

In Your Eyes: Community Approaches to Research in Mental Health and Addictions

Thursday, March 5th, 2009 • 9 am - 4 pm
Asia Pacific Hall • Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue

Afternoon Speaker Bios

Dr. Chris Lalonde

Associate Professor, Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology
and Special Education
University of Victoria



Dr. Chris Lalonde is the Vancouver Island Node Leader of the Network Environments for Aboriginal Health Research BC (NEARBC) and Co-Director of the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research at the University of Victoria.

Dr. Lalonde investigates cultural influences on identity formation and social-cognitive development, and is currently engaged in several participatory research projects examining the role of culture in the health and well-being of Aboriginal youth. Dr. Lalonde is also leading an academic-community partnership involving 29 First Nations to study injury rates within Aboriginal communities on Vancouver Island.

Professor Peter Beresford

Director, Centre for Citizen Participation and Professor of Social Policy
Brunel University, London, UK



Professor Peter Beresford is widely recognized for his contribution to the field of user engagement in research, and has a long track record of involvement in issues related to participation and empowerment as a writer, researcher and service user. He is currently Director of the Centre for Citizen Participation at Brunel University, an initiative which undertakes research and provides education, training and consultancy in the field of user involvement and public participation.

Professor Beresford is Chair of Shaping our Lives National User Network, Visiting Fellow at the School of Social Work and Psychology at the University of East Anglia, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. He is also a Trustee of the Social Care Institute for Excellence, an organization that identifies and disseminates knowledge for good practice in all aspects of social care throughout the United Kingdom.

Dr. Erin Michalak (pronounced mi-HA-lak)

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry
University of British Columbia



Dr. Michalak is the Network's Community-based Research Hub Coordinator. Her research interests are in bipolar disorder, quality of life, seasonal and non-seasonal depression, community-based research and the development of outcome instruments for mood disorders.

Dr. Michalak holds a Scholar award from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) and a New Investigator award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). She leads the MSFHR-funded "Collaborative RESearch Team for the study of psychosocial issues in Bipolar Disorder" (CREST.BD) network, and has over 40 scientific articles published or in press.

Prize Draw – One entry to the 17th Annual David Berman Memorial Concurrent Disorders Conference (\$450 value)

BCMhARN is a co-sponsor of the 17th Annual David Berman Memorial Concurrent Disorders Conference, to be held in Vancouver on May 25-27, 2009. This year's theme is "Overcoming Trauma & Addiction with Love, Strength and Power: 16 Steps to Empowerment". This conference is designed to provide an interdisciplinary group of clinicians / delegates with advanced training in concurrent disorders, including in-depth exploration of integrated treatment.