

# The History of Medicine and Healthcare



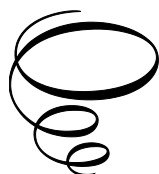
# The History of Medicine and Healthcare:

*Selected Papers*

Edited by

Lesley Bolton, William J. Pratt  
and Frank W. Stahnisch

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The History of Medicine and Healthcare: Selected Papers

Edited by Lesley Bolton, William J. Pratt and Frank W. Stahnisch

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Cover Image: A Women's College Hospital (Toronto) psychiatric team, 1959. Left to Right: Mrs. Diana Pilsworth (occupational therapist), Mrs. Charlotte Hannick (certified nursing assistant), Vivian Noble (student nurse), Dr. Betty W. Steiner (psychiatrist), Jennifer Urban (registered nurse), and Enid Paisley (registered nurse). Library and Archives Canada. Canada Department of Manpower and Immigration 1972-047 06274.1

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Emily Hurst	University of Calgary
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Fedir Razumenko.....	University of Saskatchewan
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Deborah Wasylenko .....	University of Calgary
Mandy Wong .....	University of Calgary
Claire Woodworth .....	Memorial University of Newfoundland
Cindy Ningfu Zhu.....	Western University

## PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This book brings together a set of chapters from young and emerging scholars in the history of medicine, while taking its origins from the 24<sup>th</sup> History of Medicine Days (HMDs) conference occurring on Friday March 6, 2015 and Saturday March 7, 2015 at the University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine in Alberta, Canada. Here, undergraduate and early graduate students from across Canada, the United States, Latin America, the United Kingdom and Europe gave paper and poster presentations on a wide variety of topics from the history of medicine and health care. In this preface, the editors would like to express their sincere and heartfelt thanks again to all of the contributors to the 24<sup>th</sup> HMDs student conference in 2015. The event was graciously introduced by the Vice Dean of the University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine, Dr. Glenda MacQueen, and the Vice Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Dr. Florentine Strzelczyk. Both gave their warm welcoming addresses to all delegates and contributing students from universities, medical schools, and public health colleges at the University of Calgary.

The resulting chapters in the first part of this volume provide many historical insights, which could be received from the 2015 conference event in Calgary. They are compiled in this book, to document the communication and deliberation at the annual academic event. The selected papers, which are published in the current volume, particularly comprise contributions on Public Health History, the History of Psychiatry, Biomedical Ethics in History, Military Medicine, and Changing Gender Roles in Modern Medicine.

Altogether thirty-seven oral presentations and twenty posters were presented at the 2015 conference. Furthermore, an exhibit of objects from the Alberta Health Services (AHS) historical archive collection (Chief Curator: Mr. Dennis Slater), in addition to one from the Mackie Family Collection in the History of the Neurosciences at the Health Sciences Library of the University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine (Library Director: Heather Ganshorn), were made available for viewing at the entrance to the Libin Theatre in the Health Sciences Centre of the Cumming School of Medicine in Calgary.



**Figure 1-1:** Anonymous: “‘Living Death’—Radium Victim Faints As Doctor Tells Doom,” *Daily Times* 9.136 (10 February, 1938). Photograph showing a radium-poisoned female dial worker at a contemporary industrial hearing. Source: Public Domain.

Altogether, students from the University of Calgary delivered about one half of the presentations at the 24<sup>th</sup> History of Medicine Days conference. Many local students also actively volunteered on various organizing committees for the conference, which included hosting and billeting external student presenters in Calgary, as well as aiding with the organization of the program, and many other preparatory roles. Without their most valuable and gracious help, the organization of the conference would not have been as smooth and successful as it was. Over two hundred students and faculty colleagues attended the individual sessions from the University of Calgary campuses.

Additionally, many faculty colleagues from the Cumming School of Medicine, the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Science, and the Faculty of Nursing supported the HMDs by reviewing conference abstracts as they were submitted. They also contributed significantly to the chairing and judging of the numerous paper and poster presentations that were delivered at the conference. Furthermore, one faculty colleague, from the University of Calgary's Department of Geoscience, Faculty of Science, and Werklund School of Education, prepared an extra student panel entitled "Braiding History, Philosophy and Model-Based Learning in Science Teaching and Education." It saw four additional student presentations and discussions, with Emily Hurst, Simon Wiebe, Jessica Burylo, and Bryan Petryshen who presented on specific History and Philosophy of Science case studies from radiology and public health (see also Figure 1-1), palaeontology, and the geosciences. This featured session focused on teaching science with historical case studies, and it was made possible through the support of a grant by the Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning and a Tamaratt Teaching and Learning Professorship co-funded project involving undergraduate student researchers researching and developing historical case studies for teaching science and the nature of science. The specific cases included "The De-mythologization of Alfred Wegener (1880– 1930)," "One of the Biggest Upheavals in Geology, that No One Ever Talks About," as well as "Tragedy in the Dial Painter Factory." This group around Dr. Glenn Dolphin examined historiographical and pedagogical methodology involved in creating case studies, provided brief synopses of the cases, and described an instructors' perspectives on implementing the case studies in real science classes.

Moreover, Mr. Dennis Slater, the Head of the Alberta Health Services Archives and Historical Collections in Calgary, Alberta, presented a featured lecture in line with Alberta Health Service's traveling exhibit shown at the conference venue. It was entitled "A History of Epidemics, Vaccines and Innovation" and addressed a perspective from recent media coverage about childhood diseases, vaccinations, and concerns over influenza that has reminded the Canadian public that infectious diseases are a real threat to us today.<sup>1</sup> These issues are in the forefront of public attention now, but it is important to remember that many of these threatening diseases were prevalent since the early 1900s. Noting these historic parallels helped in developing the available perspectives imbedded in the travelling exhibit about the history of infectious diseases in Alberta over the last century.

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<sup>1</sup> See, for example, in: Terra Manca, "'One of the greatest medical success stories': Physicians' and nurses' small stories about vaccine knowledge and anxieties," *Social Science & Medicine* 196 (2017), 182-189.

Drawing on its substantial collection of historic medical artifacts and photographs, the historical exhibit has delivered an engaging informative story of this western Canadian province's response to the threat of disease, profiling notable physicians and discoveries from across the province, together with insightful artifact compilations from the contemporary period. Creating the travelling exhibit followed the process of standard museum exhibitions, yet with some unique challenges, since for travelling exhibits, other than for standing collections, artifacts must also safely travel over an extended period, being packed, unpacked, and transported from a variety of locations. Mr. Slater's featured lecture has explored the very steps taken in the development of this exhibit from idea and proposal, to key messages, research phase, storyline, and the factors unique to creating a museum-standard travelling exhibit.

The conference's keynote lecture, entitled "A 'Most Distressing Shortage': Organizing Occupational Therapy in the Ontario Hospitals," was given by the renowned medical historian, Dr. Peter L. Twohig, previous Canada Research Chair in Atlantic Canada Studies, Department of History, Faculty of Arts (St. Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia). He presented on a very timely subject related to the constant challenges in medical staffing and human resources shortages in health care systems. Dr. Twohig has generously prepared his presentation as a chapter submission here for our 24<sup>th</sup> History of Medicine Days Proceedings volume. In 2015, Dr. Twohig's invited keynote lecture was again delivered as a co-sponsored event by the O'Brien Institute for Public Health (OIPH), the Calgary History of Medicine Society (CHOMS) and the Science, Technology, Environment and Medicine Studies (STEMS) colloquium at the University of Calgary, for which the organizers of this event have all been very grateful.

Dr. Twohig is currently a Professor of History at Saint Mary's University; and from 2003 to 2013 he was Canada Research Chair in Atlantic Canada Studies. Prior to that appointment, he was a member of the Department of Family Medicine and the Medical Humanities program at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He is the author of two books on health care work, *Challenge and Change: A History of the Dalhousie School of Nursing, 1949–1989* (1998) and *Labour in the Laboratory: Medical Laboratory Workers in the Maritimes, 1900–50* (2005), as well as numerous articles on health and medicine.

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**Figure 1-2:** Weekly pay packet of a Cape Breton coal worker from the Dominion no. 10 colliery, August 10, 1936. Deductions for doctor and hospital were 40 cents and 30 cents respectively. The balance, if payable would be inserted on the inside of the packet. Source: Courtesy of the University Archives, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

An established interdisciplinary researcher, his publications have appeared in the *British Medical Journal*, the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, the *American Journal of Bioethics*, and a wide variety of historical journals. Professor Twohig provided important insights into the organization of healthcare work in Canada and how different parts of Canada responded to shortages of healthcare workers over time. His illustrative examples have offered an appreciation for the importance of historical perspectives on contemporary public policy issues, particularly

since the early twentieth century experienced numerous instances of health care staffing challenges and the needs for human resources in the health care system in Canada's provinces (figure 1-2). During the 1950s and 1960s, Canada faced a profound shortage of health care workers. The question of how hospitals would be staffed preoccupied local hospital authorities, provincial departments of health, and the federal government during these years. There was a widespread perception that both hospital beds and occupancy rates were increasing and that the availability of registered nurses, occupational therapists, and other workers was not keeping pace. While the question of a labour shortage was relative, subjective, and very much dependent upon context, the consistent narrative concerning a 'shortage' was a critical dimension of the reorganization of health care labour that took place in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This chapter has examined strategies to expand services in a period of rapid and profound change.<sup>2</sup> We are thankful that Dr. Twohig has also offered and consented to the republication here of another chapter, entitled "Education, Expertise, Experience and the Making of Hospital Workers in Canada, 1920–1960" which previously appeared in *Scientia Canadensis*. Explicit permission for the reuse of this article was both perceived through the author and editor-in-chief as a recent communication in the history of medicine and full reprint in this volume (see pages 195-218). It appears next to another special communication contributed by conference attendee Anna Sarah Erem who submitted her research topic "Electroconvulsive Therapy – A History of a Shocking Topic" in lieu of her oral presentation at the conference (see pages 171-193).

Professor Twohig's chapter in the current volume thus provides important insights into both the constant challenges in the recruitment of adequate personnel for modern health care services and medical infrastructures in Canada, by also presenting some of the planning decisions, policy developments, and health care services programs that intended to cope with the historical challenges at hand.

Looking at the current volume, the editorial team is very grateful that a solid number of ten manuscript contributions could be included in this edited collection.<sup>3</sup> This volume further includes the abstracts of all 2015

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<sup>2</sup> For further reference, see also the following article: Peter L. Twohig, "Education, Expertise, Experience and the Making of Hospital Workers in Canada, 1920–1960," *Scientia Canadensis* 29 (2006), 131-153.

<sup>3</sup> All of the contributions in this volume, for which the editors have received explicit *Copyright Transfer Forms* and *Author Consent Forms*, will also be made available online through the University of Calgary Internet Repository *Prism: History of Medicine Days Community Homepage*:



conference presentations in a separate appendix. It has been illustrated with images and diagrams pertaining to the various topics from the history of medicine as they are assembled here. Throughout the 24<sup>th</sup> conference of the History of Medicine Days in 2015 at the University of Calgary, research enthusiasm, oratory, and audiovisual competence of the speakers were again of an exceptional quality. The conference audience was not only greatly entertained, but the local and national delegates contributed further to a highly stimulating and engaging discussion throughout the whole event. The proceedings editors are grateful to all participants for their active contributions and support, which helped to make this academic conference a great success.

Our sincere thanks go to the Chief Executive Officer, Gail Paech of Associated Medical Services. Both the publication of the Proceedings Volumes and the organization of the 24<sup>th</sup> History of Medicine Days at the University of Calgary would not have been possible without the continued and sustained financial support through Associated Medical Services, Inc. in Toronto, Ontario,<sup>4</sup> as well as through the Alberta Medical Foundation in Edmonton, Alberta for which we continue to be very grateful. However, the content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of Associated Medical Services, Inc.

For their continued and important support, we would also like to thank the O'Brien Institute for Public Health in Calgary and the Cumming School of Medicine at the University of Calgary. Since last year (2014), the University of Calgary's Faculty of Medicine has been renamed as the Cumming School of Medicine, in recognition of a very generous donation of the Ontario-based entrepreneur Geoffrey Cumming. This was a gift to the university that was effectively matched by the Province of Alberta, in support of the Faculty's important and sustained activities in medical research, education, and scientific innovation. It intends to support emerging initiatives in research that may lead to transformative impacts on health as well as local, national and international applications. The Cumming School of Medicine will now attract top medical students and researchers to Alberta by extraordinarily investing in students, and it aims at making a difference for patients in Calgary and beyond.<sup>5</sup>

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<https://dspace.ucalgary.ca/handle/1880/47439>.

<sup>4</sup> Compare, for example, Anne Avery, "History of Medicine and Healthcare – History of Medicine Days," in: *Meet Our Hannah Chairs*, ed. Associated Medical Services, Inc. (<http://www.ams-inc.on.ca/history-of-medicine-and-healthcare/history-of-medicine-days/>); <Accessed on December 3, 2017>.

<sup>5</sup> Todd Korol and Kelly Cryderman, "Businessman Makes Largest-Ever Donation to University of Calgary," *Globe and Mail*, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 11.

The editors and organizers of the 2015 History of Medicine Days themselves extend their warm thanks to Beth Cusitar and Donna Weich for the important support for the organization of the conference and additional editorial help they provided in finalizing this manuscript, as well as their tireless efforts in contributing greatly to the proceedings' success for yet another year. Fortunately, in 2015, we also saw the grateful donation by an anonymous donor, in conjunction with the O'Brien Institute for Public Health, of the Clara Christie Award for the Best Presentation on Women in the History of Medicine and Public Health. Apart from such luminaries as Margaret Sanger (1879-1966) in New York City, United States,<sup>6</sup> and her work on family counselling and population control, there is not much scholarly work done on the specific and major contributions of women in the modern public health field explicitly. Yet, clearly, there is a lot that can be researched and also highlighted as role models and historical cases to modern public health researchers and activists, which form the rationale for this new annual award at the History of Medicine Days conferences.

The award was named in honour of Dr. Clara Christie Might (1895-1987),<sup>7</sup> who was one of the founding female physicians of the family medicine program in Calgary, so that this award has a nice local touch (the other two named awards giving out at the HMDs conferences are the Dr. Peter Cruse (1927-2006) Award in the History of Surgery and the Dr. William A. Whitelaw Award in the History of Internal Medicine – highlighting their previous organizational contributions to the Calgary History of Medicine and Health Care program). The paper awarded the inaugural Clara Christie Award was presented by Ashley Frayne, MA, who has just joined the University of Calgary's first year Undergraduate Medical Education class from the University of Victoria, where she previously studied for the MA in English Literature. Her exceptional and well-received presentation was entitled "Generating New Metaphors: Gender Politics and Obstetric Medicine in 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Century England" and her conference abstract is also included in this volume. In addition, we express our gratitude to the staff at Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom—Deputy Editor Adam Rummens and Carol Koulikurdi, who have supported the editorial process and production of *The History of Medicine and Healthcare: Selected Papers* in very helpful and essential ways.

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<sup>6</sup> See, for example: David Kennedy, *Birth Control in America: The Career of Margaret Sanger* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1970).

<sup>7</sup> Crystal Schick, "Six Notable Albertans Honoured in Latest Field of Honour Monument," *Calgary Herald*, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 1.

Since 1991, the annual Calgary History of Medicine Days Conferences bring together undergraduate and early graduate students from across Canada, the United States, Latin America, the United Kingdom and Europe to give paper and poster presentations on a wide variety of topics from the history of medicine and health care in an interdisciplinary perspective. The History of Medicine Days thereby offer an annual platform for discussions and exchanges between the participants over recent research findings, methodological perspectives, or work-in-progress descriptions of ongoing historiographical projects. A limited number of reviewed and edited conference papers are assembled in the annual volumes of the series, as in the current volume, and may comprise topics from the history of psychiatry, health care systems, medical sciences, neuroscience, public health, or historical issues of gender in medicine. Each of the books in the new peer-reviewed series of Proceedings Volumes from the Calgary History of Medicine Days conferences, published with Cambridge Scholars Publishing, further intend to include the manuscripts from internationally renowned keynote speakers from the history of health care, medicine, and science. The volumes also comprise all the abstracts of the respective conferences for documentation purposes (see pages 221-269) and are well-illustrated with diagrams and images pertaining to the history of medicine. Academic readership for this series includes the conference attendees, students and faculty members from History of Medicine, History and Philosophy of Science, Nursing History, along with Science and Technology Programs.

Several printed volumes of *The History of Medicine and Healthcare: Selected Papers* are also sent to the major reference libraries in the field and the Internet edition (University of Calgary academic repository) now receives many views from college students, generally interested audiences, and practicing physicians.<sup>8</sup>

Frank W. Stahnisch,  
Lesley Bolton,  
Will Pratt

(University of Calgary, July 13, 2020)

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<sup>8</sup> Frank W. Stahnisch, "Series Description – The Proceedings of the Annual History of Medicine Days Conferences at the University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine, Alberta, Canada," in: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, ed., *Series – Subject: Medicine* (Newcastle upon Tyne, England: Cambridge Scholars Publishing); <URL:<http://www.cambridgescholars.com/the-proceedings-of-the-annual-history-of-medicine-days-conferences-at-the-university-of-calgarys-cum-ming-school-of-medicine-alberta-canada>>; accessed on November 24, 2017.



# **HISTORY OF PSYCHIATRY**

