professor, School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia

David Chinitz
President, International Society on Priorities in Health Care
Professor, Taub Centre for Social Policy Studies
CONFERENCE PROGRAM

All sessions will take place on the second floor of the Conference Centre.

Sunday, September 16, 2012

6:00 – 8:00 pm  Welcome reception and poster set up  Foyer

Monday, September 17, 2012

7:30 – 8:30 am  Registration  Foyer
Breakfast at leisure

8:30 – 9:00 am  Opening remarks  Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 2 and 3

9:00 – 10:15 am  Provincial health: The politics of priority setting  Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 2 and 3
Chair: Stirling Bryan, Director, Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute
Honourable Fred Horne, Minister of Health, Government of Alberta, Alberta
Philippe Couillard, Former Minister of Health, Québec

10:15 – 10:45 am  Break  Foyer

10:45 am – 12:15 pm  Concurrent Sessions

1B  ORAL ABSTRACTS  Cypress 2
Chair: Colene Bentley, Canada
1:  Addressing inequity to achieve the maternal and child health millennium development goals: Looking beyond averages / George Ruhago, Tanzania
2:  Value for money for diabetes pathway: An interdisciplinary and shared approach / Barbara Bini, Italy
3:  Novel approaches to weighting in multi-criteria decision analysis: Results from a feasibility study / Nick Bansback, British Columbia
4:  Using program budgeting and marginal analysis in the Public Health division of the Saskatoon Health Region / Suzanne Mahaffey, Saskatchewan

1C  ORGANIZED SESSIONS  Oak 1
Building capacity for interprofessional collaboration: Strategic partnerships with the education sector / Louise Nasmith, University of British Columbia, British Columbia

1D  ORAL ABSTRACTS  Oak 2
Chair: Neale Smith, Canada
1:  Measuring the impact of the PhilHealth Sponsored Program on indigents / Marian Theresia Valera, Philippines
2:  Rationing on the programme level – changing views on the appropriate decision-maker / Mari Broqvist, Sweden
3:  Partnerships for improving health systems in low income countries: Are they legitimate? / Lydia Kapiriri, Ontario
4:  Valuing individual-level utility for health economic decision making in cost benefit analysis / Dean Regier, British Columbia
Monday, September 17, 2012 continued

ORAL ABSTRACTS  
Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 1  
Chair: Eirik J. Tranvåg, Norway  
1: Age, self-responsibility, evidence based health care as priorisation criteria – a participative analysis / Eckhard Nagel, Germany  
2: Eliciting values of decision-makers and members of the public in healthcare priority setting / Evelyn Cornelissen, British Columbia  
3: Preferences of decision-making agents and the general public for the allocation of healthcare resources / Chris Skedgel, Nova Scotia  
4: Setting priorities for end of life care: approaches to economic evaluation / Joanna Coast, United Kingdom  

12:15 – 1:30 pm Lunch and Poster Viewing  
1:30 – 3:00 pm Concurrent Sessions

ORAL ABSTRACTS  
Cypress 1  
Chair: Sara McCafferty, United Kingdom  
1: Implementation focussed priority setting: A cooperative approach bridging health care and social services / Anne-Claire Marcotte, Québec  
2: Understanding change in health systems: tools for improving co-produced approaches to large system transformation / Cameron Willis, British Columbia  
3: Disinvestment in the English National Health Service: A qualitative investigation / Tom Daniels, United Kingdom  
4: Oregon Health Plan revisited / Janne Nikkinen, Finland  

ORAL ABSTRACTS  
Cypress 2  
Chair: Barbara Bini, Italy  
1: Priority setting in the prevention of mother to child transmission for HIV programme in Tanzania / Elizabeth H. Shayo, Norway  
2: Disinvestments in practice / Mara Airoldi, United Kingdom  
3: District health planning and priority setting: Lessons from Ethiopia / Kadia Petricca, Ontario  
4: ’Innovation’ in health care coverage decisions: All talk and no substance? / Stirling Bryan, British Columbia  

ORAL ABSTRACTS  
Oak 1  
Chair: Vlatka Tustonic, Canada  
1: Methodological questions concerning the elicitation of social values for priority setting / Neil McHugh, United Kingdom  
2: Supporting coverage decisions through empirical research; an exploratory analysis of case studies in the Netherlands / Gert Jan van der Wilt, Netherlands  
3: Targeting the “high risk groups”: Politics and pragmatics of targeted intervention program against HIV/AIDS in India / Shamshad Khan, British Columbia  
4: Setting priorities in primary health care – on whose conditions? / Eva Arvidsson, Sweden
Monday, September 17, 2012 continued

**ORAL ABSTRACTS**

**Oak 2**
Chair: Evelyn Cornelissen, Canada

1. **Discussing costs in the clinical encounter: Forging partnerships between patients and clinicians** / Roseanna Sommers, Maryland
2. **High performance in healthcare resource allocation** / Neale Smith, British Columbia
3. **Enhancing monitoring and evaluation practice: A collaborative initiative from Pacific Health professionals and researchers** / Alitasi Su'a-Tavita, Fiji
4. **How can bedside rationing be justified despite coexisting inefficiency? The need for "benchmarks of efficiency"** / Daniel Strech, Germany

**ORAL ABSTRACTS**

**Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 1**
Chair: Kristine Husøy Onarheim, Norway

1. **Application of program budgeting and marginal analysis at a macro level within the Fraser Health Authority** / Colleen Hart, British Columbia
2. **Evaluation of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, a health insurance scheme for below poverty line people in India** / Prateek Rathi, India
3. **Priority setting in times of constraint: A case study in community services within the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority** / Craig Mitton, British Columbia

3:00 – 3:20 pm Break

3:20 – 4:30 pm **PLENARY**

**Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 2 and 3**
**Priority setting in an era of austerity and strong fiscal constraints**
Chair: Craig Mitton, Senior Scientist, Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation, Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute; Associate Professor, School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia
Howard Waldner, President and CEO, Vancouver Island Health Authority, British Columbia
Jennifer Gibson, Director, Partnerships and Strategy, Joint Centre for Bioethics, University of Toronto, Ontario
Cam Donaldson, Yunus Chair in Social Business and Health, Glasgow Caledonian University, United Kingdom

4:30 – 5:30 pm **ISPHC AGM**

6:30 pm **Cocktail reception and gala dinner**

Featuring Le La La Dancers

Tuesday, September 18, 2012

7:30 – 8:30 am Registration
Breakfast at leisure

8:30 – 10:00 am **PLENARY**

**Health policy challenges: Aging populations and the mix of health services required**
Chair: Morris Barer, Professor, School of Population and Public Health Director, Centre for Health Services and Policy Research
Diane McArthur, Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Officer, Ontario Public Drug Programs, Ontario
Paul Dolan, Department of Social Policy, London School of Economics, United Kingdom
Steven Lewis, President, Access Consulting, Saskatchewan
Tuesday, September 18, 2012 continued

10:15 – 10:30 am Break
Foyer

10:30 am – 12:00 pm Concurrent Sessions

ORGANIZED SESSIONS Cypress 1

Patients as partners in BC: The patient voice in priority setting / Panel /
Connie Davis, ImpactBC, British Columbia

ORAL ABSTRACTS Cypress 2
Chair: Helen Mason, United Kingdom
1: Case studies on disinvestment and reallocation decision-making processes: A systematic review / Julie Polisena, Ontario
2: Adaptation of evidence reviews for payer policy decisions: A multi-state public initiative in New England / Steven Pearson, Massachusetts
3: Prioritizing child health interventions in Ethiopia: Impacts on child mortality, life expectancy and Gini health / Kristine Husøy Onarheim, Norway
4: Valuing health at the end of life: A stated preference discrete choice experiment / Koonal Shah, United Kingdom

ORGANIZED SESSIONS Oak 1
Analysis of health insurance mandate proposals for state governments: California’s partnership for improving benefits decision making / Garen Corbett, California Health Benefits Review Program, University of California, California

ORAL ABSTRACTS Oak 2
Chair: Hilde Engjom, Norway
1: Commissioning change: central policy decisions – local impact / Sara McCafferty, United Kingdom
2: The link between institutional factors and quality in the Ghanaian health system / Eugenia Amporfu, Ghana
3: Economic evaluation of universal public finance of tuberculosis treatment in South Asia / Stephane Verguet, Washington
4: Priority setting at a national level: the changing landscape in New Zealand / Jacqueline Cumming, New Zealand

ORGANIZED SESSIONS Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 1
Coming together to ‘make the impossible project – possible’: Prioritizing the use of a medical isotope / Michelle Mujoomdar, CADTH, Ontario

12:00 – 1:15 pm Lunch and poster viewing
Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 2 and 3

1:30 – 3:00 pm Concurrent Sessions

ORAL ABSTRACTS Cypress 1
Chair: Cameron Willis, Canada
1: Accountable and reasonable? Priority-setting in the UK NHS / Tim Freeman, United Kingdom
2: Strengthening health management and leadership under decentralisation: Insights from four districts in Indonesia / Augustine Asante, Australia
3: Prioritising a new intervention when the evidence is still emerging / Jonathan Howell, United Kingdom
4: Simulation modeling with System Dynamics (SD) to plan osteoarthritis care delivery in Alberta / Deborah Marshall, Alberta
**ORAL ABSTRACTS**

**Cypress 2**

Chair: Chris Skedgel, United Kingdom

1. *Are individuals luck egalitarians?* / Gustav Tinghög, Sweden
2. *Mental health services in Ethiopia: Cost-effectiveness of implementing mental health interventions* / Kirsten Bjerkreim Pedersen, Norway
3. *Do disease labels affect the general public’s ratings of hypothetical rationing scenarios?* / Helen McTaggart-Cowan, United Kingdom
4. *Introduction of vaccination against rotavirus: A case study of the priority setting in Norway* / Ånen Ringard, Norway

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**ORAL SESSIONS**

**Oak 1**

**Setting priorities: bridging the gap between theory and practice through stakeholder engagement. Interactive workshop** / Mara Airoldi, London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom

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**ORGANIZED SESSIONS**

**Oak 2**

Chair: Sonya Cressman, Canada

1. *Swift and evidence informed policy response to delivering Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC) in Shanghai, China* / Hong Jiang, Netherlands
2. *Economics and value of child health* / Fergall Magee, Nova Scotia
3. *Therapeutic benefit as a criterion for prioritizing health care: Attitudes of the general public* / Adele Diederich, Germany
4. *Modeling the cost-effectiveness of prostate cancer screening to inform policy in British Columbia* / Reka Pataky, British Columbia

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**ORAL ABSTRACTS**

**Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 1**

Chair: Kimberly van der Hoek, Canada

1. *Development of a disinvestment framework to guide resource allocation practices in health service delivery organizations* / Diane Schmidt, British Columbia
2. *Head to head comparisons of different types of interventions in Ethiopia: Does equity make any difference?* / Kjell Arne Johansson, Norway
3. *Eliciting reasoned and robust social values for use in health care priority setting* / Rachel Baker, United Kingdom
4. *Priority and partnerships: Building the road to quality and sustainability* / Linda Smyth, Alberta

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3:00 – 3:30 pm Break

3:30 – 5:00 pm **PLENARY**

**Achieving high quality health care and high performing organizations**

Chair: David Chinitz, Professor, Taub Centre for Social Policy Studies, Israel
Ted Marmor, Professor Emeritus, Yale School of Management, Yale University, Connecticut
Ross Baker, Professor, Institute of Health Policy, Management and Education, University of Toronto, Ontario
Cathy Ulrich, President and CEO, Northern Health, British Columbia

5:00 pm Dinner at leisure
Wednesday, September 19, 2012

7:30 – 8:30 am
Registration
Breakfast at leisure
Foyer

8:30 – 10:00 am
Concurrent Sessions

**ORAL ABSTRACTS**

**Cypress 2**
Chair: Reka Pataky, Canada

1: Long-range effects of health care rationing: Allocation, patient autonomy and physician liability / Bjoern Schmitz-Luhn, Germany

2: Governance of rationing as an art of juggling / Ann-Charlotte Nedlund, Sweden

3: A knowledge partnership supporting service improvement in NHS Scotland / Jillian Evans, Scotland

4: What are the attitudes of physicians towards shared decision-making? A systematic review of the literature / Samantha Pollard, British Columbia

**ORGANIZED SESSIONS**

**Oak 1**
Preferred health services provider partnerships deliver results: The application of outcome-driven, evidence-informed rehabilitation / Tyler Amell, Centric Health, Alberta

**ORAL ABSTRACTS**

**Oak 2**
Chair: Beth Snow, Canada

1: Ethical priorities for primary healthcare: Addressing structural violence and structural inequities through an evidence-based intervention / Annette Browne, British Columbia

2: Implementation of a rigorous and transparent priority setting framework in the IWK Health Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia / Matthew Campbell, Nova Scotia

3: Priority setting, patient autonomy and shared decision-making – a conflicting marriage? / Lars Sandman, Sweden

4: Levels and types of partnerships for improving health systems: Involvement and engagement in UK CLAHRCs / Steven Ariss, United Kingdom

**ORGANIZED SESSIONS**

**Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 1**
Setting priorities in health research – examples from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) / Diane Forbes, CIHR, Ontario

10:00 – 10:15 am
Break
Foyer

10:15 – 11:30 am
PLENARY
**Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 2 and 3**

Guidance for priority setting in healthcare: GPS Health
Chair: Cam Donaldson, Yunus Chair in Social Business and Health, Glasgow Caledonian University, United Kingdom
Ole Norheim, University of Bergen and partners, Norway

11:30 – 12:00 pm
Closing remarks
**Stanley Park Ballroom Salon 2 and 3**
David Chinitz, Professor, Taub Centre for Social Policy Studies, Israel
G. ROSS BAKER PhD

Ross Baker is a professor in the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation at the University of Toronto where he teaches and carries out research on patient safety, quality improvement strategies and leadership and organizational change.

Dr. Baker, together with Dr. Peter Norton of the University of Calgary, led the Canadian Adverse Events study which was published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal in 2004. Baker and Norton were awarded the Health Services Research Advancement Award for their work on patient safety and quality improvement by the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation in May 2009.

In October 2008, he published a book, High Performing Healthcare Systems: Quality By Design, that analyzes leadership and organizational strategies in seven health care systems that have been successful in using improvement tools and knowledge to transform outcomes.

Dr. Baker led a study of effective governance practices in improving quality and patient safety in 2009. Results from this study have been published in Healthcare Quarterly and this report served as the basis for the Governance Toolkit (Effective Governance in Quality and Patient Safety) and a course for trustees.

He chaired an Advisory Panel on Avoidable Hospitalizations for the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care whose report was released by the Ministry in November 2011. He also served as a member of the King’s Fund (London, UK) Commission on Leadership and Management in the NHS in 2010-2011.

PHILIPPE COUILLARD P.C. MD

Philippe Couillard graduated from the University of Montreal’s faculty of medicine in 1979 and received his Royal College certificate in neurosurgery in 1985. He practiced neurosurgery in Canada and in the Middle East (Saudi Aramco Medical Services Organisation, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia) between 1985 and 1996, then at the Université de Sherbrooke until 2003. In 2003, Dr. Couillard was chairman of the department of surgery of this institution and member of the council of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Elected at Quebec’s national assembly in 2003 and 2007, he was Quebec’s minister of health and social services between 2003 and June 2008. During his term, he directed major reforms and strategies of Quebec’s health care system: Population based integration and university health networks in particular.

Since leaving politics, Dr. Couillard shares his time between consultation on health care systems and policy (in Canada and abroad), directorships of biotechnology companies and Persistence Capital Partners, a private equity fund focusing on health care services in Canada. Dr. Couillard chairs the Health Research Foundation of Canada, a non-profit organisation supported by Canada’s pharmaceutical industry.

Since June 2010, he is a member of the Queen’s Privy Council for Canada. Dr. Couillard is also a director of Royal College of Canada International.
PAUL DOLAN BSc Econ

Paul Dolan is Professor in the Department of Social Policy at the LSE. He has previously held academic posts at York, Newcastle, Sheffield and Imperial, and has been a visiting scholar at Princeton.

There are two main themes to Professor Dolan’s work. The first focuses on developing measures of happiness subjective well-being that can be used in policy, particularly in the valuation of non-market goods and in ‘joining up’ the impact of changes in health, crime, the environment etc. The second considers ways in which the lessons from behavioural economics can be used to understand and change individual behaviour. This work is focussing on the important role that situational factors play in influencing our behaviour. For both areas, he is interested in how field experiments can be used to provide us with robust evidence for policy appraisal.

Professor Dolan has published in top economics, psychology, health and social science journals and has won research grants from a range of funding bodies, including the ESRC, AHRC and the British Academy. He was awarded a Philip Leverhulme Prize in Economics in 2002 for his contribution to health economics. He has been on many expert panels across government and he has advised various departments, including Defra, DH, DCLG and the Home Office. He was recently a seconded member of the Behavioural Insights Team in the Cabinet Office, and he is currently chief academic adviser on economic appraisal for the Government Economic Service.

CAM DONALDSON PhD

Cam Donaldson holds the Yunus Chair in Social Business & Health at Glasgow Caledonian University. From 2002-2010, he held the Health Foundation Chair in Health Economics at Newcastle University, where he was founding Director of the Institute of Health & Society and professor in the Newcastle University Business School. He held the Svare Chair in Health Economics at the University of Calgary from 1998-2002, having first become a professor of health economics in 1996 whilst at the Health Economics Research Unit at the University of Aberdeen.

Professor Donaldson has won several competitive personal awards for his research, including:

- a Canadian Institutes of Health Research senior investigatorship (2000-2002);
- a public services fellowship in the ESRC-funded Advanced Institute of Management Research (AIM) programme (2003-4); and
- an inaugural National Institute for Health Research senior investigatorship, which he currently holds.

Over the past 25 years, he has published over 200 peer-reviewed articles in economics, medical, health policy and health management journals and has co-authored or edited several books on various aspects of health economics and public service delivery. His latest offering Credit Crunch Health Care was published by Policy press earlier this year.

continued
Cam Donaldson continued

Professor Donaldson’s major research interests have been in measuring the benefits of health care and using economics in health care priority setting. He is currently a member of the Medical Research Council’s Methodology Panel and is on the Advisory Board of the Relate Institute. He is on the editorial board of Health Policy and is Assistant Editor to a new journal called Social Business.

On taking up the Yunus Chair in May 2010, his research interests will now focus on development and application of evaluation frameworks to assess microcredit and other forms of social business as interventions to improve health and well-being.

JENNIFER GIBSON PhD

Jennifer Gibson is Director of Partnerships & Strategy and Senior Research Associate at the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics (JCB) and Assistant Professor in the Institute of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation at the University of Toronto. She has broad research, consulting, and policy experience in health care priority setting, organizational ethics, and ethics program development. She has worked with clinicians, managers and board members across Canada to address common priority setting challenges. Dr. Gibson has also advised government and other health sector agencies on a range of health policy issues.

Currently, Dr. Gibson leads the JCB’s organizational ethics research platform, co-leads the Public Engagement & Societal Values program stream of the Canadian Centre for Applied Research in Cancer Control (ARCC), and sits on the Advisory Committee for the Ontario Citizen’s Council. She has published several peer-reviewed articles and conducted over 100 presentations locally, nationally and internationally on health care priority setting and organizational ethics. Her current research interests include: public engagement in cancer control, ethics and values in health system integration, and values-based decision-making in health care resource allocation.
Mr. Horne was elected to his first term as a Member of the Legislative Assembly for Edmonton-Rutherford on March 3, 2008 and was sworn in as the Minister of Health and Wellness on October 12, 2011. Previous appointments include Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister Health and Wellness, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Seniors and Community Supports, Chair of the Standing Committee on Health, and Deputy Chair of the Premier’s Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities.

Prior to his election to the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Horne worked as a health policy consultant for over 25 years. He has led many initiatives to improve access and quality in Canadian public health care and has worked extensively with organizations such as the Conference Board of Canada, the Alberta government and Mayo Clinic.

Mr. Horne holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Royal Roads University and post-graduate certification in Dispute Resolution from York University. An avid volunteer, he has served on numerous boards including the Alberta Mental Health Board, Athabasca University, the Mediation and Restorative Justice Centre of Edmonton and the Canadian Student Debating Federation.

Mr. Horne is a former debater and coached Team Canada at the World Schools Debating Championships. For his continued contributions to the development of debate and speech programs, Mr. Horne received the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002.

Steven Lewis is a health policy and research consultant based in Saskatoon, and Adjunct Professor of Health Policy at Simon Fraser University. Prior to resuming a fulltime consulting practice he headed a health research granting agency and spent seven years as CEO of the Health Services Utilization and Research Commission in Saskatchewan. He has served on various boards and committees, including the Governing Council of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Saskatchewan Health Quality Council, the Health Council of Canada, and the editorial boards of several journals, including Open Medicine. He writes frequently on topics such as reforming and strengthening medicare, improving health care quality, primary health care, regionalization, and health policy and politics. He wrote the paper Patient-centred Care: What Is It and How to Achieve It in 2009 as a discussion paper for the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health.
THEODORE R. MARMOR PhD

Theodore R. Marmor is Professor Emeritus of Yale University in three units: the Schools of Management and Law and the Department of Political Science. From 2008, he has been an Adjunct Professor in Public Policy at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government. The former Director – from 1992 to 2003 – of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s post-doctoral program in health policy, Professor Marmor was educated at both Harvard University and Wadham College, Oxford.

Professor Marmor is primarily a scholar of the modern welfare state, with special emphasis on health and pension issues. The author (or co-author) of eleven books, he has published over 150 articles in a wide range of scholarly journals. His opinion essays have appeared in major US newspapers – including the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles and Boston Globe.


DIANE MCARTHUR MBA

Diane McArthur is Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Officer of Ontario Public Drug Programs for the Province of Ontario. Prior to her appointment in June 2010, Diane was the Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for seniors’ issues within the Government of Ontario.

The Ontario Seniors’ Secretariat supports Ontario’s Minister Responsible for Seniors in his advocacy role on behalf of Ontario seniors across all provincial government activities. The Secretariat undertakes policy initiatives that improve the quality of life of Ontario seniors, and supports public education efforts for and about older Ontarians.

Prior to assuming this role, Ms. McArthur was the Executive Coordinator of Health and Social Policy in the Cabinet Office of the Government of Ontario where she supported the policy decision-making processes of the Cabinet committee that deals with health, social services, health promotion, francophone, women’s and seniors’ issues, and was responsible for broader public sector labour relations.

Ms. McArthur has held progressively more senior positions in several ministries since joining the Government of Ontario as a Management Intern in 1989. She has extensive experience in health human resource policy and planning for health provider training, education, supply and distribution initiatives, data and health information planning and analysis, health care provider negotiations, rural health policy, labour relations, and service delivery restructuring.

Diane has a Bachelor of Public Relations from Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Ottawa.
CATHY ULRICH BPR

Cathy Ulrich has held this position since 2007. From 2002 to 2007, Cathy was the Vice President, Clinical Services and Chief Nursing Officer for Northern Health. Before the formation of Northern Health, she worked in a variety of nursing and management positions in Northern British Columbia, Manitoba, and Alberta.

Most of her career has been in rural and northern communities where she has gained a solid understanding of the unique health needs of rural communities. She has a nursing degree from the University of Alberta and a master’s degree in community health sciences from the University of Northern BC (UNBC).

Ms. Ulrich has been the recipient of the Public Health Association of BC President’s Award, the College of Registered Nurses Award of Excellence in Nursing Administration, and the UNBC Alumni of the Year Award. She is also a Fellow in the Wharton Nurse Executive Program. She is currently an adjunct professor in UNBC’s Nursing and Community Health Sciences Programs and serves on the board of the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research.

HOWARD WALDNER MBA

Howard Waldner is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Vancouver Island Health Authority, one of six Regional Health Authorities in British Columbia, based in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. He is responsible for providing the continuum of health services to the population of Vancouver Island and a portion of the British Columbia mainland. VIHA has an annual budget of $2 billion and employs 18,000 staff and works with 2,000 physician partners.

Prior to joining VIHA, he was the Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer for the former Calgary Health Region, one of the largest integrated health systems in Canada. During his six years in Calgary, he was responsible for the commissioning and delivery of services to a population of 1.5 million and an operational budget of $2 billion.

Before moving to Canada in 1999, he held a number of senior leadership roles within the Scottish Health Service, most recently as CEO of Dundee Teaching Hospitals.

He received his Executive MBA from the University of Glasgow, Scotland, he is an active member of the Canadian and American Colleges of Health Service Executives, and is a Fellow of the United Kingdom Institute of Health Care Managers. He is also a certified Member of the Canadian Institute of Corporate Directors.

He serves as a Director with several non-profit organizations including the British Columbia Academic Health Council, the Canadian Institute for Health Information, the Canadian College of Health Service Executives, the United Way Campaign Cabinet, and the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness. He also holds an appointment as Adjunct Professor with the Faculty of Medicine, at the University of British Columbia.
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