

Biographies - Panelists

Faith Perspective



Uttam Barua

Buddhist

Reverend Uttam Barua was born in Chittagon, Bangladesh. He joined the Monastic order as a Buddhist monk at the age of 12.

In 2012, Reverend Uttam Barua moved to Regina and chose to remain here until today. He immediately engaged himself with the multi-faith and local communities. He works tirelessly with eight ethnic Buddhist groups, who are enriching their spiritual needs for happiness. He is the founder of the Buddhist Center of Regina, and has been, on several occasions, invited to teach Buddhism in the Catholic School system and Luther College at the University of Regina.

His main achievement is to help every citizen, regardless of race, sex, colour, or creed, promote the noble teachings of Buddhism, including moral education, encouraging the understanding of each other's faith, and to build bridges and concrete relationships in Saskatchewan.

Mohamed Masloh

Muslim

The Imam Dr. Mohamed Masloh has sixteen years of experience in Da'wa. He is accredited from Al-Azhar University and the Islamic Endowment Ministry in Egypt. He has a Ph.D. in Islamic Studies titled "The Principles of Globalization and Flexibility in the Islamic Shari'ah" from the GTF, Indiana, U.S.A. He is licensed in the teachings of Quran, Hadith (Prophetic Traditions), Aqeedah (Islamic Creed) and Fiqh (Islamic Law) by scholars from different schools of thought.

Biographies - Panelists

Faith Perspective



Brett Salkeld

Roman Catholic

Brett Salkeld is Archdiocesan Theologian for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Regina. He has written and spoken widely on the question of assisted suicide (or, as it is legally known in Canada, medical assistance in dying) from a Catholic point of view.



Dexter van Dyke

United Church

Dexter was raised on a family farm in rural Saskatchewan. He studied at the U of S graduating with a Bachelor of Arts (Sociology) in 1976. He then studied at St. Andrew's College in Saskatoon and was ordained a minister in the United Church in 1979. In thirty-eight years of ministry, he has served in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. A lifelong learner, he has been and remains keenly interested in current social concerns.

Biographies - Panelists

Caregivers Perspective



Nancy O'Donnell-Monk

Nancy was a Special Care Aid and worked in Long Term Care for 30 years. She was presented with the Quality of Care Award in 1999 and Outstanding Service Award in 2000.

In 2003, she retired to then live in Regina Beach. She is a member of the Regina Beach Primary Health Care Committee.

In 2015, she was appointed to the Collaborative Nurse Practitioner Advisory Council. In June 2016, she was elected to the Saskatchewan Senior Mechanism Board as a Member-at-Large. In October 2016, she attended a national conference on Reform in Long Term Care that was organized by the Ontario Health Coalition. Nancy was a Plenary speaker and was on two panels.

Biographies - Panelists

Caregivers Perspective



Diane Johnson

Diane Johnson is a Registered Nurse with 22 years experience in multiple fields: long-term care, research, public health, active medicine, end of life care, and the Healthline. She has worked in both England and Scotland in many nursing capacities. Presently, Diane works on the Wolfe Stroke Unit at the WRC, and teaches in the ONCIEN Nursing Program at Saskpolytech.

Rod McKendrick

'At Home' Caregiver (Bio page 33)



Biography
Conference Speaker
Living with Dementia

Joanne Bracken

Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan

Joanne Bracken is the CEO for the Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan and has earned her Canadian Association Executive Designation in not for profit management. Her passion for working with people with dementia stems from her 13 years' experience as a Recreation Therapist in long-term care. Personal experience with the disease helped her to develop a deeper understanding of the challenges that families face as caregivers, especially those who are long distance caregivers.



Biography
Conference Speaker
Living with Disabilities

Jennifer Cohen

Jennifer is a retired social worker with a 37-year career in government. She was employed in various capacities from the front line to senior policy analyst and has broad experience with poverty and its effects. Jennifer now places her efforts in addressing transportation and physical barriers which limit accessibility for those with restricted mobility. Some of her volunteer committee activities: City of Regina, Regina Community Clinic, Regina Jazz Soc., SCEP, Huston Heights and College of Medicine (patient actor). Jennifer has been disabled since early childhood.



*Biography
Conference Speaker*

Legal Perspective

Kevin Fenwick

Lawyer

Kevin Fenwick, Q.C., is a mediator and lawyer and was the Deputy Minister and Deputy Attorney General for Saskatchewan from 2013 to 2017. His legal career started after graduating from the College of Law at the University of Saskatchewan in 1980. He practiced law in Melville for 15 years before acting on his interest in mediation and dispute resolution. Armed with a belief in collaborative problem solving, Kevin put his skills as a facilitator to use for 20 years, much of it with the provincial Dispute Resolution Office. He then served as the Ombudsman for Saskatchewan. In his various roles, Kevin always facilitated systemic change and championed innovative initiatives aimed at making government and justice services more efficient, accessible and affordable for citizens.



Biography Conference Speaker

Medical Professional Perspective

Patricia Hizo-Abes

Doctor

Dr. Hizo-Abes completed Family Medicine Residency at McMaster University, and her fellowship in Palliative Care at Western University. She practiced in Ontario as a palliative care specialist providing home visits and hospice care to palliative patients dying in the community prior to moving to Saskatoon. In August 2016, Patricia joined the departments of Geriatrics, Palliative Care, and Family Medicine in the Saskatoon Health Region, and is clinical assistant professor at the University of Saskatchewan. Currently she splits her time between Saskatoon and Windsor, ON providing palliative care in hospitals, patient homes, and hospice residential homes. Patricia has a number of academic interests including palliative care for non-malignant diseases; palliative and geriatric medical education; interdisciplinary home care and community medicine; and public health approaches to palliative care and care of the elderly.



Biography Conference Speaker

Access to MAID

David Howland

Government of Saskatchewan

David Howland is the Director of the Health System Policy and Innovation Unit at the Ministry of Health and has oversight responsibility for the implementation of medical assistance in dying in Saskatchewan. David has worked at the Ministry of Health since 2010 in various capacities including health system planning and capital asset planning.



Biography Conference Speaker

Living with Chronic Illness

Charles Keple

A Regina native, and retired Canadian Forces engineer, Charles has served on the Board of Directors of the Sask Seniors Mechanism; the U of R Seniors University Group (Lifelong Learning Centre); Active Aging Canada; the Royal United Services Institute; plus a dozen other organizations, including CARP. He is an SPRA Certified Fitness Instructor (Older Adults) and YMCA Fitness Leader.



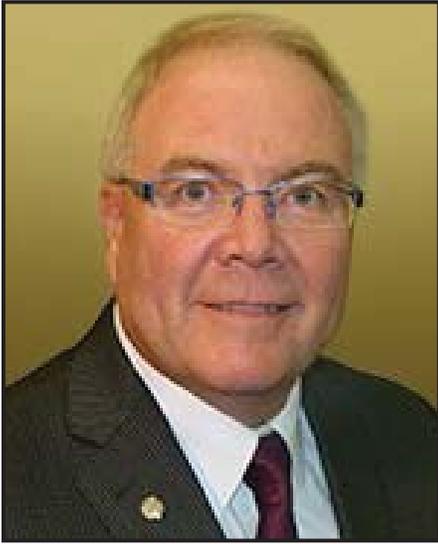
Biography Conference Speaker

Medical Professional Perspective

Maureen Klenk

Nurse Practitioner

Maureen has been involved in the Nurse Practitioner (NP) role since 1990. Currently, Maureen is one of very few nurse practitioners in Saskatchewan whose practice focusses on providing geriatric primary care and is employed with Eden Care Communities. Maureen also has an interest in expanding the NP role to its fullest scope. Maureen has been chairperson for the Nurse Practitioners of Saskatchewan and the founding president of the Saskatchewan Association of Nurse Practitioners - a NP advocacy group. Maureen has successfully advocated for a broader scope of practice for Saskatchewan NPs. Maureen is also currently past president for the Canadian Association of Advanced Practice Nurses. In this role Maureen was invited to present to the federal committee of human justice and a senate committee in relation to Medically Assisted Dying.



Biography Conference Speaker

Advance Care Directives Caregivers Panel

Rod McKendrick

*Victim Services - Interpersonal Violence Specialist
Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice*

Rod McKendrick is currently working with Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, Victims Services, as the Interpersonal Violence Specialist for the province and has done so since 1998. His responsibilities are the development of training materials, policies and protocols in the area of Interpersonal Violence. He also manages the contracts for Aboriginal Family Violence Programs, the Children Exposed to Violence Programs and other specialized programs.

He is currently working with various partners as an advisor through the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism on the “Seniors Neglect and Abuse Response Line”. He was also one of the founding members of the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse. He has presented at national and international venues on issues related to interpersonal violence and abuse, and civil legislation in that area.



Biography Conference Speaker

Living with Chronic Illness

Linda Pratt

Linda was born in Regina and lived on a farm eight miles north of the city. She attended one of the last one room school houses in the province. She studied mathematics at University of Regina. Other than taking a break to raise her family, she worked as a project manager in the IT industry. She was the project manager for the introduction of the Provincial Health Card and automated drug plan for the province of Saskatchewan. She “retired” to long term disability in 2005.



Biography Conference Speaker

Living with Mental Illness

Jayne Whyte

Jayne Melville Whyte (Jayne) is currently historian and archivist with the Canadian Mental Health Association (Saskatchewan). She has survived the mental health system since 1965 and stayed active in CMHA since 1975, a pioneer in speaking as a person with lived experience of mental illness. Jayne is author of *Pivot Points: a fragmented history of Mental Health in Saskatchewan* and is now writing history fragments of the consumer/survivor movement for the 100th anniversary of CMHA in 2018. Jayne lives in a seniors' Regina Housing apartment and looks forward to visits to her two grandsons who live near Saskatoon.