

August 22, 2018

Closing Panel

Momentum for working together in Atlantic Canada and beyond!

Panelists will reflect on presentations and conversations held during the Forum and how the work accomplished at ASI 2018 can serve as a spark for national discussions (as well as how national work can spark further work in the Atlantic region). Each panelist will reflect on links with their work both regionally and nationally.

Moderator:

Nicholas Watters

Director, Knowledge Exchange Centre at the Mental Health Commission of Canada

Nicholas Watters is the Director of the Knowledge Exchange Centre at the Mental Health Commission of Canada. In this role, Nicholas is responsible for knowledge exchange training and strategies, policy and research activities, national indicators, coordination and the engagement of organizational wide advisory groups, and the development and execution of projects to promote the uptake of the Mental Health Strategy for Canada, while also playing a significant role in stakeholder relations. Prior to joining the Commission Nicholas served as the Senior Advisor Communications and Knowledge Transfer at the Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada. Nicholas has bachelor's degrees in Political Science and Communications from the University of Windsor, along with an MBA from the Australian Institute of Business.



Panelists:

Theresa Redmond

Director General, Regional Operations, Public Health Agency of Canada

Theresa Redmond who joined the Public Service in 1997 has worked in increasingly senior levels in Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), Human Resources and Social Development Canada and Health Canada before joining the Public Health Agency of Canada in December 2012 as Director General, Regional Operations. Theresa has a Bachelor of Arts in Education and a Master of Arts in History.



In her various positions in the federal government, Theresa has worked on a range of social issues with a particular focus on issues facing disadvantaged populations including Aboriginal people.

Ms. Redmond has worked extensively with regional offices of numerous federal departments and agencies and provincial and territorial colleagues in her various positions and has earned a solid reputation in fostering positive relationships with provincial, territorial and Aboriginal governments.

Judith Clark

Mi'kmaq Elder in Residence, UPEI

Judy is a Mi'kmaq woman from Abegweit First Nation. She is extremely active in her community and is committed to Aboriginal issues.



Judy is the UPEI Mi'kmaq Elder in Residence and works with Indigenous people within the PEI justice system. She is a Mi'kmaw Circle Keeper and served as the PEI representative for the RCMP Commissioner's National Aboriginal Advisory Committee, where she raised issues on behalf of the Indigenous community. She also served on the Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention. Judy is passionate about women's issues and served as President of the PEI Aboriginal Women's Association and an Executive Council member for Native Women's Association of Canada from 2006-2018; she also received a 35-year pin for her volunteer work with the Girl Guides of Canada. Judy has received an Honorary Doctor of Laws from UPEI, a Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers and a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. She has a professional background in finance, conflict resolution and research. She is currently the owner of Epekwitk Mi'kmaq Cultural Consulting.

Judy leads her life in accordance with the teachings of her Elders, and she and her husband John are proud parents of two daughters and grandparents to three granddaughters and a grandson.

Patrick Smith

CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association

Dr. Patrick Smith began his tenure as CMHA's National CEO in April 2016. With a PhD in Clinical Psychology, he came to CMHA from Renascent – one of Canada's leading providers of abstinence-based, residential addictions treatment – where he was also CEO.



Prior to this, he was the Vice President, Research, Networks and Academic Development at the BC Mental Health and Addictions Services of the Provincial Health Services Authority in British Columbia from 2005 to 2010, and was founding Head of UBC's Addiction Psychiatry Program. From 1997 to 2005, Patrick was the Vice President of Clinical Programs at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), and was Head of the Addiction Psychiatry Division at the University of Toronto.

He received his PhD in 1991 from the University of Nebraska and did his internship and NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse) postdoctoral fellowship at the Yale University School of Medicine from 1990-1992. He was also a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand.

In addition to his clinical and research background, Patrick's primary focus for much of his work has been mental health and addictions recovery and health systems planning and development.

As a founding member of the Canadian Executive Council on Addictions, Patrick represented Canada as a delegate to the United Nations Committee on Narcotic Drugs (UN-CND) in both 2004 and 2009 and co-chaired the development of Canada's National Addictions Treatment Strategy.