2020 Policy Salon: The Importance of Good Governance in the COVID-19 Era, from the Local to the Global

*Please register for all sessions below. The Zoom links will be provided upon registration.

Date/Time: 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM PDT, Friday, October 2, 2020

• 8:30 am – 10:00 am PDT: COVID-19 – Seizing Opportunities to Advance Indigenous Self-determination through Policy with Dr. Danièle Behn Smith, Deputy Provincial Health Officer, Indigenous Health, and Dr. Shannon Waters, Medical Health Officer, Vancouver Island Health Authority, Q&A moderated by Professor Sheryl Lightfoot

• 10:15 am – 11:45 am PDT: Rapid Research Talks on COVID-19 by UBC Community and Discussion, moderated by Professor George Hoberg

• 12:00 pm – 1:45 pm PDT: The Role of Evidence in Policy Making in the COVID-19 Era with Emily Rempel, Knowledge Translation Lead at the BC Centre for Disease Control; Dr. Howard Njoo, Deputy Chief Public Health Officer and Chief Medical Advisor, Public Health Agency of Canada; Bill Savedoff, Principal Health Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank; and Dr. Zabulon Yoti, WHO Regional Emergencies Director, World Health Organization AFRO, moderated by Professor Heidi Tworek

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in economic and social repercussions across the globe. What is the process of governance and why does it matter in the COVID-19 era? What is the role of evidence in policy making and how is evidence being communicated and reported about the pandemic? Join us at the annual Policy Salon to explore how evidence-based policy responses have played a critical role in regional, national, and multilateral response, and will continue to play a key role in a sustainable road to recovery.

Learn from keynote speakers, Dr. Danièle Behn Smith, Deputy Provincial Health Officer, Indigenous Health, and Dr. Shannon Waters, Medical Health Officer, Vancouver Island Health Authority, regarding the opportunities as well as challenges to advancing Indigenous self-determination through policy during the pandemic.

The Policy Salon is also an opportunity to learn from UBC faculty members, students, and alumni as they share rapid research talks on COVID-19-related policy and governance topics.

Hear from a range of policymakers on responses to the pandemic that span the globe, including Emily Rempel, Knowledge Translation Lead at the BC Centre for Disease Control, Dr. Howard Njoo, Deputy Chief Public Health Officer and Chief Medical Advisor, Infectious Disease Prevention and Control Branch, Public Health Agency of Canada, Bill Savedoff, Principal Health Specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank and Dr. Zabulon Yoti, WHO Regional Emergencies Director, World Health Organization AFRO.

Acknowledgements: The 2020 Policy Salon is co-hosted by the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs and the School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
School of Public Policy and Global Affairs

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
School of Population and Public Health
Faculty of Medicine
Policy Salon: COVID-19 – Seizing Opportunities to Advance Indigenous Self-determination through Policy with Dr. Danièle Behn Smith and Dr. Shannon Waters

Date/Time: 8:30 am – 10:00 am PDT, Friday, October 2nd, 2020

RSVP here: https://policy-salon-indigenous-self-determination.eventbrite.ca

*This webinar is open to the UBC community and members of the public. Please register in advance.

Indigenous public health physicians, Dr. Behn Smith and Dr. Waters, will reflect on B.C.’s commitment to a new relationship with Indigenous peoples, including the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, and challenges with implementation during the pandemic. The unprecedented measures enacted during COVID-19 have illuminated tensions between mainstream policy and legislation and Indigenous peoples’ inherent rights.

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement and Welcome: Elder Larry Grant, Musqueam
Welcome remarks: SPPGA Director Allison Macfarlane
Co-Presenters: Dr. Danièle Behn Smith, Deputy Provincial Health Officer, Indigenous Health, B.C., and Dr. Shannon Waters, Medical Health Officer, Vancouver Island Health Authority
Moderator: Professor Sheryl Lightfoot (SPPGA; Political Science, UBC)

Speakers’ Bios:

Dr. Danièle Behn Smith, Deputy Provincial Health Officer, Indigenous Health, has been working to support Indigenous health in the Office of the Provincial Health Officer since 2015. Dr. Behn Smith works alongside Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer. Dr. Behn Smith provides independent advice and support to the Ministry of Health on Indigenous health issues. In support of the ministry’s strategic agenda, Dr. Behn Smith works in meaningful partnership with Indigenous collectives, communities and organizations to advance wellness and disrupt colonial practices and policies. Dr. Behn Smith is Eh Cho Dene (Big Animal People) of the Fort Nelson First Nation in B.C. with French Canadian/Métis roots in the Red River Valley. Since getting her Doctor of Medicine from McMaster University and completing residencies at the universities of Ottawa and Manitoba, Dr. Behn Smith’s career has spanned the country and the globe. She has practiced rural medicine in remote and First Nations communities across Canada. She was a board director for the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada, the director of education for the University of Alberta’s Indigenous Health Initiatives Program and the site director of the University of British Columbia’s Aboriginal Family practice residency. Since 2014, she has transitioned to a functional medicine practice. Functional medicine is a complex systems biology approach to family practice that resonates with Indigenous approaches to health and healing.

Dr. Shannon Waters is Coast Salish and a member of Stz’uminus First Nation on Vancouver Island. She completed the First Nations Family Practice program at the University of British Columbia and worked as a family doctor in Duncan, BC. While honored to work close to home Shannon became frustrated with seeing people mostly when they were unwell and wanted to focus on keeping people healthy in the first place so she returned to school and completed her specialty training in Public Health and Preventive Medicine. Shannon worked as the Director of Health Surveillance at First Nations and Inuit Health Branch and, at First Nations Health
Authority as the Acting Senior Medical Officer for Vancouver Island Region. She has worked with Vancouver Island Health Authority as a Medical Director and with the Ministry of Health as the Aboriginal Physician Advisor. She is currently honored to have come full circle and to be working in her home territory as the local Medical Health Officer with Vancouver Island Health Authority. Dr. Waters is a Clinical Assistant Professor with the UBC School of Population and Public Health.

Moderator’s Bio:

**Dr. Sheryl Lightfoot** is Canada Research Chair of Global Indigenous Rights and Politics and Associate Professor, School of Public Policy and Global Affairs and the Department of Political Science at the University of British Columbia. As one of the world’s experts in global Indigenous politics, Sheryl’s research specializes in complex questions of Indigenous peoples’ rights and how those rights are being claimed and negotiated in various political spaces. Her work explores both practical and theoretical aspects of implementation of Indigenous rights globally as well as in comparative domestic and regional contexts. Sheryl also currently serves as Senior Advisor to the UBC President on Indigenous Affairs. Sheryl is Anishinaabe from the Lake Superior Band of Ojibwe, enrolled at the Keweenaw Bay Community in northern Michigan.

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement and Welcome:

**Larry Grant**, Musqueam Elder, was born and raised in Musqueam traditional territory by a traditional hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ speaking Musqueam family. After 4 decades as a tradesman, Larry enrolled in the First Nations Languages Program, which awoke his memory of the embedded value that the hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ language has to self-identity, kinship, culture, territory, and history prior to European contact. He is presently assisting in revitalizing hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ in the Musqueam Language and Culture Department, and co-teaching the introductory hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ course through UBC. Larry is the Elder-in-Residence at UBC’s First Nations House of Learning. He is a Faculty Fellow at St. John’s College, and the inaugural Honorary Life Fellow for Green College. In 2010, he received the Alumni Award of Distinction from Vancouver Community College, and in 2014, he became an Honorary Graduate from the Indigenous Teacher Education Program (NITEP) at UBC.

Remarks:

**Dr. Allison M. Macfarlane** is Professor and Director of the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs within the Faculty of Arts at UBC. Dr. Macfarlane has held both academic and government positions in the field of energy and environmental policy, especially nuclear policy. Most recently, she directed the Institute for International Science and Technology Policy at the George Washington University. She recently held a fellowship at the Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC and was Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Applied Public Policy at Flinders University and Carnegie Mellon Adelaide in Australia. The first geologist (and the third woman) to chair the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission from 2012-2014, Dr. Macfarlane holds a doctorate in earth science from MIT and a bachelor’s of science from the University of Rochester.
Policy Salon: Rapid Research Talks on COVID-19 Governance & Policy-making

Date/Time: 10:15 am – 11:45 am PDT, Friday, October 2nd, 2020

RSVP here: https://policy-salon-rapid-research-talks.eventbrite.ca
Password: research

*This Zoom meeting is intended for UBC students, faculty, staff, and alumni only. Please register in advance.

Join this session to learn from UBC faculty, students, and alumni as they share rapid research talks on the process of governance in public policy-making, on the role of evidence and how evidence is communicated and reported in policy-making, and other topics as they relate to the COVID-19 pandemic. Each team has 12 minutes to present and 8 minutes to answer questions.

Speakers and Research Talks:

“Upstream determinants of effective COVID-19 response: concepts, definitions, analysis, evaluation” with
SPPH Director Peter Berman; SPPH Professor Chris Lovato; SPPGA former Acting Director and Professor Max Cameron

“Democratic health communications during Covid-19” with Professor Heidi Tworek (SPPGA; History)
with Eseohe Ojo (MPPGA alumni), Sean Wu (MPPGA alumni) and Victoria Ker (MPPGA student)
- This presentation will look at how nine democracies around the world have communicated during Covid-19. We explore how communications have worked as a non-pharmaceutical intervention and suggest principles to improve pandemic communications in democratic ways.

“Governing labour migration during COVID-19: Views from Nepal” - Professor Sara Shneiderman (SPPGA; Anthropology) and Nepalese research partner, Jeevan Baniya, Assistant Director of Centre for the Study of Labour and Mobility at Social Science Baha, Nepal
- This presentation will explore labour migration during COVID-19 in Nepal while touching on broader themes of labour migration and ‘good governance’ in times of political transition.

“A comparison of COVID-19 responses of BC, Quebec, Oregon, and Florida” with MPPGA students Clinton Mix and Jessika Woroniak
- This presentation will describe a comparative analysis of policy instruments employed in response to COVID-19 with the aim of reducing the spread of transmission. We discuss the similarities and differences in the approaches of 4 jurisdictions: British Columbia, Quebec, Oregon, and Florida. Specifically, we explore 3 key policy areas: school closures, restaurant / bar closures, and gathering size restrictions.

Moderator: Professor George Hoberg, MPPGA Graduate Program Director

George Hoberg is Professor at UBC’s School of Public Policy and Global Affairs and Graduate Program Director of the Master of Public Policy and Global Affairs program. He specializes in environmental and natural resource policy and governance. His research interests include environmental policy, energy policy, forest policy, and more generally the design of policies and institutions to promote sustainability. His current research focuses on the clean energy transformation. He has published on the role of science in policy-making and international constraints on domestic policy autonomy.
Policy Salon: The Role of Evidence in Policy-making in the COVID-19 Era

Date/Time: 12:00 pm – 1:45 pm PDT, Friday, October 2nd, 2020

RSVP here: https://policy-salon-the-role-of-evidence.eventbrite.ca
Password: evidence

*This Zoom webinar is intended for UBC students, faculty, staff, and alumni only. Please register in advance.

Join this session as part of our Policy Salon to learn from health specialists and policymakers in Canada and around the world share their perspectives on the role of evidence in policy-making and how evidence is being communicated and reported during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Welcome and Closing Remarks: Director Peter Berman, School of Population and Public Health, UBC

Speakers:
- Emily Rempel, Knowledge Translation Lead, B.C. Centre for Disease Control
- Dr. Howard Njoo, Deputy Chief Public Health Officer and Chief Medical Advisor, Infectious Disease Prevention and Control Branch, Public Health Agency of Canada
- William D. Savedoff, Principal Health Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, D.C.
- Dr. Zabulon Yoti, WHO Regional Emergencies Director, World Health Organization AFRO

Moderator: Professor Heidi Tworek (SPPGA; History)

Speakers’ Bios:

Dr. Emily Rempel is a Knowledge Translation Lead at the BC Centre for Disease Control. She works with local and national governments on public engagement, social research and knowledge exchange. Recently, she led the BCCDC misinformation research strategy and is part of the provincial COVID-19 knowledge translation and data teams. Beyond government work, her research interests include public & policy engagement, public health, social research and critical data studies.

Dr. Howard Njoo is the Deputy Chief Public Health Officer at the Public Health Agency of Canada and directly supports the Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO) in providing public health advice, speaking to Canadians and representing the Agency in a variety of domestic and international fora. In addition, Dr. Njoo is the Chief Medical Advisor to the Vice President for the Infectious Disease Prevention and Control Branch and is the federal co-chair of the Communicable and Infectious Diseases Steering Committee reporting to the Public Health Network Council in Canada. Dr. Njoo has worked at all three levels of the federal system of government in Canada as a public health physician and medical epidemiologist, as well as continuing to practice as a front line clinician in infectious diseases for close to thirty years.
William D. Savedoff is Principal Health Specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank. Dr. Savedoff works on questions related to improving the accessibility and quality of social services in developing countries. His primary expertise relates to improving the provision of services through changes in institutions, organizations, contracting and evaluation. Dr. Savedoff has worked on these issues in many settings, first as an Associate Researcher at the Instituto de Pesquisa de Economia Aplicada (Rio de Janeiro) and later as an economist at the Inter-American Development Bank (Washington, DC), the World Health Organization (Geneva), and as a Senior Fellow at the Center for Global Development (CGD – Washington, DC). He has published books and articles on labor markets, health, education, water, corruption, aid effectiveness and housing, including “What Should a Country Spend on Healthcare?”; Governing Mandatory Health Insurance; and Cash on Delivery Aid.

Dr. Zabulon Yoti, WHO Regional Emergencies Director – WHO AFRO, is a public health veteran with over 22 years’ experience in clinical and public health practice. He is best known for his leadership in coordinating public health preparedness and response to disease outbreaks, natural and man-made disasters. Dr. Yoti has provided direct policy guidance to several African countries in responding to disease outbreaks and complex health emergencies. Dr. Yoti, from Uganda, works in the World Health Organization Emergencies Programme in the African Regional Office (AFRO) based in Brazzaville, Congo where he is the Acting Regional Emergency Director and Technical Coordinator. From November 2014 to December 2015, he was the WHO Deputy Head of Office for Sierra Leone where he successfully led WHO’s team and partners in responding to the Ebola Outbreak in Sierra Leone. Dr. Yoti has also published extensive academic papers on emerging infectious diseases in general, Ebola Virus Disease in particular, and the implications of emergency preparedness and response on global health security. Dr. Yoti qualified as a Medical Doctor in Uganda in 1997. He holds a Master’s degree in Public Health (majoring in Communicable Disease Control), a Post-Graduate Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Health (DTM&H) and a Certificate in Health Emergencies in Large Populations from the University of Pretoria, South Africa.

Moderator’s Bio:

Dr. Heidi Tworek is Associate Professor of History and Public Policy with the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs and the Department of History at the University of British Columbia. Her research brings a historical sensibility to policy discussions, particularly around communications and international organizations. She has briefed or advised officials and policymakers from multiple European and North American governments on media, democracy, and the digital economy. She co-edits the Journal of Global History and manages the United Nations History Project.

Remarks:

Professor Peter Berman (M.Sc, Ph.D) is a health economist with forty years of experience in research, policy analysis and development, and training and education in global health. Prof. Berman is Professor and Director, School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia, and Adjunct Professor in Global Health at Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard University. Prof. Berman’s specific areas of work include analysis of health systems performance and the design of reform strategies; assessment of the supply side of health care delivery and the role of private health care provision in health systems and development of strategies to improve outcomes through public-private sector collaboration.