



Dr. Jeannie Shoveller, incoming Director,
Epidemiology & Population Health and Drug Treatment Program

The BC-CfE welcomes Dr. Jeannie Shoveller, new Director of Epidemiology and Population Health and the Drug Treatment Program

The BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS (BC-CfE) is pleased to share the news Dr. Jeannie Shoveller has accepted the position of Director of Epidemiology and Population Health and the Drug Treatment Program, beginning January 4, 2016.

Originally from Nova Scotia, Dr. Shoveller has called British Columbia home since 1993. She completed a PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies (1997) and her post-doctoral training (1999) at the University of British Columbia (UBC). She accepted an appointment in the UBC Faculty of Medicine in 1999, where she continues to work as a Professor in the School of Population and Public Health. Her research focuses on the health effects of social inequities — including the effects of unfair distribution of income, barriers to educational attainment, ageism, homophobia, and gender bias on HIV-related outcomes.

Dr. Shoveller has served as Principal Investigator on more than 20 studies, published over 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts, and supervised more than 50 graduate students and

post-doctoral fellows. She has received awards for her scholarship from prestigious institutions, including the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and the European Union Commission. In 2015, she was inducted into the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences in recognition of her leadership and contributions to health and social equity nationally and internationally.

Dr. Shoveller is excited to join the BC-CfE and said, "Throughout my career, I have worked alongside amazing people, including colleagues at the BC-CfE. I am truly honoured to accept this new role. It will allow me to work with people whom I respect greatly and provide opportunities to make new contributions that address the needs of the communities we serve."

Raised on the Barteaux family farm in Clarence, Nova Scotia, Dr. Shoveller credits her parents for instilling in her a love of doing meaningful work in an honest, gracious and generous manner. She brings the same level of enthusiasm and discipline to her academic

endeavours. Many might be surprised to learn that after launching a new project in Brazil, she challenged herself to learn Portuguese, initially enrolling in evening classes at Langara College. She has spent the past decade improving her Portuguese language proficiency, which has been helpful to her HIV-related research collaborations in Brazil, where she also had been a Visiting Professor at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, the State University of Rio de Janeiro, and the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sol.

Married for over 25 years to her husband Tim (an English teacher), Dr. Shoveller shares a quote from one of her favourite poets, Elizabeth Bishop (an adopted Nova Scotian): "The armored cars of dreams, contrived to let us do so many a dangerous thing." When asked what this means to her, Dr. Shoveller said, "It's important to think big, as it allows us to do things we might otherwise never have tried." Keeping that sentiment in mind, we are very pleased to welcome Dr. Shoveller to the BC-CfE and look forward to working together for many years to come.



» A heartfelt Season's Greetings and wish for a Happy New Year from the BC-CfE. A special thanks to all of our supporters, we look forward to the many new projects in store for us in 2016. A grateful thank you to our government, Premier Christy Clark and Minister of Health, Terry Lake, for their continued support, and we look forward to working with the newly-elected Liberal federal government to help end HIV and AIDS.

— Dr. Julio Montaner, Director, BC-CfE



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A Day in the Life of an Outreach Nurse: Implementing Treatment as Prevention® in the Field



» In 2009, the B.C. government announced the launch of a four-year pilot project based on the Treatment as Prevention® strategy pioneered at the BC-CfE. One component of the program was called Seek and Treat for Optimal Prevention of HIV/AIDS (STOP HIV/AIDS®), or STOP. In 2012, before the pilot had wrapped up — and based on its early and remarkable success — the government announced a province-wide expansion. The announcement came with \$19.9 million in funding for the growth of the program, aimed at providing HIV prevention services, testing and treatment to hard-to-reach and highly impacted communities.

The BC-CfE has been a driving force in establishing the STOP program and working with the provincial government to support its infrastructure.

The challenging work of outreach nursing is a key component of the effective implementation of the STOP HIV/AIDS® initiative. Outreach nurses connect with clients in the community as part of a dedicated team of skilled nurses, social workers, outreach workers and housing outreach workers. They work closely with peer navigators, professionally trained people living with HIV who can offer clients knowledge and insight acquired through lived experience.

The STOP Outreach Team works collaboratively with community health centres, physicians, pharmacists, mental health teams, housing support workers and others involved in a client's support network.

The BC-CfE spoke with STOP outreach nurse Lesa Dumsha, who works with Vancouver Coastal Health, to learn more about the challenges and rewards the position brings. This is a condensed version of the interview.

BC-CfE: What does it mean to be a STOP outreach nurse?

Lesa Dumsha: STOP HIV Outreach Nurses work with approximately 35-40 clients at a time, doing intensive case management. We support clients at all stages of their HIV journey. Our HIV case management team is interdisciplinary in order to meet clients' holistic goals, including addressing gaps in social determinants of health. These include housing, income stability and nutrition, as well as connection to social and health care resources in the community. The majority of our clients are marginalized and have experienced a great deal of trauma in their lives. Most struggle with addiction and

mental illness, making building rapport and a trusting therapeutic relationship key to our client-centred approach.

BC-CfE: What is a day on the job like?

LD: Every day is different and unpredictable so there is no typical day. Certain clients will be a priority each day for various reasons.

We work as a team to juggle our time to manage caseloads with ever-changing needs. We accompany clients to their appointments. We do a lot of crisis management, from dealing with acute illness or psychosis to supporting clients who are being evicted. We are constantly working to break down barriers to care. We check in with our clients regularly in hopes of finding appropriate moments for health care interventions, like getting blood work done. We also strive to talk to them about topics that are important and relevant to them, like medication management and HIV criminalization.

BC-CfE: How do you see the STOP program working? What is driving the success?

LD: Our success is based on our client-centred approach, our interdisciplinary team services as well as our strong community partnerships. We have had incredible support from our management to be able to be flexible and creative in order to meet the needs of our clients.

Our case management team works in what we call "pods" which consist of an outreach worker, a nurse and a social worker to provide wrap-around care to our clients. We work very closely with our community partners to support our mutual clients. It feels as though we are one big team providing a network of care.

BC-CfE: How do you see Treatment as Prevention® (TasP®) being implemented on a day-to-day basis?

LD: As TasP® is at the core of our mandate, it is at the forefront of our conversations with clients. We make sure they are aware of the importance of treatment for their health, as well as for decreasing the risks of transmission to their partners. This conversation usually occurs when a client is first introduced to us. However, as consistently taking medications is often very difficult for our clients, TasP® is an ongoing discussion. We work with clients to build resilience, self-care and independence.

Read the full story at bit.ly/outreachnurse

NEWS

Delivering safe and sensitive care to sex workers

» Jill Chettiar, MD Candidate and Gender and Sexual Health Initiative (GSHI) Research Associate, authored an article for the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) blog 'Smart Sex Resource' on how to best support sex workers accessing health care and sexual and reproductive health services. Based on her many years of experience as a Research Coordinator with GSHI, and relying on evidence from the AESHA (An Evaluation of Sex Workers Health Access) Project, Jill suggests health providers gain better understanding of the structural risk factors facing sex workers in relation to HIV and sexually transmitted infections in order to

create safe care environments. Jill writes, "Through education and connection with community, care providers can promote openness and acceptance in their practice, which can help reduce barriers to accessing health care by sex workers."

Read the full article at bit.ly/SafeCare

Jill Chettiar was recently awarded the 'Access to Justice Award' from Pivot Legal Society for her work supporting the Vancouver sex worker organization 'Sex Workers United Against Violence' (SWUAV) in their challenge of Canada's sex work laws.



Working Together: Interprofessional Care in HIV

HIV is a complex and multi-faceted illness. Where possible, a diverse team of clinicians, providers and support services can help to address social, medical and other health-related issues in the care of a person living with HIV. The course was developed by clinicians and providers from diverse disciplines. Using an interprofessional framework, the course is an introduction to providing care and support for people living with HIV, and takes about six hours to complete. A certificate will be issued from the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS upon successful completion.

<http://education.cfenet.ubc.ca/online-courses/>

LECTURES & EVENTS

What's New in Addiction Medicine? Vol. 25

Speaker: TBA

Tuesday, January 26, 2016, 12-1PM

Hurlburt Auditorium (2nd floor), St. Paul's Hospital

Forefront Lecture Series

Supervised drug consumption in Vancouver: History, evolving practices and next steps

Speaker: Dr. Thomas Kerr

Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 12-1PM

Cullen Family Theatre, Providence Level 1, St. Paul's Hospital

HIV Care Rounds

Primary Care in the context of HIV-HCV co-infection

Speaker: Dr. Cole Stanley

Thursday, January 14, 2016, 8-9AM

Indigenous health at the IDC

Speaker: Carol Kellman

Thursday, January 28, 2016, 8-9AM

For more information, contact us at Education@cfenet.ubc.ca or visit our website at www.education.cfenet.ubc.ca

BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS

- > Improve the health of British Columbians with HIV through comprehensive research and treatment programs;
- > Develop cost-effective research and therapeutic protocols;
- > Provide educational support programs to health-care professionals;
- > Monitor the impact of HIV/AIDS on B.C. and conduct analyses of the effectiveness of HIV-related programs.

Physician Drug Hotline
1.800.665.7677

St. Paul's Hospital Pharmacy Hotline
1.888.511.6222

Website
www.cfenet.ubc.ca

E-mail
info@cfenet.ubc.ca

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