

Dorina Simeonov
(Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario Division) as Chair

Dorina Simeonov, M.Sc., is a Planning and Policy Analyst at Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario (CMHA). Dorina is the CMHA Ontario Lead for mental health and justice, responsible for identifying emerging issues, monitoring trends, and responding to public issues in the area of criminal justice, policing, mental health diversion and courts. Dorina is the Co-Chair of the Police Records Check Coalition and the Policy Advisor to the Provincial Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee.



Shalini Lal
(McGill University) as Past Chair (2012-2013)

Shalini Lal, Ph.D., is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Psychiatry, McGill University; and, at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute. Her research is focused on increasing access and quality of mental health services for youth through knowledge translation, arts, and technology.

Eric Latimer
(McGill University and Douglas Mental Health University Institute) as Executive Member at Large

Eric Latimer, Ph.D, a health economist by training, is research scientist at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute and Professor, Department of Psychiatry, McGill University. His research concerns services for people with severe mental illness, notably Assertive Community Treatment, case management and supported employment, as well as Housing First for homeless people with mental illness.



Elizabeth Lin
(Centre for Addiction and Mental Health) as Chair Elect

Dr. Elizabeth Lin is an Independent Scientist in the Provincial System Support Program at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, an assistant professor with the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto, and adjunct faculty at the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto, and the Institute of Clinical Evaluative Sciences. She focuses on mental health and addictions services research and has a particular interest in performance indicators. Her expertise is in using information from large-scale population surveys or administrative databases to describe how people use mental health and addictions care and to point out areas where service delivery might be improved. One of the important uses of that information is to measure and monitor the performance of the health care system. She is currently (2014) involved in three large-scale projects. She is the performance indicator lead for the System Improvement through Service Collaboratives (SISC), a 3-year project charged with supporting and evaluating efforts across the province to improve services and supports for children/youth with mental health and addictions problems across a number of provincial Ministries. She is a research team member for a new H-CARDD grant evaluating the health care received by Ontarians with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). This work will use a newly created, administrative database which has the largest IDD cohort available internationally. She is also one of several co-leads on a multi-component project evaluating various aspects of Ontario's health care system.

Angela Ly
(Coordinator of the Membership and Communications Committee)

Angela Ly, B. Com. is a research analyst at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute and a M.Sc. candidate at the Université de Montréal. Her interests are in economic evaluation, costing and hospital performance. She is currently working on the economic evaluation of a Housing First intervention for homeless people with a mental illness under the direction of Dr. Eric Latimer as part of the pan-canadian At Home/Chez Soi project. She holds a Bourse d'Excellence from the Université de Montréal and is an Association of University Programs in Health Administration McGaw scholar. With the help of her team at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute, she won the 2012 CAHSPR student poster competition.



Amanda Slaunwhite
(University of Victoria, Centre for Addictions Research of BC) as Executive Member at Large

Amanda Slaunwhite is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria, and a Research Affiliate of the Centre for Addictions Research of British Columbia. She contributes to projects related to mental health and addictions issues, access to treatment, and engagement of persons with lived experience. Amanda's doctoral research focuses on the geographies of alcohol-related harm and primary care utilization for alcohol-attributed diseases in British Columbia.



Leena Wu
(University of British Columbia, School of Nursing and Centre for Health Services & Policy Research) as Coordinator of the Conference Planning Committee

Leena Wu is a master's student at the University of British Columbia (UBC) School of Population and Public Health. She is interested in exploring the policy structures required to support and enhance interprofessional collaboration for improving mental health outcomes. Leena is also a research assistant at the UBC School of Nursing and Centre for Health Services and Policy Research where she is involved in a number of projects, including an international study examining the quality, equity, and costs of primary health care (PHC), a CIHR team grant seeking to optimize PHC performance measurement and reporting, and the Canadian Primary Care Sentinel Surveillance Network, Canada's first multi-disease electronic record surveillance system.

Qamar Zaidi
(York University) as Coordinator of the Membership and Communications Committee

Qamar Zaidi is a PhD candidate in Health Policy and Equity at York University. Before starting his PhD, Qamar was a research coordinator for the Public Health Agency of Canada funded Migration and Diabetes Project, examining the risk factors of developing diabetes and its management in four newcomer communities in Toronto. He also coordinated the Rapid Health Assessment in four low-income neighbourhoods in Toronto and the Greater Toronto Area for the West Social Housing and Health Study conducted by the Centre for Research on Inner City Health at St. Michael's Hospital. Qamar's doctoral research looks at diabetes risks and management among the low-income population in Ontario.

