



Public Health
Association of BC

Facing a Changing World: Transformative Leadership and Practice

November 16th & 17th, 2017

Award Recipients

Dr. John Millar

President's Award

The President's Award is given to a member of the Public Health Association of British Columbia who has shown a commitment to enabling their community, neighbourhood, housing complex or organization to address health issues. The issues include economic security, food security, environmental sustainability, preventive health actions, and ensuring involvement in decisions by those affected.

Dr. John Millar has enjoyed a lengthy career in public health. Over the course of this illustrious career, John has worked at all levels of government: local/regional, provincial, federal, and globally. Whether serving as the Provincial Health Officer of BC, or as Vice President for the Canadian Institute for Health Information in Ottawa, and / or as Executive Director, Population and Public Health for the BC Provincial Health Services Authority, he has consistently demonstrated excellence in public health practice and has actively encouraged and supported the same from those around him.

John is a Lifetime Honorary member of both the Canadian Public Health Association and the Public Health Association of BC. He is a member of the Health Officers Council of BC and a past member of the BC Population Health Network.

He is recognized for his commitment to improving the population's health status and most especially for his work on social determinants and the effects of social inequalities on health.

Dr. John Miller is truly a consummate public health practitioner and, as such, is a worthy recipient of the President's Award.

Conference 2017 Award Recipients



Brad Hagkull

The Award of Merit

The Award of Merit is given to a community member who does not belong to the PHABC but who has contributed significantly to enhancing the health of their community. They may have been involved in a variety of areas that impacted in some way the broader determinants of health. Perhaps it was providing support for low cost housing, improving the food supply for low-income areas, supporting programs for children and youth, or supporting healthy lifestyles in general.

Brad is an amazing man who has worked tirelessly in his community to provide programs and wheelchair sport opportunities for people with disabilities in his community. He is a teacher, coach, mentor, board member, friend, volunteer, father, husband - the list goes on. He is a quality human being and deserves to be recognized for the incredible work he has done.

Brad was instrumental in creating, organizing and coaching a junior wheelchair basketball program in Chilliwack. He and his son Ben have identified and recruited many participants to their program over the years, giving children and families an option to play and be physically active in their community. Brad is also a key member of the BC Wheelchair Basketball Society board of directors and contributes his valued opinions and ideas to support the programming and growth of the organization.

Brad is a teacher in the Chilliwack district and positively influences youth on a daily basis at school. In his wheelchair basketball program he encourages children with and without disabilities to be active, make healthy choices and to be respectful and responsible. His high ethical and moral standards are consistently demonstrated by his own example and complimented by his amazing sense of humor. Brad is an excellent communicator and a dedicated, caring coach. Brad enthusiastically enhanced his teaching and coaching skills by taking NCCP coaching certification.

In his younger days Brad was a high performance athlete in the sport of football. He is able to share his knowledge and experiences with young athletes in the Chilliwack area who may also be on a high performance pathway. Brad values sport and recreation at all levels and encourages people of all ages and abilities to be physically active and to lead a healthy active lifestyle. Brad is an excellent role model in all facets of life from his own personal choices to his unwavering community involvement and leadership.

Conference 2017 Award Recipients



Asma-na-hi Antoine

Sharon Martin Award for Community Development

The Sharon Martin Community Development Award was created in November 1999 as a memorial to Sharon Martin, a visionary and staunch advocate for public and community health at national, provincial and community levels. The award recognizes a member or non-member of PHABC who has contributed significantly to community development by:

- supporting community capacity
- advocating for social justice
- mentoring others in the promotion of the public's health
- promoting the involvement of community members in public health programs.

Asma-na-hi is an exceptional individual. In spite of living with the challenges which are unfortunately common to Indigenous peoples in Canada, Asma-na-hi's generous spirit and deeply respectful personality creates a sense of safety and acceptance in all who are fortunate enough to be in her presence. She both advocates for, and models, deep respect to others, whether she is with a student in distress, listening to the wisdom of an Elder, or presenting with the President of the University, on a stage in front of hundreds of people.

Asma-na-hi tirelessly works to promote holistic health in a higher educational context. She provides individual and collective support to Indigenous students, and provides Indigenous cultural competency education to faculty, staff, and students across the University. She leads Indigenous ceremonies with grace and respect for all. Her gentle approach creates safety and models relationship building between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. She has worked hard to bring together Elders from five First Nations communities to advise the University on curriculum, policy, and research. She is highly deserving on this honour.

The joy she expresses while celebrating her culture is inclusive, engaging, and deeply moving. These exceptional qualities make her stand out in her role as a supporter and builder of bridges between Indigenous peoples and the public health system, which so clearly needs her leadership.

Conference 2017 Award Recipients



Laura Kalina

Sharon Martin Award for Community Development

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Laura is a champion of numerous projects promoting a sustainable food system and advancing the role of community food security within the Dietetic profession. She is a pioneer and leader of the food security movement in Canada and has written numerous books including, *Building Food Security in Canada: From Hunger to Sustainable Food Systems* and the *Community Kitchen Shopping and Leader Guide*. She has worked in Public Health for 27 years contributing to British Columbia Ministry of Health Food Security Core Programming. Laura founded and chairs the Kamloops Food Policy Council involved in several grass roots initiatives including Community Gardens and Kitchens, Kamloops FoodShare, the Gleaning Abundance Project, and Public Produce Project. The KFPC is a huge proponent of the success of F2SBC in Kamloops, and Laura has been a long-time supporter of getting students in schools to eat better..

Laura is actively involved in health promotion through the media and has been a regular newspaper columnist and guest on numerous television and radio shows. She is the founder of Shop Smart Tours - the largest supermarket nutrition education program in Canada. She has a passion for sharing the importance of healthy eating and cellular nutrition in the prevention of chronic disease - in particular the management of diabetes through low glyceic eating.

Conference 2017 Award Recipients



Placespeak

Healthy Corporate Citizen Award

Corporations play an ever increasing part of our life not just through the products and services they produce and provide, market and sell but through their involvement in shaping society through their increasing dominance in the social, political and economic life of our communities. Corporations affect our health in both direct and indirect ways.

In order to raise awareness of the role of the corporate sector in public health and in the potential for corporations to provide leadership in improving health, PHABC has created a Healthy Corporate Citizen Award. The award is intended for a corporation, financial institution or producer/worker cooperative that demonstrates a broad and comprehensive commitment to promoting health through a range of policies, products/services and practices. The award is not intended to reward a specific policy, product/service or practice but rather is intended to recognize a broad commitment to addressing the determinants of health (e.g., housing and food security) that can be influenced by corporate activities (e.g., paying a living wage) and to avoid contributing to dangerous or unhealthy policies, products/services and practices (e.g., marketing unhealthy food).

Placespeak is based in Vancouver but provides a service across the province that enables ordinary citizens to engage with democratic processes and pressing community issues in a way that legitimizes their concerns and ideas. Their command of digital technology and on line outreach enables people to make meaningful contributions to their communities. For PHABC, they faced a different challenge. We wanted to engage the entire province in mobilizing support for Public health during the election. Place speak made what seemed like a daunting task to us not only easy to do but successful. We are convinced would not have had such a good response without Placespeak. If we had relied solely on our usual channels for outreach, we would have missed some important poignant support.

Their Mission is to facilitate legitimate and defensible online citizen engagement processes by connecting the digital identity of participants to their physical location. And their vision is to empower people to make a meaningful impact on the communities where they live, work, and play.

PlaceSpeak's unique geo-verification process connects participants' digital identity to their physical location. Organizations conducting consultations can be confident that feedback data is coming from real, relevant people from affected communities

Conference 2017 Award Recipients



Lynda Anderson

Phyllis M. Baird Memorial Award

The Baird Award is given to a Community Health Nurse practicing in a rural area of BC who demonstrates excellence in practice, is (or was) employed in a provincial health unit, wishes to pursue a short or long term course relative to her/his field of interest. The recipient should exhibit some or all of the following:

- an excellent understanding of and keen interest in public health nursing
- leadership skills, pride in doing an excellent job
- activity/interest in professional and/or community organizations, i.e. RNABC, PHABC, CPHA, Community Health Nurses Interest Group, etc.
- eager to increase knowledge, keeps up to date by reading, extramural studies, attending workshops etc.
- demonstrates a tactful, discrete, courteous, poised manner
- able to maintain confidentiality
- exemplifies integrity, warmth, understanding, and compassion
- has a positive outlook and contributes to good morale
- excellent communication skills
- ethical – avoids or withdraws from conflict of interest situations

Lynda exemplifies all of the qualities that make public health nurses into everyday but superior super heroes in their communities: Highly skilled passion, compassion and wicked sense of humour. Though now retired, she had a practice that spanned the ages and stages of person's life, a family's journey, and the growth of a healthy of a community in Northern BC, a landscape in which masculinity and red neck politics was the common currency. Into this unwelcoming environment she stepped with a profound sense of justice and caring strength and armed only with a feminist's vision and a professional's training and education.

She was particularly effective with the marginalized. She was in the vanguard in other ways: volunteered on the Board of the newly formed AIDS Prince George and volunteered on the gay crisis line, all at a time when these were unknown and feared in this small northern town. Sometimes she was all that was there for a woman who had just lost her life partner, who was sitting on one end of the phone with a glass of whiskey and a shotgun and who could not cope with well-meaning neighbour's observations that she could rent out the room to another roommate.

She was a writer and researcher and one of the lead authors on "Out in the Cold: Lesbians' Experience of Health Care in Northern BC" published by the Centre of Excellence for Women's health. She was instrumental in supporting women's health, including research and activities associate with Northern Fire. From this work a women's health clinic was established at the corner of 3rd and George, the heart of the PG downtown. She was also a leader in bringing advanced education for Public Health nurses to enable them to conduct pap tests. This simple though intensive training increased the access of northern women to the pap test in a region where early detection and follow up are the lowest in the province as access to primary care and family doctors is problematic.

In cases where a community may have a family doctor the capacity to access such intimate care is difficult by the personal relationships that people establish in smaller communities. She also championed a broader access to preventative care and emotional wellness, supporting such community events as the Unfashion Show, designed to encourage local women to address body image and media mixed-messages about their bodies. Journaling workshops, a project that brought together artists with seniors and an oral historian, and many other art or culture based projects united the best of evidence and a unique view of the world that was part of the scene in Prince George during her career.

After retirement she continued to work part time at the Needle Exchange where the street people treat her as one of their own. What is remarkable about this career is the number of years where there were so few resources and supports form women, for the homeless and marginalized, for GLBTQ when all that could be was carried by one small brave woman who used her body and mind to bridge the gaps in service and care.

From supporting youth and healthy sexuality to healthy aging, Lynda has been there. With little fanfare and no expectation of recognition she, like so many PHNs, has been a champion for public health nursing in Canada. In this regard Lynda stands as surrogate for the myriad of Public Health nurses over the years whose quiet dedication to their profession has literally been the difference between life and death.