



**Health Ethics Symposium –
RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTHCARE
ETHICS: Considering Issues for the Past,
Present, and Future**
Tuesday, November 28, 2023

PARTICIPANTS' BIOGRAPHIES



Ashraf Aborawi, BSc is a third year medical student at the University of Alberta. Ashraf is currently in Bonnyville, Alberta where he is completing his first year of clerkship as part of the Integrated Community Clerkship program at the U of A, which involves a longitudinal clinical learning experience at a rural healthcare site.

Ashraf is originally from Libya, and moved to Canada when he was five, where he lived across the country before settling down in Lethbridge, Alberta. He completed his BSc in chemistry at the University of Lethbridge in 2019, and spent the next two years volunteering and working for the Canadian Red Cross mainly as the Emergency Management Coordinator for Southwest Alberta. He started at the U of A in 2021, and is planning on graduating in 2025.



Tracey Bailey, BA, LLB, KC has over 30 years' experience in providing legal, legislative, policy, and ethics advice on a wide range of issues in health law. Tracey is a recognized expert in Life Sciences & Health in The Canadian Legal Expert Directory. She has worked in both public and private practice settings, including as Corporate Counsel for Alberta Health, and General Counsel Health Law for Alberta Justice and Solicitor General. She also served in an academic position for close to a decade as Executive Director of the Health Law Institute at the University of Alberta where she conducted a wide range of legal and law reform projects, working locally, provincially, nationally and internationally on a broad range of issues in health law; edited a peer-reviewed publication; taught extensively in the health professional faculties and the law faculty; published on a wide range of topics; conducted media interviews; organized national health law conferences; and provided outreach education for the public and others. In addition to her current work with the Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, she is Associate Counsel with Miller Thomson LLP where she advises health system and health professional clients. Tracey continues to teach health law including a course on Professional Governance for Osgoode Hall Law School in its Professional Development LLM Program.



Erin Busaan, BSc is a second-year medical student at the University of Alberta, and one of the co-leads for the Rural Medicine Interest Group (RMIG). Growing up in a small town made Erin very appreciative of the community-centric lifestyle that rural areas encourage, and she hopes to one day to start her own practice in a rural community. Erin's goal through her position with RMIG is to encourage other students to see the values of rural medicine, and appreciate the unique challenges faced by rural healthcare practitioners.



Jill Konkin, BA(Hons), MD, MCISc, CCFP, FCFP, FRRMS is a Professor of Family Medicine, in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta. For the first 20 years of her career, Jill was a full-time rural generalist family physician. Since joining the academy, she has continued to work in rural communities, first as a locum for other rural generalists and most recently, sharing a position in a remote fly-in community in northern Alberta.

Jill's work, both clinical and academic, is informed by the principles of social justice and health equity. She has advocated for rural medicine and rural medical education for her entire career and is recognized as a leader in this area, both in Canada and internationally. Research interests include social accountability, rural medical education, professional identity formation, interprofessional education and clinical courage.



Brendan Leier, PhD earned his doctorate from the Department of Philosophy, University of Alberta, in 2002. Brendan is Adjunct Professor with the John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre. He is presently doing research on the topics of pediatric best interest, moral distress, end-of-life decision-making, transplant ethics, ethics of medical technology, compassion in the practice of medicine, risk and decision-making.



Jesse Lineham, BSc is a second year medical student and co-lead for the Rural Medicine Interest Group (RMIG) at the University of Alberta. Through RMIG, Jesse has enjoyed fostering a supportive community of medical students who value a rural scope of practice, the challenges of working rurally, and the benefits of a small town lifestyle. Jesse was lucky to grow up in Hinton, Alberta and hopes to return to the area to practice.



Fiona McDonald, PhD is an Associate Professor in the Australian Centre for Health Law Research at Queensland University of Technology, Australia, an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Bioethics at Dalhousie University, Canada, and a Senior Research Fellow at the New Zealand Centre for Public Law at Victoria University of Wellington, Aotearoa / New Zealand. Fiona's research focuses on the legal and ethical governance of health systems, health organisations, health professionals and health technologies. She is the co-author of *Rethinking Rural Bioethics* (Springer 2017).



Christy Simpson, PhD is an Associate Professor in the Department of Bioethics at Dalhousie University. Christy is the Department's Coordinator of the Ethics Collaborations Team which provides ethics support for Nova Scotia Health, IWK Health, and the Nova Scotia Health Ethics Network. She is also an Adjunct Professor in the Australian Centre for Health Law Research at Queensland University of Technology. In 2017, Christy and Fiona McDonald published their book, *Rethinking Rural Health Ethics*. In addition to rural health ethics, Christy's other research interests include the role of hope in health care, professional boundaries, and organizational ethics.



Michael van Manen, MD, PhD, FRCPC(Peds,NICU,CIP) Endowed Chair in Health Ethics is the Director of the John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre and an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics. Michael also has a clinical practice as a physician in neonatal-perinatal medicine with the Stollery Children's Hospital. His research is primarily concerned with relational ethics, situated within the tradition of phenomenology. Michael is considered an international expert in qualitative health research. His research projects relate to ethical decision-making, the experiential life of the fetus/newborn, the use of medical technologies in clinical encounters, and patient-family experiences of hospital care.

Kevin Yang, MD, CCFP is the Acting Director for the Office of Rural and Regional Health and Assistant Clinical Professor in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at University of Alberta. In collaboration with Alberta Health Services and Harvard University, Kevin also serves as the Director of Rural Home Hospital for Wetaskiwin Community Hospital. He primarily works as a rural General Practitioner in Wetaskiwin, Alberta with a special interest in rural emergency medicine. Kevin's clinical practice also includes hospitalist medicine at both the Misericordia Hospital and Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton.