

# BCNRI Nursing Research Advisory Council Founding Members

Founding members of the Nursing Research Advisory Council (NRAC) for the BC Nursing Research Initiative developed the mission and goals for the initiative. They also provided recommendations to the MSFHR Board of Directors regarding strategic and funding priorities to develop capacity for and undertake practice-relevant research focused on professional nursing practice environments, nursing education, nursing workforce and related service and program initiatives.

## Co-Chairs



### **Dr. Lynn Stevenson**

***Vice President, People, Organizational Development, Practice and Chief Nurse Executive, Vancouver Island Health Authority***

Dr. Lynn Stevenson joined the Vancouver Island Health Authority in November 2005 and provides strategic leadership for Human Resources and Organizational Development, Professional Practice, Research, Ethics and Quality and Patient Safety for the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) and is the Chief Nurse Executive.

Prior to that, Lynn held executive positions at Fraser Health, the BC Cancer Agency and the former Capital Health Region. She is a Fellow of the Canadian College of Health Service Executives; an EXTRA Fellow and holds Adjunct Professor positions in the Schools of Nursing at the Universities of British Columbia and Victoria.

Lynn is involved in many research initiatives, most recently as a core team member on the Canadian Patient Safety Institute research related to safety in community care which builds on her fellowship research. In 2008 she received the National Nursing Leadership Award from the Canadian College of Health Service Executives.



### **Dr. Pamela Ratner**

***Professor, Applied Science/Nursing, University of British Columbia***

Dr. Pam Ratner's research focuses on a range of health promotion research issues, particularly related to social and behavioural determinants of health. She collaborates with many health scientists at UBC and across Canada, and has contributed to understanding of factors that influence heart health and the public's understanding of risk factors for heart disease, the symptoms of acute coronary syndromes, and the factors that influence people's use of health care services. She has extensive clinical experience in the care of adults with acute illnesses. Pam worked with patients with haematological disorders and was involved in early programs in bone marrow transplantation. She subsequently earned a postgraduate certificate in critical care and provided nursing care in intensive care, cardiac care, emergency, post-anaesthetic recovery, and cardiovascular intensive care units. She is an MSFHR Senior Scholar and co-Director of NEXUS, a multi-disciplinary research unit, funded by the MSFHR. The unit's mission is to develop knowledge, interventions, and policy recommendations that are based on a critical analysis of the social contexts that create barriers to health, affect health seeking and influence system responses. Pam was elected a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences in 2007 and is a member of the Advisory Board of the CIHR Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health.

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## Members



### **Dr. Jeanne Besner**

***Director, Health Systems & Workforce Research Unit, Alberta Health Services***

Dr. Jeanne Besner has been the Director of the Health Systems and Workforce Research Unit since its establishment in 2001. Jeanne is a former President of the College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta (2003 to 2005) and past member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Nurses Association (2000 to 2005). She was appointed to the Health Council of Canada in December 2003 and currently serves as its Chair. Jeanne is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation.



### **Julie Foreman**

***Clinical Nurse Leader, Providence Health Care***

Julie Foreman graduated from the University College of the Caribou in 1997 with a Bachelor degree of Science in Nursing. She started her nursing career as a home care aide in Victoria, and worked as a camp nurse for the summer of 1998. Julie moved to Vancouver in 1998 to work at GF Strong in Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Rehabilitation. She started working at St. Paul's in 1999 as a casual for the medical program. After serving as a medical float nurse for a year, she became the clinical nurse leader for the HIV/AIDS program in 2002. Julie is passionate about nursing, and nursing professionalism as well as work environments. She was a workplace rep for RNABC for 2 years and co-chair for the Vancouver Chapter of RNABC for a year. She was the nurse representative for CWGHR (HIV in rehabilitation working group) in 2003 and is an active member of the Canadian Nurses in HIV/AIDS Care. Julie started examining the relationships between nurses', patients and the environment in relation to providing spiritual care in 2006. She has since presented on her findings and is now considering studying for a Masters degree.



### **Tom Fulton**

***Chief, Professional Practice Nursing Quality Improvement, Interior Health Authority***

Tom Fulton is the Leader of Professional Practice and Chief Nursing Officer of the Interior Health Authority and an Adjunct Professor with the faculty of Health and Social Development, University of British Columbia-Okanagan. He is a Registered Nurse with over 20 years of experience in a variety of clinical and leadership roles. Tom's clinical experience includes neonatal intensive care, diabetes and pain management. He assumed a leadership role in the development, implementation and growth of the chronic disease management models and collaborative in British Columbia as well as led the development of the BC Nurse Line. Tom has extensive experience in clinical and health systems research. Tom is currently on leave from a Ph.D. (Nursing) with the University of Victoria and has received a Master of Science degree from Southern Connecticut State University, a Bachelors degree in Nursing, and a Bachelors degree in Physical Education, both from the University of Manitoba.

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## **Gulrose Jiwani**

### ***Executive Director, Nursing Directorate, BC Ministry of Health Services***

Gulrose Jiwani has a wealth of experience in health care, including 24 years of progressive experience in health policy planning and implementation, redesigning and managing health care systems, issues management, and hands-on academic and research experience. Gulrose brings a strong commitment to the nursing profession and the role of nurses in providing leadership in shaping healthy public policies, and advancing the science and practice of nursing. Her experience also includes a variety of clinical management positions, and Clinical Nurse Specialist in various hospitals across Canada. Gulrose has held full-time faculty position at the University of New Brunswick, School of Nursing and been Sessional Faculty at the Memorial University of Newfoundland and University of Ottawa. Gulrose is currently enrolled in a PhD in Nursing Science program at the University of Washington. The focus of her research is evidence-based senior-level decision-making in government policy. She holds a Master of Nursing degree from the Memorial University of Newfoundland, and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Windsor in Ontario.



## **Laurianne Jodouin**

### ***Director, Nursing Directorate, BC Ministry of Health Services***

Laurianne Jodouin holds a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of British Columbia and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Laurentian University. She brings with her a wealth of experience in health and nursing services program planning, policy analysis and development, implementation, and evaluation. Laurianne has had a primary leadership role with several projects that introduced new programs and innovative service delivery in BC, for example, the BC Palliative Care Benefits Program, the palliative telenursing project which won the 2006 Tommy Douglas Celebration of Medicare Award, and development of the Provincial Framework for End of Life Care. She has held leadership roles in the Ministry of Health since 1988. Prior to joining the Nursing Directorate she held the position of Manager, Service Redesign, Home and Community Care Branch with the Health Authorities Division. Before joining the Ministry of Health, Laurianne was a Program Consultant and Case Manager in Long Term Care with the Vancouver Health Department. Her experience also includes being a Long Term Care Instructor and Head Nurse at Shaughnessy Hospital and clinical practice as a staff nurse at UBC Extended Care Unit, Vancouver General Hospital and Montreal General Hospital.



## **Catherine Kidd**

### ***Regional Director, Worksafe & Wellness, Vancouver Coastal Health***

Catherine Kidd leads the VCH team that is responsible for all aspects of employee health and safety. Programs focus on prevention, early intervention and disability management. In her extensive career in health care, Catherine has had experience in direct care, education, senior management and research. Catherine participates in a variety of research activities related to occupational health and safety in collaboration with the Occupational Health and Safety Agency for Healthcare in BC (OHSAH), Health Care Benefit Trust (HBT), Partners in Community Health Research (PCHR) Workplace Health Cluster, and the Institute for Health Promotion Research (IHPR) at UBC.

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## **Ranjit Lehal**

### ***Nurse Practitioner, Fraser Health***

Ranjit Lehal graduated from Langara College in 1989 with a diploma in nursing. The focus of her clinical practice was general surgery in acute care. In 1991 she went to UBC to pursue a degree in nursing. Following this, Ranjit moved into a variety of clinical educator roles in palliative care, orthopedic trauma, family practice, and spinal cord injury as well as clinical instruction with 1st and 2nd year nursing students. Most recently, her practice shifted to more supportive roles addressing the health needs of multicultural populations through her work with a Human rights and diversity office and also addressing the educational needs of patients and families within a Learning Centre for patients and families in a tertiary care setting. Ranjit completed graduate studies in Nursing from UVIC in 2006. She currently works with TriCities HomeHealth as a Family Nurse Practitioner.



## **Dr. Martha MacLeod**

### ***Associate Professor and Coordinator, Graduate Studies and Research and Academic & Research Lead, Rural Nursing Certificate Program, University of Northern British Columbia.***

Dr. Martha MacLeod comes from a professional and practice background in nursing management and continuing education. She has been at the University of Northern British Columbia since 1994, in the Nursing and Community Health programs, where she coordinates nursing graduate education and research, and helps students to learn about leadership, research, knowledge development, and advanced community practice. Her research is on the nature of everyday experience and practice and how professional practice may be developed or hindered within health care organizations, particularly those in rural, remote and northern settings. She has published and presented widely on rural and northern nursing issues, nursing education and nursing practice. Dr. MacLeod is active in creating partnered research programs with BC's Northern Health, as well as developing national and regional multidisciplinary rural and remote health research networks.



## **Darlene Martin**

### ***Aboriginal Health Program Manager, Vancouver Island Health Authority***

Darlene Martin is of Coast Salish and Irish ancestry and has been working as a nurse for over 35 years. In 2000 Darlene was hired as the First Nation Liaison by the Capital Health Region's First Nation Health Advisory Committee and realized her dream of working within the health system influencing health services to be more accessible and acceptable for her own Coast Salish people on the South Island. In 2001, Darlene assumed management responsibility for Aboriginal Health with the Vancouver Island Health Authority. This enabled her to transfer the skills, abilities and approaches learned on Southern Vancouver Island in Coast Salish territory to Kwak-qwak-'qwak and Nuu-chah-nulth territories. Darlene has worked closely with the School of Nursing at the University of Victoria to advance the practice of Aboriginal Health nursing. This work led to collaboration on several projects: the development of the course "Nursing with Aboriginal People's of Canada", and the creation of a DVD titled "Nursing; The Difference is You", a recruiting tool aimed at Aboriginal youth, showcasing Aboriginal nurses as role models. Darlene is the BC Board Director for the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada. In 2006 her Alma Mater honoured her with its inaugural 'Excellence in Nursing' award and in 2007 she was again honoured by colleagues at being nominated for the VIHA 'Value and Recognition Award for Collaboration'.

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**Edna McLellan**

***Public Health Nursing Program Manager, Northern Health***

Edna McLellan received her Masters of Nursing in Advanced Practice Leadership from the University of Victoria in June 2007. Her area of study was women's health with a focus on barriers to care for mammograms and cervical screening. Throughout the past few years Edna has been instrumental in advancing the research agenda with Public Health Nurses in Northern Health. She has a keen interest in research and this is evidenced by her involvement in the Family Health Research Project, a collaborative qualitative research project funded by CIHR. This project has brought researchers from the University of Northern BC, the University of Victoria, the University of British Columbia and the University of Calgary, together with front line public health nurses and managers to study the "Working Relationships of Public Health Nurses and High Risk Families." She was the co-recipient of the LERN Award for programming excellence in Health and Wellness for the community of Kitimat. Edna continues to work as a front line public health nurse until August 2007 when she will assume the role of Public Health Nursing Program Manager for the Central Cluster in the Northwest Health Service Delivery area of Northern Health.



**Barbara Mildon**

***Chief Nurse Executive & Vice President, Professional Practice and Integration, Fraser Health***

Barb's nursing experience includes clinical practice and education, regulation, administration and research. She is now the Chief Nurse Executive and Vice President of Professional Practice & Integration at Fraser Health Authority in B.C. Barb is a Past President of the Community Health Nurses Association of Canada where she led the development of national standards of practice for community health nurses, and the achievement of CNA certification for community health nursing. Barb is an adjunct professor with the Faculty of Nursing, University of British Columbia and a Certified Health Executive with the Canadian College of Health Service Executives. She has authored several publications and has made numerous presentations. A recipient of the CNA Centennial Award, Barb's abiding joy is speaking and being with nurses and allied health professionals and supporting and celebrating excellence in professional practice.



**Dr. Anita Molzahn**

***Professor, School of Nursing, University of Victoria***

Dr. Anita Molzahn is currently a Professor in the School of Nursing at the University of Victoria. Formerly, she held positions as Director of the School of Nursing and Dean of the Faculty of Human and Social Development at the University of Victoria. She holds Master of Nursing and PhD degrees from the University of Alberta. Her research interests relate to quality of life in chronic illness and organ donation. She recently completed an international study of quality of life and healthy aging, in association with the World Health Organization with collaborators from 22 countries. As well, she is a co-investigator in the CAN-PREVENT study, a multi-centre national study of nurse-run clinics for the early detection of risk factors for chronic kidney disease and its complications. She has conducted a number of studies pertaining to organ donation, most recently regarding ethno cultural beliefs about organ donation.

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## **Dr. Mary Ellen Purkis**

***Dean, Human & Social Development, University of Victoria***

Dr. Mary Ellen Purkis is Dean of the Faculty of Human and Social Development. A former practicing nurse who received her BN and RN from the University of Calgary and an MSc and PhD in nursing from the University of Edinburgh, Mary Ellen joined UVic's School of Nursing in 1993. She was appointed its director in 2001. Prior to joining UVic, Mary Ellen served on the nursing faculty at the University of Lethbridge and Medicine Hat College. She is a scholar in the area of nursing practice, education, and the effects of discourses of health promotion and self-care on nursing practice and on the experiences of people receiving that care. Mary Ellen is past-chair of the Nurse Educators' Council of BC and currently serves as chair of the Operations Committee of the BC Academic Health Council. She is actively involved in graduate education, both as a supervisor and a committee member, and has an active program of ongoing research. She has considerable experience in distance and distributed education and has contributed to many administrative committees at the university.



## **Dr. Fay Warnock**

***Nurse Scientist, Children's & Women's Health Centre of BC; Assistant Professor, Applied Science/Nursing, University of British Columbia***

Dr. Fay Warnock is an Assistant Professor at the UBC School of Nursing and a MSFHR Health Research Scholar. She is a Research Scientist at BC Child and Family Research Institute where she conducts her research and serves as a Nurse Scientist at BC Children's and Women's Health Centre to help promote nurse research capacity. She is a Founding Fellow of the UBC Institute of Mental Health. Since 2003, Fay has served as a panel member to the CIHR palliative and end of life care operating grant committee. Her research interests include infant pain measurement, child pain, infant and child mental health and maternal depression. Prior to taking up academic studies which were supported through CIHR doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships, she served as nurse coordinator for child mental health at Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton Alberta. Fay received her PhD in Nursing from the University of Alberta.



## **Patricia Wejr**

***Senior Policy Analyst, BC Nurses' Union***

Patricia Wejr works as a Policy Analyst for the BC Nurses' Union (BCNU). In this role, she builds links between the union, employers, Health Authorities and government, sitting on numerous stakeholder committees and taking part in joint projects. Current initiatives include the Provincial Nursing Advisory Committee, Provincial Nursing Workload Committee, Frontline Leadership Review Committee, Residential Care Policy Committee, Care Aide Competency Project, VCH/FHA Nursing Educator Career Pathway Project Advisory Committee, and VCH Internationally Educated Nurse RN Post Licensure Advisory Committee. Previous collaborative work includes being the union representative on the research team formed by the Ministerial Committee on the Recruitment and Retention of RNs and RPNs, which resulted in the 2000 report Assess and Intervene, as well as on the Joint Advisory Committee to the Associate Deputy Minister of Health (1996 – 2000) and the Health Human Resource Advisory Committee. Prior to joining BCNU, Patricia worked as a Registered Nurse in a variety of settings including medical, surgical units, and Critical Care float pool at Vancouver General Hospital; in labor/delivery/ post-partum (Midwifery program, London, England) and at a women's health advocacy and information centre (London, England).

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## Cherry Graf

### *Vice President, External Affairs, Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research*

Cherry Graf was a member of the strategic group that developed the plan for creating the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research and was appointed Vice President External Affairs when the Foundation began operations in March 2001. Prior to joining the Foundation, she was a member of the senior management team at the BC Research Institute for Children's & Women's Health, reporting to the Executive Director Dr. Aubrey Tingle as Director of Communications for the Institute. Cherry has worked in public affairs and communications for more than 20 years, both in industry and the non-profit sector. At the Michael Smith Foundation, Cherry's work encompasses the full range of external affairs, including stakeholder relations, partnership development and communications. In this role, she led a Task Force process to develop the vision and goals for the Foundation's Infrastructure Programs and for the Health Services & Policy Support Network and its funding programs. She is the Foundation's Executive Sponsor for the Nursing Research Initiative.