

AFHTO Board of Directors, 2013-14

President and Chair: Ms. Keri Selkirk (Executive Director, Thames Valley FHT)

Keri Selkirk is the Executive Director of the Thames Valley Family Health Team which serves patients in London/Middlesex, Oxford and Elgin Counties. Keri has served on the AFHTO board since 2008, and has held the role of Treasurer since 2009. Keri holds a seat on the Quality Committee at St. Joseph's Healthcare London, as well as serving as a community member of her local Legal Aid Ontario Area Committee. Prior to her work at the Thames Valley Family Health Team, Keri developed a broad view of the healthcare system through her work at the Canadian Diabetes Association and London Health Sciences Centre.

Past President: Dr. Val Rachlis (Physician, North York FHT)

Dr. Val Rachlis graduated from the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine in 1972 and received his certification in Family Medicine in 1974. Currently he is a physician in the North York FHT, where he recently stepped down as board chair. He is also an Associate Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine of the University of Toronto, and Co-Chair of the Toronto Public Health Emergency Advisory Committee. Val has fulfilled numerous leadership roles in various health service planning organizations and professional associations, including president of the Ontario College of Family Physicians in 2004. He has also received numerous honours for his work, from organizations such as the College of Family Physicians of Canada, Ontario College of Family Physicians, University of Toronto. The North York General Foundation established the Dr. Val Rachlis Leadership Endowment Fund to recognize his "many years of service, compassionate care and exceptional leadership".

Vice President: Mr. Randy Belair (Executive Director, Sunset Country FHT – Kenora)

Randy Belair is the Executive Director of the Sunset Country Family Health Team in Kenora, and has served on the Board of AFHTO since November 2010.

In his role as an AFHTO Board Member, Randy has been involved directly with membership recruitment and renewal; pre-election advocacy and meeting with health leads of all 3 parties; AFHTO Board representative on the Recruitment & Retention Working Group; consultation meetings with the Primary Health Care Branch regarding budget cycles and changes to financial process for FHTs.

Randy has worked in health care for over thirty years, starting his career as a pharmacist. Prior to returning home to Kenora in September 2007, Randy held senior positions with the Dryden Regional Health Centre, Northwestern Ontario District Health Council and, Lake of the Woods District Hospital.

Treasurer: Dr. Sean Blaine (Lead Physician, STAR FHT – Stratford)

Dr. Sean Blaine is a community family physician in Stratford, Ontario. He is the founder and Lead Physician of the STAR Family Health Team. He is a member of the South West Primary Care Network and since 2008 he has served as a director on the board of the Ontario College of Family Physicians. Past positions include Chief of Family Medicine at Stratford General Hospital and member of the SW LHIN Strategic Advisory Group 2006 for the first integrated health service plan. Sean is an assistant professor in the Department of Community and Family Medicine at the University of Toronto, and from 2000–2010 was a Research Scholar with the department. He has published a number of peer reviewed articles and presented often on the topic of primary care genetics. Sean is currently a member of the Advisory Board of GECKO (Genetics Education Centre – Knowledge for Ontario). Sean is the current medical representative for the Huron Perth United Way. In addition to Sean's role as a member of the board of the Association of Family Health Teams of Ontario he has served as Chair of the AFHTO Membership Committee 2011-2012.

Secretary: Marg Alfieri (Registered Dietitian at the Centre for Family Medicine FHT, Kitchener)

Marg Alfieri is a Clinical Dietitian who has worked in a wide variety of health care settings, from tertiary care, research, private practice and finally to her delight in primary care – family health teams. She is an Associate Professor at McMaster's School of Medicine. In 2005 Marg founded the FHT RD network and now chairs Dietitians of Canada's Primary Health Care Action Group. She was a key player in the development and dissemination of recent PHC Dietitian Satisfaction Survey. At CFFM she chairs the Collaborative Quality Innovative Board where her focus remains on the promotion of Interprofessional Collaboration with her FHT. In 2011 the Family Medicine Residents awarded her the IHP Preceptor of the year.

Director: Dr. Veronica Asgary-Eden (Clinical Psychologist, Family First and Connexion FHTs, Ottawa and region)

Veronica Asgary-Eden earned her PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Ottawa and completed her pre-doctoral residency at London Health Sciences Centre, focusing on health and rehabilitation psychology. She has conducted research on the delivery of evidence-based services in agencies across Ontario and she has published numerous peer-reviewed articles. She has presented at international conferences on evidence-based practice and service delivery as well as on the relationship between psychological factors and physical health.

Veronica has experience as the mental health team coordinator at 2 FHTs in the Ottawa region, Family First FHT and Connexions FHT. She spearheaded the development of the mental health program from inception to implementation at Family First FHT. As a bilingual clinician, she enthusiastically promotes the integration of mental health services and increased access to psychological care for patients in primary care. In addition, she has played a founding role in creating a network of psychologists practicing in primary care settings in the Ottawa region along with actively participating in a regional network of mental health clinicians working in FHTs.

Director: Jennifer Kennedy (Executive Director, North Renfrew FHT, Deep River)

Jennifer Kennedy joined the North Renfrew Family Health Team, a hospital-sponsored FHT in Deep River, in April 2011. Previous to that, she had worked in the non-profit sector, most recently in children's mental health. She was a board member for Pembroke Regional Hospital, chairing the Patient Care, Quality and Risk Management Committee for three years. She has a Bachelor's in Sociology and a Master's in Public Administration (Health Policy), both from Queen's University. Her interests include the delivery of health and social services in rural and remote areas. Every summer she enjoys canoeing with her family in Algonquin Park.

Director: Ross Kirkconnell (Executive Director, Guelph FHT)

Ross Kirkconnell is the Executive Director of the Guelph Family Health Team, working with over 70 family physicians and numerous other clinicians to advance collaborative primary care in Guelph. Previous positions include: Executive Director of the CCAC of Wellington-Dufferin, Program Manager with the Long-term Care Division of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and Program Consultant with the Office for Senior Citizens' Affairs.

Ross has a B.A. from McMaster University and Master of Science Degree from the University of Guelph. Ross continues to support academic research in partnership with faculty at McMaster and Guelph. Ross has been involved with a number of initiatives aimed at local and provincial health system improvement including: Executive Director, QIIP; the Waterloo-Wellington Palliative Care Advisory Committee; the Wellness-Guelph Leadership Group and the Sounding Board of the Ontario Change Foundation.

Director: Ms. Kavita Mehta (Executive Director, South East Toronto FHT)

Kavita Mehta is the Executive Director of the South East Toronto Family Health Team (SETFHT), an academic FHT affiliated with the University of Toronto. She is also the FHT liaison for the Toronto Central LHIN, Toronto Central CCAC and Toronto Public Health.

Kavita has served on the Association of Family Health Teams (AFHTO) for 2 years, most recently as Member-at-Large on the Executive in 2011. In her role with AFHTO, Kavita has participated or led a number of activities including the development of AFHTO's website, governance survey for FHTs, AFHTO annual conferences 2010 and 2011 and currently represents AFHTO on the Health Quality Ontario *Advanced Access and Efficiency for Primary Care initiative*.

Prior to joining SETFHT, Kavita was a Senior Program Consultant at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Primary Health Care Team where she participated in the policy and program development work for FHTs and primary care renewal. She graduated from McMaster University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree, and after working as a Public Health Nurse for 4 years, she returned to McMaster to complete her MBA, with a focus on Health Services Management and Marketing. She recently completed the Advanced Health Leadership Program at the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto in 2011.

Director: Dr. John McDonald (Lead Physician, PrimaCare Community FHT – Paris)

Dr. John McDonald graduated from UWO in 1975 then started a family practice in Paris, Ontario, a small semi-rural community close to Brantford. Involvement at all levels of the health system locally and provincially in advocacy and decision making fostered keen interest in health systems and primary care renewal. John has been active in the changing environment of Primary Health Care working in the first Ontario Primary Care Network [now FHO] then being actively engaged in its evolution to the PrimaCare Community FHT [mixed governance, wave 2], as well as working with the OMA and the MOHLTC. John has served as chair of the OMA Section on General and Family Practice, and currently serves as a member of the OntarioMD user working group. As an early supporting member of AFHTO the opportunity to grow, evolve and sustain the advances open to the FHT model of health care delivery is a main focus of activity. As president of AFHTO relating to the many FHTs in all aspects is definitely an ongoing interesting and exciting experience.

Director: Dr. Jamie Read (Physician, Sherbourne FHT)

Jamie Read graduated from the University of Calgary Faculty of Medicine in 1992 and completed a combined Family Medicine/Emergency Residency in Ottawa in 1995. After working as an Emergency Physician in Kitchener-Waterloo and then downtown Toronto teaching hospitals, Jamie made a shift into Primary Care in 2003 when he joined the Sherbourne Health Centre to work primarily with homeless and underhoused people. Jamie led the development of the Centre's Family Health Team, a wave 3 community governed FHT, and acted as the Centre/FHT's Medical Director between 2005 and 2009. In 2009, he took on a new role as the Co-Lead of Quality Improvement and Clinical Integration with QIIP (now Health Quality Ontario) where his role focused on issues related to physician engagement and how to incorporate quality improvement into the day-to-day work of clinical practice. In early 2011, he took on the additional role of Primary Care Lead for the Toronto Central Diabetes Regional Coordination Centre, an initiative of the provincial Ontario Diabetes Strategy. In this role, he is focused on engaging primary care providers across the LHIN with an overall goal of ensuring all people with type 2 diabetes have access to the right provider. Jamie continues to practice as part of the Urban Health Team at the Sherbourne FHT.

Director: Tanya Spencer Cameron (Nurse Practitioner, Timmins FHT)

Tanya Spencer Cameron is a graduate of the University of Toronto, Faculty of Nursing (1998) and of the COUPN Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner Program, Laurentian University (2003). She is a Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner with the Timmins Family Health Team, and the past Interdisciplinary Health Clinical Lead. Tanya has been an integral partner in the establishment and ongoing development of the Wave 1 Timmins FHT, and was an active Director on the Timmins FHT Board for the organizations first six years of operation.

In 2008, Tanya also began her work with the QIIP (now Health Quality Ontario) where she is the Co-Lead of Quality Improvement and Clinical Integration sharing the responsibility for translating the experience of integrating quality improvement into the delivery of primary healthcare. Here, her work is focused primarily in the area of integrating patient engagement in quality improvement methodology and delivery system design. In addition, with her background in public health and remote and rural First Nations community health nursing, Tanya also remains in practice as a Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner with the Porcupine Health Unit in Timmins, ON.

Director: Dr. George Southey (Lead Physician, Dorval Medical Associates FHT – Oakville)

Dr. George Southey founded Dorval Medical Associates in 1989. As Executive Lead, he has led the growth of the Dorval Medical practice and prompted its emergence as a leading Ontario full scope, comprehensive family practice through adopting new technologies and innovative approaches to offering high quality services at reasonable cost. Dorval Medical was selected as the first Family Health Network in Ontario and was in the first wave of Family Health Teams implemented. Dorval Medical continues to serve the Oakville community through innovative partnerships with Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, the Halton Mississauga LHIN and the CCAC.

George serves as a Family Practice Quality Auditor and PREP Assessor for the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, on the eHealth Steering Committee of the Halton LHIN and as the Deputy Chief of Emergency Medicine at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. He has spoken on a range of topics to groups at the OMA, CPSO, QIIP, etc. George currently is on the Board of The Association of Family Health Teams of Ontario and focuses his board work on comprehensive primary care performance measurement.