



Royal College of
Dental Surgeons of Ontario
Access to Care Symposium
2019

RCDSO Access to Care Symposium Panelists

Session I Framing the problem: Dimensions of access and why it matters



Sané Dube

Policy and Government Relations Lead,
Alliance for Healthier Communities

Sané Dube holds a degree in Public Health. She's worked in community based programs in Zimbabwe, Eswatini and Canada. She's currently the Policy and Government and Relations Lead at the Alliance for Healthier Communities, Ontario's voice for community governed health care. Her work advances health equity in Ontario.



Kyle Vose

Agency Chair,
ODSP Action Coalition

Kyle was born and raised in the Jane and Finch area of Toronto. Besides raising his brother, he's also a father to two young men. At 22 years old, he was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease. At 30, he was diagnosed with HIV and Hepatitis B. Since then, he has been diagnosed with Bowen's disease, Hypothyroidism, suffered a massive heart attack, and diabetes. Kyle graduated from the Ontario AIDS Network (OAN) Leadership Development Program and the facilitator training program at the OAN/ Bereavement Project of Ontario. He has spoken on various radio programs, and featured in media interviews and new papers where he was labeled a HIV-Poverty Activist.

Kyle is the co-chair of the ODSP action coalition, outreach, and facilitator of different trainings. He worked hard on the Hungry City Campaign which became the Poverty Reduction Bill. He is currently the Interim Service Access manager and will be returning to be the PHA Engagement Coordinator at the Toronto People with AIDS Foundation, where he supports his team in presenting training courses such as HIV101, Trans 101, Harm Reduction 101, and Speakers Training. He also runs the Men's Health Peer Navigator program, which helps newly diagnosed or those who's English is a second language help navigate the medical and social systems.



Dr. Peter Cooney
Assistant Professor,
Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto

Dr. Peter Cooney graduated with his dental degree from the National University of Ireland in 1977. Following his graduation from dental school, Peter moved to London, England to begin his practice in general dentistry. In 1979, he moved to Newfoundland and spent a number of years there in private practice. Having worked in Manitoba for some years, in 1997, he became the National Dental Officer of the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada and from 1999 to 2003; he was the Director General of the Non-Insured Health Benefits Division.

Peter completed his Specialty, Masters and Fellowship in Community Dentistry. He is a Past President of the Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry and a former Chief Examiner for the specialty of Dental Public Health with the Royal College of Dentists of Canada.

He was appointed Chief Dental Officer of Canada in October 2004 and is a former Chair of the International Chief Dental Officers Public Health Section of the FDI World Dental Federation.

He retired from the Chief Dental Officer position in 2015. He now works part-time with the University of Toronto, Northwestern Health Unit and Akwesasne Mohawk First Nation.

Session II Current solutions: What we can do today to address access challenges



Scott Wolfe
Executive Director,
Canadian Association of Community Health Centres

As Executive Director for the Canadian Association of Community Health Centres (CACHC), Scott is responsible for the association's overall operational management. He is also Acting Coordinator for the International Federation of Community Health Centres whose Secretariat is based in Toronto.

Prior to joining CACHC in 2010, Scott was Senior Policy Advisor (2004-2008) for the Alliance for Healthier Communities (formerly Association of Ontario Health Centres), during which time Ontario's network of Community Health Centres doubled in number and reach throughout the province.

He also served previously as Director of Global Health Policy for the International Association of Providers in AIDS Care (Chicago, Johannesburg) and Communications Advisor at the Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (Washington, DC). Scott lives in Toronto with his partner and their three children.



Abby Katz Starr

Former Assistant Deputy Minister
Seniors Policy and Programs Division, Ministry for Seniors and
Accessibility

Abby Katz Starr, recently retired from the Ontario Public Service as the Assistant Deputy Minister for the Seniors Policy and Programs Division of the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility. She started there in October 2011 as the Director of the Retirement Homes Project with a mandate to bring the Retirement Homes Legislation fully into force and support the development of the governance and accountability structure to oversee the Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority.

Abby became the Director for MSAA, a newly created position in recognition of the increased program and policy responsibilities related to the provincial response to the rapidly changing demographics. She took on the role of Interim Assistant Deputy Minister as of January 11, 2016 and as of September, 2016 was appointed permanently as ADM of MSAA. Abby has an extensive background in seniors issues, beginning her career as a social worker with a gerontology focus working in both institutional as well as community settings.

Abby has been with the OPS for over 30 years in a variety of different ministries, including Ministry of Government Services, as the Director of Corporate Policy, the Ontario Women's Directorate, Ministry of Community and Social Services (Child Abuse prevention), the Ministry of the Attorney General, in the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee/Family Justice Division, the Children's Lawyer, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as the Registrar of the Health Services and Health Professions Appeal and Review Boards as well as the Chief Operating Officer for the Health Boards Secretariat, and over a very public and high profile period, at the Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal as the Manager of Gaming Policy.

Abby has extensive experience in organizational leadership, regulatory policy, corporate governance, policy development as well as strategic and corporate planning and reporting. She is recognized for her leadership within and outside OPS for building consensus, and for achieving results on complex projects. of Toronto, Northwestern Health Unit and Akwesasne Mohawk First Nation.



Dr. Patricia L. Abbey

Director, Oral Health
Durham Region Health Department
Representative, Ontario Association of Public Health Dentistry

Dr. Abbey is the Oral Health Director at the Durham Region Health Department and has held that position for 18 years. She graduated from the University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry in 1986 and received her DDPH and MSc in 1995. Dr. Abbey has worked in private practice and public health as well as spending several fulfilling years working for the RCDSO as the Manager of Public Complaints and the Manager of Quality Assurance.

Dr. Abbey is passionate about the profession of dentistry and ensuring vulnerable people have access to care.



Carlos Quiñonez

Director, Graduate Program in Dental Health
University of Toronto

Carlos Quiñonez is a dental public health specialist, associate professor and program director at the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto (U of T). He graduated with a DMD from the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba (U of M) in 1998, and completed an MSc at the U of M's Faculty of Medicine in 2004. He then completed a PhD and dental public health specialty at the U of T in 2009.

Carlos' research centres on the politics and economics of dentistry, with a focus on health and social equity. He is the author of over 200 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and government reports, and regularly consults with government and non-governmental agencies on issues of dental care policy. He is the Editor of Ontario Dentist, the Ontario Dental Association's professional journal, Past-Chair of the Canadian Dental Association's Committee on Clinical and Scientific Affairs, Past-President of the Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry, and Vice-President of the Canadian Dental Specialties Association.
