Type 2 Diabetes Dialogue 2021 Speaker Bios

Geoff McKee

Geoffrey McKee is a public health physician and Medical Director for Population and Public Health at the BCCDC. He is also a clinical instructor at the UBC School of Population & Public Health. Dr. McKee completed his Medical Degree (2013), Master of Public Health (2017), and specialty training in Public Health and Preventive Medicine (2018) at the University of British Columbia. He previously worked as a Medical Health Officer at Vancouver Coastal Health providing support for the Coastal Rural region, Population Health, Indigenous Health, and the Public Health Surveillance Unit. He is currently the Medical Director of Population and Public Health at the BCCDC, which is focused on prevention of chronic disease and injury through supporting health promotion and healthy public policy. The PPH team also supports the centre with knowledge generation, synthesis, and translation

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Christy Boyce

Christy Boyce worked as a critical care Registered Respiratory Therapist and Certified Respiratory Educator for 17 years in B.C.. She is passionate about leading evidence-based educational approaches in healthcare simulation, in-person, and virtual learning environments. She holds a Master's degree in Learning and Technology from Royal Roads University, focusing her thesis research on the creation of psychologically safe learning environments in simulation training by using an intentional, asynchronous online learing module. She is also a certified Prosci Change Management practitioner. Christy is currently the Virtual Health Learning Consultant at Fraser Health, supporting the learning strategy, design, and education for all clinical employees as they transition to virtual patient care.

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Paula Turner

Paula Turner is a registered nurse who worked in Public Health for 9 years, then in Diabetes Education and as a Forensic Nurse Examiner for 15 years. She received her degree in Nursing at the University of British Columbia and currently maintains specialities as Certified Diabetes Educator and as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (Adult). She is currently working on her Master in Counselling Psychology. Paula is committed to improving adult education and supporting her peers through changes in education delivery.

Harwinder Gill

Harwinder Gill works as a registered nurse, who received her degree in Nursing at the Kwantlen Polytechnic University in 2006. Harwinder worked in acute care including Tertiary Palliative unit for 5 years and has been working as a Certified Diabetes Educator for last 10 years. She is passionate about diabetes care in the adult population and is committed to help individuals make lifestyle changes to optimize overall health and well-being. She has been working with the Virtual Health team at JP to make changes in delivery of adult education to help improve patient engagement and attendance. She also has keen interest in improving diabetes education in the Punjabi population and has assisted to redesign the education delivery by redeveloping class powerpoints. Harwinder is a technical "super user", who provides assistance and support to team members with technical issues.

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Susi Wilkinson

Susi is Practice Lead for Home Health and Diabetes in Interior Health Authority. Her clinical background is nutrition and dietetics and she has had the honour of supporting people living with diabetes for more than 25 years. Susi also has a Masters of Science in Health Information Science and actively explores ways to implement digital technologies and other innovations in health care.

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Heather Busby

Heather is Regional knowledge coordinator for diabetes and home health services in Interior Health Authority. She has a Bachelors of Nursing, and is a certified diabetes educator who has been supporting people living with diabetes in primary and acute care settings since 2007. Heather's passions include supporting teams to provide high quality, evidence-based care.

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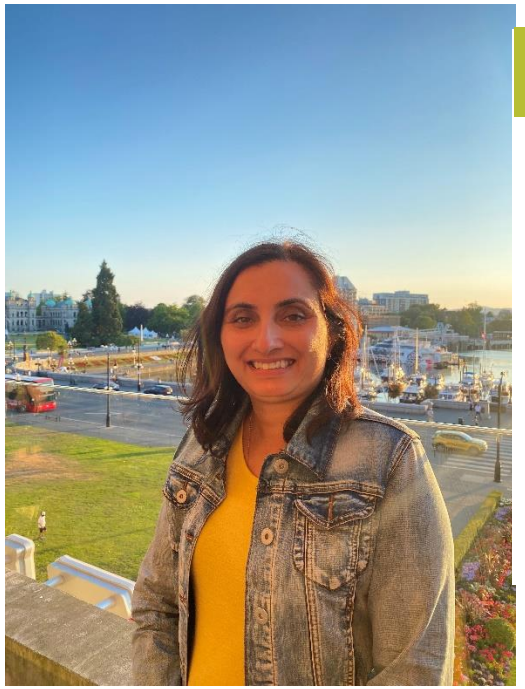

Reena Khurana

Dr. Reena Khurana is an Endocrinologist and division lead of Endocrinology at Surrey Memorial Hospital and Jim Pattison Outpatient Care and Surgical Centre. She has been practicing general endocrinology with a special interest in Diabetes and Pregnancy since 2008. She is a Fraser Health Physician Quality Improvement Cohort 5 graduate with a desire to improve the delivery and the quality of health care for her patients.

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Erica Corber

Erica Corber is a leader in primary healthcare transformation with 10+ years of local and international experience. Over the past seven years, she has been deeply involved in the strategy and design for primary care innovations including the development of Burnaby's Primary Care Networks. In her current role as Senior Director for the Burnaby Division of Family Practice, Erica oversees the design and implementation for Burnaby's Primary Care Networks and Patient Medical Homes. Prior, Erica worked in chronic disease research and monitoring and evaluation of healthcare programs. She has a keen interest in the social inequalities and ensuring their link to population health and health systems strengthening.

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Sandra Thompson

Dr. Sandra Thompson is a Registered Psychologist with a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Manitoba. Dr. Thompson has worked in a number of settings providing psychological consultation, assessment, and treatment services. She completed her pre-doctoral Residency at the Edmonton Consortium Clinical Psychology Residency in 2005. After graduation, she began as an Assistant Professor/Developmental Psychologist and Assistant Professor/Rural Psychologist with the Clinical Health Psychology Department in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba. She was a supervising Psychologist of pre-doctoral residents in the rural rotation. Dr. Thompson has specialized training DBT as well as other modalities of intervention. She has taught numerous psychology courses and has also instructed medical students in the areas of adolescent development, domestic violence, and motivational interviewing. In 2017, she and her family returned to Cranbrook, BC where she currently has a small private practice, primarily for assessment and treatment for individuals exposed to traumatic events. She has special interest in mindfulness and communication to improve overall mental health and well-being. In July 2020, she lost her husband to cancer after a two-year illness. From this experience, she has become acutely aware of the need for the prevention of chronic health conditions. Additionally, she strongly believes in the connection between mental and physical health.

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David Unwin

Dr David Unwin FRCGP works at the Norwood NHS Surgery in Southport near Liverpool, UK where he has cared for the same population since 1986 as a family doctor. To date 105/206 of his patients with T2 diabetes who chose a low carb approach have achieved drug-free remission. This gives a remission rate of 50% for those who choose the approach, equivalent to 20% of the entire practice diabetes register. So far, the average duration for participants is 30 months. Significant diabetes drug budget savings of about £58,000 per year have resulted from improving diet as an alternative to initiating lifelong medication.

As part of this he has also published research into improving blood pressure, lipid profiles and liver function by reducing dietary carbohydrates, especially sugar. Dr Unwin's work has been covered by both BBC, C4 & C5 television, The New Scientist, The Times, The Daily Mail and The British Medical Journal.

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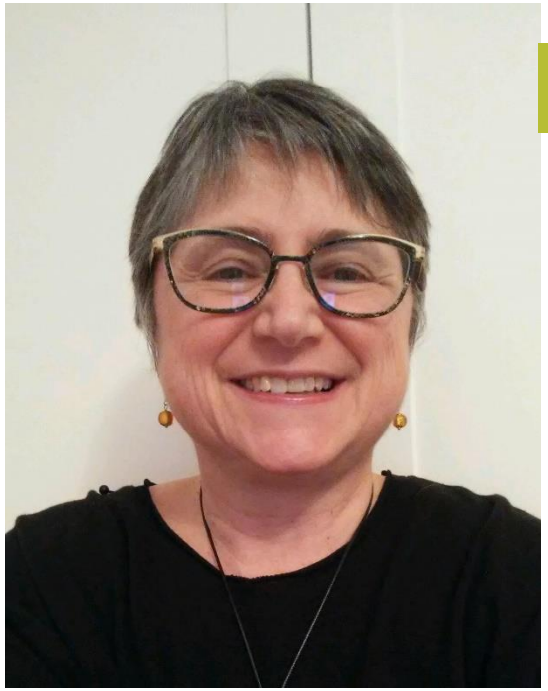

Tracy Monk

Tracy Monk is a family doctor and provincial physician lead for Pathways. She is also a clinical assistant professor in the UBC dept family practice and faculty lead for the UBC centre for relationship-based care.

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Calvin Ke

Dr. Calvin Ke is an endocrinologist and clinical epidemiologist, and an incoming assistant professor and clinician scientist at the University of Toronto. He received his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Toronto. He completed his residency training in Internal Medicine at the University of British Columbia and Endocrinology and Metabolism at the University of Toronto. He completed his PhD in clinical epidemiology and global health at the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto. He has conducted diabetes research locally in Canada and globally in India, China, and Guyana. His current research interests include the management and outcomes of type 2 diabetes, with a special focus on young-onset type 2 diabetes. Dr. Ke is a member of the International Diabetes Federation Atlas Committee and recently served as an Honorary Visiting Scholar at The Chinese University of Hong Kong(2019). He has authored over a dozen peer-reviewed research articles in high-impact journals such as Annals of Internal Medicine, The Lancet Global Health, and PLoS Medicine. He is a University of Toronto Global Scholar, Queen Elizabeth Advanced Scholar(2021),and recipient of the Canadian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism Dr. Fernand Labrie Fellowship Research Award (2018),the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Detweiler Traveling Fellowship Award (2017),the Queen Elizabeth Advanced Scholars Award (2021), the Comparative Health Systems Award in Honour of Les Boehm (2020), and the South Asian Network Supporting Awareness and Research Burgundy Young Investigator Award (2018).

Type 2 Diabetes Dialogue 2021 Speaker Bios

Anne-Marie Jamin

Anne-Marie Jamin has 15 years of experience in public health and international development implementation, research and evaluation initiatives. She has a Masters of Public Health, from the University of Alberta. Her experiences working with the United Nations in East Africa, the Eastern Cape Department of Health in South Africa and the University of British Columbia's Digital Emergency Medicine have shaped not only her expertise but her passion to advance health equity. Anne-Marie is currently the Program Manager of the inter-Cultural Online health Network (iCON), a program funded by BC Ministry of Health Patients as Partners Initiative, to support the Indigenous and multicultural population for optimal management of chronic diseases and patient-centered care through in-person and digital approaches.

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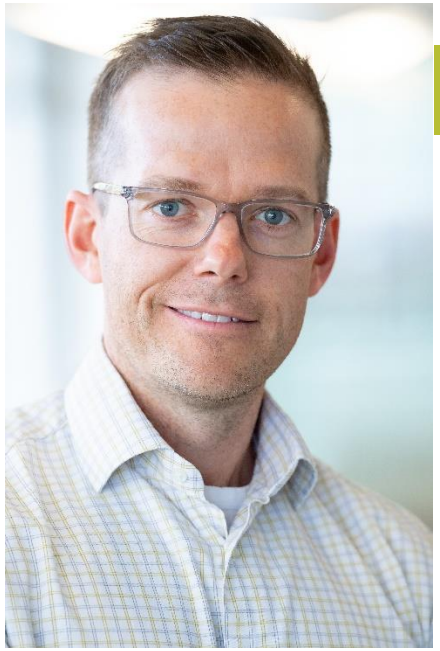

Jonathan Little

Dr. Jonathan Little is an associate professor in the School of Health and Exercise Sciences at University of British Columbia, Okanagan Campus in Kelowna, BC and Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar. His current research is trying to understand how the metabolic disruptions that characterize type 2 diabetes affect cellular inflammation and explore how different exercise and nutritional strategies can be used to reduce inflammation and improve overall cardiometabolic health. His lab conducts experimental studies and clinical trials with the goals of preventing, treating, or reversing type 2 diabetes.

Type 2 Diabetes Dialogue 2021 Speaker Bios

Sean McKelvey

Sean is a recognized leader in pharmacist practice change across Canada and was recently selected as one of the 2019 Leaders in Pharmacy. In 2016 Sean co-founded the Institute for Personalized Therapeutic Nutrition to train and support healthcare professionals on the therapeutic use of food. The overall objective of the IPTN is to implement evidence based "food first" approaches that treat, manage, reverse or achieve remission in chronic medical conditions, including type 2 diabetes.

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Jon Schmid

Jon Schmid is an Associate at PNW Strategy, a health and technology management consultancy. He specializes in health system strategy, health technology, program development, stakeholder engagement and evidence synthesis. Jon has been working as a consultant with IHSTS for almost three years to address the type 2 diabetes space, and was the primary researcher and writer for the *Reversing the Course of Type 2 Diabetes* environmental scan, and the *Virtual Care for Type 2 Diabetes Behavioural Change* report.

Type 2 Diabetes Dialogue 2021 Speaker Bios

Lynda Brown-Ganzert

Lynda Brown-Ganzert is the CEO of Curatio, a digital health platform that helps patients find one another and the support they need. No Patient Alone, is the company's mission and the platform is now used in 102 countries and available in 20 languages.

Widely regarded as a digital media expert who has played an active role in growing the sector across Canada, Lynda served in senior roles at companies such as Electronic Arts, Edelman and Nordicity. She was instrumental in establishing the Center for Digital Media in 2007 and home to Canada's first Master of Digital Media program. She has represented Canada on two UN missions.

Lynda has won numerous awards as an entrepreneur, including BIV's Top Forty Under 40, Novartis Health 2.0 Global Challenge, Entrepreneur of the Year BC and most recently, the global Venture Clash competition. She serves on the board of the Canada Foundation for Innovation, mentors numerous companies and female founders and has been a director on many boards, including the Information Technology Association of Canada, Emily Carr University and holds the title of Chair Emerita at Simon Fraser University, where she had previously graduated with a Master of Education and a Bachelor of Arts (Communications).

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Jon McGavock

Jonathan McGavock is a CIHR Applied Health Chair in Resilience and Obesity in Children. He is also an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Child Health in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Manitoba. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education from the University of Manitoba, a Master's Degree in Exercise Physiology from McGill University and a PhD in Exercise Science from the University of Alberta. He completed post-doctoral fellowships at the University of Alberta and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre prior to establishing his own lab.

He established the Centre for Physical Activity and Cardiometabolic Health at the Children's Hospital Institute of Manitoba in 2006 to study the prevention and management of type 2 diabetes in youth. His lab has held continuous CIHR funding from 2008-2019. He is currently the lead for the DREAM and DEVOTION research teams within the institute, which are both focused on reducing the burden of type 2 diabetes in youth in Manitoba. Collectively, these two themes have secured over $22M in external funding to address the growing rates of type 2 diabetes in children in Canada. Jonathan has been partnering with several Indigenous communities in Manitoba over the last 7 years to help establish novel strengths-based programs to prevent and manage type 2 diabetes in youth. He currently is the PI for a CIHR Pathways team grant that assembled Canada's largest network of scientists and Indigenous communities focused on the prevention of type 2 diabetes among Indigenous youth.

His lab is currently funded by CIHR, the Canadian Diabetes Association, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, Research Manitoba and the Lawson Foundation.

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Marc Pelletier

Marc is the CEO of the Institute of Health System Transformation & Sustainability and holds a Master of Criminology and a Master of Health Administration from the University of Toronto. Marc brings extensive leadership experience in Canadian health care, spanning strategic consulting, government and large, complex health care delivery organizations. Most recently, Marc was a senior strategic advisor with BC's Ministry of Health, developing a virtual care strategy for the province. Prior to this, Marc had a 20-year career with Fraser Health leading a variety of clinical, support and corporate functions.

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Christina Krause

Christina Krause is the Chief Executive Officer of the BC Patient Safety & Quality Council and an Adjunct Professor, School of Population & Public Health, Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia. Her interests include the use of social change models and network theory in efforts to engage and mobilize stakeholders, as well as the role of culture, teamwork and communication to advance quality of care. Christina is an EXTRA Fellow with the Canadian Foundation for Healthcare Improvement, a member of the Board for the OSNS Child & Youth Development Centre, and a member of the Board Quality Committee at Canuck Place Children's Hospice.

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