

## Shaping the hearts and minds of the next generation of health professionals through patient involvement in health professional education at UBC



The work of Patient & Community Partnership for Education, Office of UBC Health, November 2018

**Patient & Community Partnership for Education (PCPE)** has been bringing the expertise of patients, care givers and people with lived experience of the social determinants of health into the education of health professional students at UBC since 2005.

Our aim is to enhance the education of students so that future health professionals provide care that is patient/client-centred and meets society's needs. Our work is founded in the philosophy of shared decision-making and patient partnerships in health care.

We develop, implement and evaluate innovative educational interventions that are both multi-professional and interprofessional, drawing students from across all the health and human services programs at UBC.

Our work is both informed by, and contributes to, health professions education scholarship.

### **Our long-standing programs include:**

- *Interprofessional Health Mentors Program*: a 16-month program for students from 10 different health disciplines who learn from and with a mentor with a chronic condition or disability. Over **1,300** students and **185** mentors have completed the program since 2011.
- *Patient & Community Voices Workshops*: a series of community-led workshops that introduce students to the challenges and resources available for people living with conditions such as HIV, aphasia, epilepsy, and mental illness. Over **1,000** students have taken part in over 50 workshops since 2008.
- *'Community as Teacher' Cultural Camps Program*: Students attend summer camps put on by Xyolhemeylh (Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children & Family Services) where they learn about Aboriginal history and culture. Over **200** students have participated since 2006.

### **Other activities include:**

- UBC Health Patient & Community Advisory Committee (PAC) co-chair and administrative support.
- Supporting requests for patient educators from individual programs (e.g. patient interviewing for Physical Therapy and Pharmacy; nutrition counseling for Dietetics).
- Recruiting patient / public members for projects / committees, e.g. UBC Health Council, UBC Health Awards Committee, Faculty of Medicine Community Advisory Committee, etc.

**Community connections:** we have built a network of more than **185** experienced patient educators and **130** community-based organizations. Our monthly 'Patient & Community Voices at UBC' newsletter reaches over **1,800** people in the university, local community and internationally. We have published over 50 issues.

**Beyond UBC:** we are seen to be world leaders in innovation in this field. Since 2005 we have organized two international conferences in Vancouver (2005 and 2015), given invited key note presentations in several countries, received visiting faculty from 5 countries, published over 20 papers, given more than 40 conference presentations, and received 39 grants totaling over **\$1,170,000** for our research and development activities.

**PCPE faculty, staff and students:** Angela Towle & William Godolphin (Co-directors), Cathy Kline (Research Coordinator), Jen Macdonald (Assistant) and two Work Learn students. Since 2005 over **40** students have worked with us as Work Learn or Summer Research students.