



**THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY (CAPHD)**

2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

**Building Bridges:  
Accessible Dental Care for All Canadians**

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# CONFERENCE INTRODUCTION



Greetings, esteemed colleagues and guests,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry (CAPHD), I would like to welcome you all to our Annual Conference. This year's theme, "Building Bridges: Accessible Dental Care for All Canadians," is a testament to our shared commitment to overcoming the barriers that prevent equitable access to dental care across Canada.

As we convene, we gather as a diverse group of professionals, united by a common goal: to ensure that every Canadian, regardless of their financial situation, geographical location, or racial background, has access to quality dental care. Our discussions will cover a range of novel and critical topics, including the innovative strategies and solutions that may help address these challenges.

This is an opportunity for us to share knowledge, exchange ideas, and collaborate on strategies that will drive positive change. Your presence at this conference signifies your commitment to this cause, and your contributions will be invaluable in shaping the future of dental public health in Canada.

Thank you for being a part of our CAPHD community. We encourage you to engage fully in the presentations, discussions, and networking opportunities. Together, we can build bridges to a future where dental care is accessible to all Canadians.

Welcome, and let's make this a productive and inspiring conference!

Dr. Amrinderbir Singh

President, Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry



## EVENT DETAILS

DATE: September 20, 2024

TIME: 8:00am - 5:00pm CST

LOCATION: Online

PLATFORM: Zoom

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: [caphd.ca](https://caphd.ca)

MEMBER PORTAL FOR REGISTRATION:



# PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Note: The times below are in CST

8:00am – 8:15am: Optional coffee chat (Participants joining)

8:15am – 8:30am: Welcome note & housekeeping

8:30am – 9:10am: Minister Mark Holland (Keynote speaker)

9:10am – 9:20am: Mini video(s)/Break

9:20am – 11:20am: Government of Canada

- Marika Nadeau : Director General, Engagement and FPT Relations, Oral Health Branch, Health
- Lindy VanAmburg : Director General, Policy and Programs, Oral Health Branch, Health Canada
- Dr. Jeff Latimer : Director General, Health Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada
- Lisette Dufour\*: Senior Oral Health Advisor, Oral Health Branch, Health Canada

11:20am – 12:05pm: Scientific Sessions

12:05pm – 12:45pm: Lunch break

12:45pm – 1:00pm: Optional virtual coffee

1:00pm – 1:40pm: Dr. Sonica Singal

1:40pm – 1:50pm: Mini video(s)/Break

1:50pm – 2:30pm: Dr. Tamanna Tiwari

2:30pm – 2:40pm: Mini video(s)/Break

2:40pm – 3:10pm: Dr. Paul Allison

3:10pm – 5:00pm: Scientific Sessions/Closure

\*Moderator



# KEYNOTE SPEAKER\*



The Honourable/  
L'honorable

**Mark Holland**

Minister of Health/  
Ministre de la santé

The Honourable Mark Holland was first elected as the Member of Parliament for Ajax in 2004 and served until 2011. He was re-elected in 2015, 2019, and 2021. A lifelong resident of the Ajax-Pickering area, Minister Holland has served his community for over 20 years. He was elected as a Durham Regional Councillor, serving from 1997 to 2004. He also served as Acting Mayor of Pickering. As a Member of Parliament, Minister Holland has served as Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, as Chief Government Whip, as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, and as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Democratic Institutions. In both public and private roles, Minister Holland has backed health-related initiatives. He served as Executive Director of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada's Ontario Mission, as well as its National Director of Children and Youth, and helped to secure funding for Grandview Children's Centre's future Ajax location.

L'honorable Mark Holland a été élu pour la première fois député d'Ajax en 2004, rôle qu'il a occupé jusqu'en 2011. Il a été réélu en 2015, 2019 et 2021. Résident de longue date de la région d'Ajax-Pickering, le ministre Holland est au service de sa communauté depuis plus de 20 ans. Il a été élu conseiller régional de Durham et a servi à ce titre de 1997 à 2004. Il a également été maire par intérim de Pickering. En tant que député, le ministre Holland a précédemment exercé les fonctions de leader du gouvernement à la Chambre des communes, de whip en chef du gouvernement, de secrétaire parlementaire du ministre de la Sécurité publique et de la Protection civile et de secrétaire parlementaire de la ministre des Institutions démocratiques. Dans ses fonctions publiques et privées, le ministre Holland a soutenu des initiatives liées à la santé. Il a été directeur adjoint de la mission de l'Ontario de la Fondation des maladies du cœur et de l'AVC du Canada, ainsi que son directeur national de l'enfance et de la jeunesse, et il a contribué à l'obtention de fonds pour le futur emplacement du Centre Grandview pour enfants à Ajax.

\*In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the keynote speaker may be subject to change.



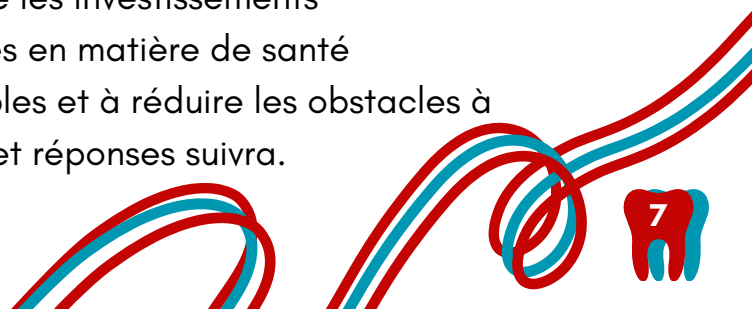
# SYNOPSIS FOR HEALTH CANADA & STATISTICS CANADA

A third of Canadians do not have dental insurance, and one in four have reported avoiding seeing an oral health professional because they could not afford the care. As a result, many Canadians are unable to receive the oral health care they need. That is why the Government of Canada has launched several initiatives including the Canadian Dental Care Plan ([CDCP](#)), which helps make the cost of oral health care more affordable for eligible residents who do not have dental insurance. This plan aims to reduce the inequalities in oral health care for millions of Canadian residents.

Join Health Canada and Statistics Canada officials as they walk us through the context and rationale for the introduction of the new Canadian Dental Care Plan; showcase the oral health data being collected through the Oral Health Statistics Program, and highlight the complementary investments that aim to address oral health gaps among eligible populations and reduce barriers to accessing care. A question-and-answer period will follow.

Un tiers des Canadiens n'ont pas d'assurance dentaire et un sur quatre a déclaré avoir évité de consulter un professionnel de santé buccodentaire parce qu'il n'avait pas les moyens de payer les soins. Par conséquent, de nombreux Canadiens ne peuvent pas recevoir les soins buccodentaires dont ils ont besoin. C'est pourquoi le gouvernement du Canada a lancé plusieurs initiatives, dont le Régime canadien de soins dentaires ([RCSD](#)), qui contribue à rendre le coût des soins buccodentaires plus abordable pour les résidents admissibles qui n'ont pas d'assurance dentaire. Ce régime vise à réduire les inégalités en matière de soins buccodentaires pour des millions de résidents canadiens.

Joignez-vous aux représentants de Santé Canada et de Statistique Canada qui nous expliqueront le contexte et la raison d'être de l'introduction du nouveau Régime canadien de soins dentaires, présenteront les données sur la santé buccodentaire recueillies dans le cadre du Programme de la statistique sur la santé buccodentaire et mettront en évidence les investissements complémentaires visant à combler les lacunes en matière de santé buccodentaire chez les populations admissibles et à réduire les obstacles à l'accès aux soins. Une période de questions et réponses suivra.



# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



## **Marika Nadeau**

Director General, Engagement and FPT Relations, Oral Health Branch, Health Canada

Marika Nadeau leads the team responsible for the Engagement and FPT Relations at Health Canada, more precisely in the Oral Health Branch. Within the Branch, the team helps to inform the design and successful implementation of the Canadian Dental Care Plan. Before taking on this role in November 2022, Marika was Director General, Testing Secretariat, at Health Canada, supporting the department's COVID-19 pandemic response, including rapid testing distribution amongst other key responsibilities. Prior to joining Health Canada, Marika spent 14 years at Public Services and Procurement Canada, where she held a variety of advisory positions, including Chief of Staff to the Deputy Minister and Associate Deputy Minister. Marika holds a bachelor in Business Administration from the University of Ottawa.

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Marika Nadeau dirige l'équipe responsable de la mobilisation et des relations fédérales-provinciales-territoriales à Santé Canada, plus précisément dans la Direction générale de la santé buccodentaire. Au sein de la Direction générale, l'équipe aide à orienter la conception et la mise en œuvre réussie du Régime canadien de soins dentaires. Avant de commencer à assumer ces fonctions en novembre 2022, Marika était directrice générale du Secrétariat de dépistage, à Santé Canada, où elle soutenait l'intervention de lutte contre la pandémie de COVID-19 du Ministère, y compris la distribution de tests rapides de dépistage, entre autres responsabilités clés. Avant de se joindre à Santé Canada, Marika a passé 14 ans à Services publics et Approvisionnement Canada, où elle a occupé divers postes de conseillère, notamment ceux de chef de cabinet du sous-ministre et de sous-ministre déléguée. Marika est titulaire d'un baccalauréat en administration des affaires de l'Université d'Ottawa.



# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



## **Lindy VanAmburg**

Director General, Policy and Programs, Oral Health Branch, Health Canada/Directrice générale, Politiques et programmes, Direction générale de la santé buccodentaire, Santé Canada

Within the Oral Health Branch of Health Canada, Lindy VanAmburg leads the team responsible for policy and program development, including the design of the Canadian Dental Care Plan and the Oral Health Access Fund. Before taking on this role in early 2022, Lindy spent nearly 15 years working on an array of health care issues at Health Canada. In that time, she exercised progressively more senior leadership roles related to health care system issues (with a particular emphasis on access to care, wait times for care, quality of care, and patient safety) as well as long-term care and home care, palliative care, and medical assistance in dying. Prior to joining Health Canada, Lindy held a variety of positions within the federal government, developing and implementing policy on a range of social issues, including child poverty, early childhood development and child care, post-secondary education, and challenges facing Canada's seniors.

Au sein de la direction générale de la santé buccodentaire, Lindy VanAmburg dirige l'équipe responsable du développement des politiques et des programmes, y compris la conception du Régime canadien de soins dentaires et le fonds d'accès à la santé buccodentaire. Avant d'occuper ce poste au début de l'année 2022, Lindy a passé près de 15 ans à travailler sur toute une série de questions relatives aux soins de santé à Santé Canada. Au cours de cette période, elle a exercé des fonctions de direction de plus en plus importantes dans le domaine des systèmes de soins de santé (en mettant l'accent sur l'accès aux soins, les délais d'attente, la qualité des soins et la sécurité des patients) ainsi que les soins de longue durée et les soins à domicile, les soins palliatifs et l'aide médicale à mourir. Avant de rejoindre Santé Canada, Lindy a occupé divers postes au sein du gouvernement fédéral, élaborant et mettant en œuvre des politiques sur une série de questions sociales, notamment la pauvreté des enfants, le développement de la petite enfance et les services de garde d'enfants, l'enseignement postsecondaire et les défis auxquels sont confrontées les personnes âgées au Canada.



# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



## **Dr. Jeff Latimer**

Director General, Health Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada

Jeff Latimer is the Director General responsible for the Health Statistics Branch at Statistics Canada. He holds a PhD in Criminology and a Master's Degree in Social Work, both of which focused on the intersection between health and justice. Throughout his 25 year career as a researcher and executive, Dr. Latimer has held a number of senior positions in the federal government including at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and Justice Canada. Dr. Latimer is currently focused on enhancing Canada's official health statistics in partnership with other federal departments, the provinces and territories.

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Jeff Latimer est le directeur général responsable de la Direction des statistiques de la santé à Statistique Canada. Il est titulaire d'un doctorat en criminologie et d'une maîtrise en travail social, tous deux axés sur l'intersection entre la santé et la justice. Au cours de ses 25 années de carrière en tant que chercheur et cadre, Dr. Latimer a occupé plusieurs postes de direction au sein du gouvernement fédéral, notamment aux Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada et à Justice Canada. Le Dr Latimer se consacre actuellement à l'amélioration des statistiques officielles sur la santé au Canada, en partenariat avec d'autres ministères fédéraux, les provinces et les territoires.

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



## **Lisette Dufour**

Senior Oral Health Advisor, Oral Health Branch, Health Canada

Lisette Dufour is a registered dental hygienist who has been employed by the federal government for the past 19 years. She holds the position of senior oral health advisor at the Oral Health Branch at Health Canada where she provides advice on the engagement, policy and operationalization of the future Canadian Dental Care Plan. Lisette was previously working at the Office of the Chief Dental Officer of Canada at the Public Health Agency. From 2012 to 2015, she held a management position at the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program (NIHB), where she successfully implemented the National Dental Predetermination Centre. Prior to joining the federal public service, Lisette worked in the insurance industry as a dental claims specialist, practiced clinically for 17 years, and taught dental hygiene part-time for 10 years while being involved with the National Dental Hygiene Certification Board.

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Lisette Dufour est une hygiéniste dentaire autorisée qui travaille pour le gouvernement fédéral depuis 19 ans. Elle occupe actuellement le poste de conseillère principale en santé buccodentaire à la Direction générale de la santé buccodentaire de Santé Canada, où elle fournit des conseils sur la mobilisation, les politiques et la mise en œuvre opérationnelle du futur Régime canadien de soins dentaires. Lisette travaillait précédemment pour le Bureau du dentiste en chef du Canada à l'Agence de la santé publique. De 2012 à 2015, elle a occupé un poste de gestion aux Services de santé non assurés (SSNA), où elle a mis en place avec succès le Centre de prédétermination dentaire national. Avant de rejoindre la fonction publique fédérale, Lisette a travaillé dans le secteur de l'assurance en tant que spécialiste des réclamations de frais dentaires, a exercé en cabinet pendant 17 ans, et a enseigné l'hygiène dentaire à temps partiel pendant 10 ans, tout en s'impliquant avec le Bureau de certification nationale en hygiène dentaire.



# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

## Dr. Sonica Singhal



Dr. Sonica Singhal is a dental public health specialist with her Bachelors in Dental Surgery from Delhi University, India, Masters in Public Health from the University of New South Wales, Australia, and PhD in Dentistry from the University of Toronto. She is the Program Director, Dental Public Health discipline, at the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto. Her research interests include socio-demographic disparities in access to oral health care, scope of work of oral healthcare professionals, and oral health-systemic health linkages.

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### **Role of public programs in accessing oral health care and optimizing oral health:**

In Canada, the publicly funded health care system is routinely criticized for keeping the mouth out of the body. Recognizing that dental care is costly and that many Canadians lack insurance covering dental care, the current federal government, has launched the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP). Budget 2023 proposed investing \$13.0 billion over five years, starting in 2023-24, and \$4.4 billion ongoing to Health Canada to implement the CDCP to support families earning less than \$90,000 annually. Would receiving affordable dental care on a continuous basis improve and maintain Canadians' oral health and related quality of life, is a question which is very important to be addressed from the tax payers' perspective and to make this dental care plan sustainable, as initiatives, which do not have enough scientific backing are more susceptible to get erased in the times of funding cuts. We are conducting a study, "One Smile Research", at the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto, to answer such questions.

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



## Dr. Tamanna Tiwari

Dr. Tamanna Tiwari is an Associate Professor in the Department of Community Dentistry and Population Health and Associate Director, Center for Oral Disease Prevention and Population Health Research at the School of Dental Medicine at the University of Colorado. She is a dentist with an M.P.H. from New York University. Her research is in the area of dental caries prevention, oral health behavior change, and quality improvement in oral health. Her research focuses on understanding the social determinants of oral health and health inequities, particularly in early childhood caries prevention, improving population oral health, and medical-dental integration. She is recognized as a leader on diversity issues, demonstrated by awards such as the ADA Mid-Career Faculty Award for Evidence-Based Dentistry, AADOCR Oral Health Equity Research Award, and the IADR Centennial Emerging Leaders Award. She has over 75 publications and 150 abstract presentations at national and international meetings and she disseminates her research both to the scientific community and to communities that participate in her research. Dr. Tiwari is funded by the National Institute of Health, Coalgate, CareQuest Institute for Oral Health, and the Colorado State Health Department to research to reduce oral health inequities.

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### **Bridging the Gap: Behavioral and Oral Health Integration for Improved**

**Access:** This session will explore a person-centered approach to care, focusing on providing oral healthcare to vulnerable populations. The integration of oral and behavioral health, along with trauma-informed care practices, can significantly improve access to care and enhance health outcomes for vulnerable groups. This presentation will examine the challenges and barriers these populations face in accessing oral and behavioral care, and discuss how both oral health and behavioral health providers can collaborate to identify concerns, develop tailored treatment approaches, and improve overall health outcomes. Additionally, the session will highlight the importance of trauma-informed care in creating safe and supportive environments and will discuss public health interventions and clinical models that can integrate behavioral and oral health to improve access to care and utilization of dental care.

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



## **Dr. Paul Allison**

Faculty of Dental Medicine & Oral Health Sciences, McGill University

Dr. Allison is a dentist with specialist training in oral and maxillo-facial surgery and dental public health. He was Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry at McGill during 2008-18, President of the Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry during 2015-19, President of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences during 2019-20 and on Governing Council of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research during 2018-21 and 2022-25. He chaired a Canadian Academy of Health Sciences report on [“Improving Access to oral health care for vulnerable people living in Canada”](#). He is currently a member of the Lancet Commission on Global Oral Health, a leader of a national research team for the oral health element of the Canadian Health Measures Survey cycle 7, and he co-chaired the development of the recently published [National Oral Health Research Strategy](#).

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**The future for oral health in Canada: Building on the CDCP and the WHO global oral health strategy:** After years of stagnation in oral health care and oral health related policy in Canada and internationally, recent initiatives have created a moment full of potential for positive changes in Canada and globally. For the first time in 15 years, the Canadian Health Measures Survey will have an oral health element enabling up-to-date information on the oral health of Canadians. The initiation of the Canadian Dental Care Plan is an enormous step forward in reducing financial barriers to dental care and is accompanied by several data gathering and research initiatives by Statistics Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health research. And globally the WHO has published its Global Strategy and Action Plan on Oral Health 2023-30. Nevertheless, we must act strategically to promote the best improvements in oral health and reductions in oral health inequities.

# Scientific Sessions

-  An Investigation of Data from the First 18 Months of the Interim Canada Dental Benefit, **Saif Goubran**
-  Associations Between Taste Preferences and Feeding Practices and Early Childhood Caries (ECC), **Muhammad Abdulla**
-  Challenges in Oral Care for Personal Care Home Dwelling Seniors, **Anil Menon**
-  Changes in Body Mass Index Following Dental Surgery to Treat Early Childhood Caries in Preschool Children, **Shaan Sareen**
-  Is Private Insurance Enough to Address Barriers to Accessing Dental Care? Findings from a Canadian Population-Based Study, **Mona Abdelrehim**
-  Parents' Views on Dental Care Access Challenges, the Interim Canada Dental Benefit and the Canadian Dental Care Plan, **Suhird Ghotra**
-  Recommendations for Implementing and Integrating Caries Risk Assessment into Primary Care for Indigenous Children by Non-Dental Healthcare Providers, **Olubukola Olatosi**
-  Seniors' and Caregivers' Experiences with Home-Based Oral Health Care Services in Quebec: A Qualitative Study, **Grusha Akade**
-  The Differential Impacts of Cost-free Dental Care on Oral Health and Related Outcomes Among Vulnerable Women and Men: A Pilot Study, **Nasim Khosravi**

# THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY (CAPHD) *2024 Annual Conference*



**THEME:**

*Building Bridges: Accessible Dental Care  
for All Canadians*

Scan the QR code to access the program

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER:


The Honourable/L'honorable  
**Mark Holland\***  
Minister of Health/Ministre de la santé


## FEATURING:

- Panel discussions with Health Canada and Statistics Canada
- Presentations from dental public health experts
- Scientific sessions
- And much more

 **September 20, 2024**

 **Zoom**

 **8:00am - 5:00pm CST**

**TO REGISTER TODAY:** [Click Here](#)   
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 16, 2024  
FREE FOR MEMBERS

\*In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the keynote speaker may be subject to change.







CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
DENTISTRY  
(CAPHD)

# SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

*for our*

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**



Zoom



12:00pm - 2pm CST



For more information

## See you there!

Registration is available in the CAPHD [Member Portal](#)

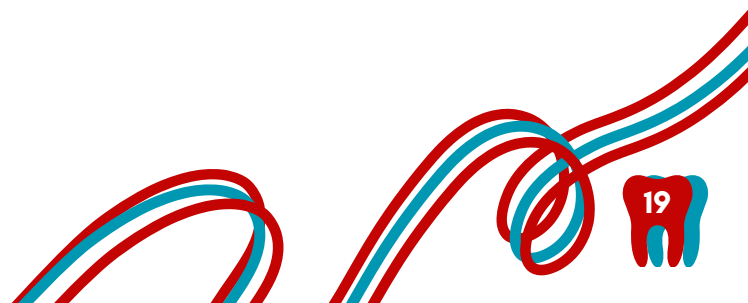


# NOTES





**Thank you for joining us!**



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