



UBC CENTRE FOR  
HEALTH SERVICES AND  
POLICY RESEARCH

# Contested Ground

Why are some policies  
healthy and others not?

Celebrating the career of Canada's  
Undisciplined Economist, **Robert G. Evans**

April 5-6, 2016

Pinnacle Hotel Vancouver Harbourfront

**CHSPR 2016**  
HEALTH POLICY CONFERENCE

## Welcome

In 1988, a few of those toiling away in the then Division of Health Services Research and Development in the long-ago forgotten Office of the Coordinator of Health Sciences at UBC, thought it would be a grand idea to organize and host a small conference that would focus on health policy issues of the day. That event was such an amazing success, and so much fun, that we decided to do it again... and again... and again... and.... Twenty-eight years later we are pleased to be hosting the 28th annual CHSPR Health Policy Conference. The math is ok—we took one year off many years back to catch our breath and regroup.

This year's conference is a special one for us, insofar as we are using it, in part, to celebrate the many seminal contributions of one of UBC's most distinguished emeriti (and our close colleague), Bob Evans. Bob has been amongst Canada's most influential health policy voices and 'pens' for over four decades, as well as having been one of the international fathers of the disciplines of health economics and population health. We are delighted to have been able to convince so many distinguished speakers to join us on this occasion. They are amongst the most prominent and influential health services, health policy and population health researchers from across Canada and beyond. We are equally pleased that you have chosen to spend some of your time with us and with them. We hope the event will turn out to be everything you had envisioned, and more.

A number of posters will be on display throughout the conference, and there will also be dedicated time at the end of the formal day 1 program during the poster reception for you to meet with the authors of those posters. That reception will also feature the "Bob Evans Roast," with John Frank presiding—you won't want to miss it.

We had hoped to have a book of Bob's writings available by the time of the conference, but the publishing wheels grind slowly. There will be a book—*An Undisciplined Economist: Robert G. Evans on Health Economics, Health Care Policy, and Population Health*—soon. If you have not already ordered a copy, and would like to, please complete the order form in your registration package and leave it with one of the staff at the registration desk.

Feel free to wade into the discussions as our distinguished speakers offer commentary on many of the policy challenges that preoccupied Bob throughout his career. Is our destiny continued "contested ground," or are we actually making progress?

Warm regards,



Morris Barer

On behalf of the conference program and planning committees

## Schedule

### Day 1: Tuesday, April 5

7:45 am Registration and breakfast

8:45 am	<b>Welcome Remarks</b>	
	Conference Chair	<b>Morris Barer</b> Professor, University of British Columbia
		<b>Deborah Money</b> Executive Vice Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia

9:00 am	<b>Opening Plenary</b>	
	Much of academic economics focuses on what we ought to do, rather than on what we actually do. A useful economics of health requires close collaboration with people from other fields, including those who do as well as those who merely think. Without an interdisciplinary perspective, economic analysis is often at best irrelevant.	
	Chair	<b>Morris Barer</b> Professor, University of British Columbia
	Speaker	<b>Bob Evans</b> Emeritus Professor, University of British Columbia

9:45 am	<b>Contemporary Canadian Health Policy Challenges</b>	
	Four of the most taxing, yet important, contemporary Canadian health policy challenges are drug costs and financing, legal and regulatory considerations, the never-ending quest for the holy grail of financing and funding, and the increasingly important issues related to caring for seniors and others requiring long-term care. Each speaker will touch on key reasons why we fail to make more progress on these fronts, and what we might do to change that.	
	Chair	<b>Greg Stoddart</b> Emeritus Professor, McMaster University
	Speaker	<b>Danielle Martin</b> Vice President, Women's College Hospital, Toronto
	Speaker	<b>Colleen Flood</b> Professor, University of Ottawa

10:45 am Refreshment break

11:15 am	<b>Contemporary Canadian Health Policy Challenges (continued)</b>	
	Speaker	<b>Jerry Hurley</b> Professor, McMaster University
	Speaker	<b>François Béland</b> Professor, Université de Montréal

12:15 pm Lunch

1:30 pm	<b>Can We Learn from Other Countries? Can Other Countries Learn from Us?</b>	
	Speakers will offer a number of perspectives on the prospects for, and limits to, cross-national health care system learning and importation. They will use case studies to illustrate the promise, and the challenges, focusing on system-level reforms as well as reforms targeted at specific segments of societies.	
	Chair	<b>Kim McGrail</b> Associate Professor, University of British Columbia
	Speaker	<b>Ted Marmor</b> Emeritus Professor, Yale University
	Speaker	<b>Charles Normand</b> Professor, University of Dublin
	Speaker	<b>Ivy Bourgeault</b> Professor, University of Ottawa

3:00 pm Refreshment break

## Schedule

3:30 pm	<b>Improving the Health of Populations</b> The focus of this session is on the determinants of health inequalities in populations, and what strategies might be effective in ameliorating them. Speakers will touch on how to measure health inequalities, why policy-makers continue to try policies that have been shown repeatedly not to work, and the importance of inter-sectoral policy approaches.
Chair	<b>Chris McLeod</b> Assistant Professor, University of British Columbia
Speaker	<b>John Frank</b> Professor, University of Edinburgh
Speaker	<b>Jeannie Shoveller</b> Professor, University of British Columbia
Speaker	<b>Michael Wolfson</b> Professor, University of Ottawa
5-7 pm	<b>Poster Reception and Bob Evans Roast</b>

## Day 2: Wednesday, April 6

7:45 am Breakfast

8:45 am	<b>Health Care Policy Innovation</b> Speakers will discuss some policy approaches that seem to work, reasons that they do not spread more widely, and what needs to be done to see more successes and fewer failures in the future. Can so-called system “innovation” or “transformation” be expected to lead Canada and the United States to the health care promised land?
Chair	<b>Robyn Tamblyn</b> Professor, McGill University
Speaker	<b>Ian Morrison</b> President Emeritus, Institute for the Future
Speaker	<b>Steven Lewis</b> President, Access Consulting Ltd.
Speaker	<b>Michael Rachlis</b> Adjunct Professor, University of Toronto

10:15 am Refreshment break

10:45 am	<b>Closing Panel: “Healthy” Policies—Critical Success Factors</b> Panelists will review the keys to policy success (and failure) in selected Canadian jurisdictions, with an emphasis on the role of governments, leadership, and interest groups.
Moderator	<b>Jonathan Lomas</b> Founding CEO, Canadian Health Services Research Foundation
Panelist	<b>John Lavis</b> Professor, McMaster University
Panelist	<b>Andrew Boozary</b> Visiting Scientist, Harvard School of Public Health; Special Advisor to the Ontario Minister of Health
Panelist	<b>Heather Davidson</b> Assistant Deputy Minister, British Columbia Ministry of Health
Respondent	<b>Bob Evans</b> Emeritus Professor, University of British Columbia
12:30 pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b>
Conference Chair	<b>Morris Barer</b> Professor, University of British Columbia
CHSPR Director	<b>Sabrina Wong</b> Professor, University of British Columbia

12:45 pm Lunch

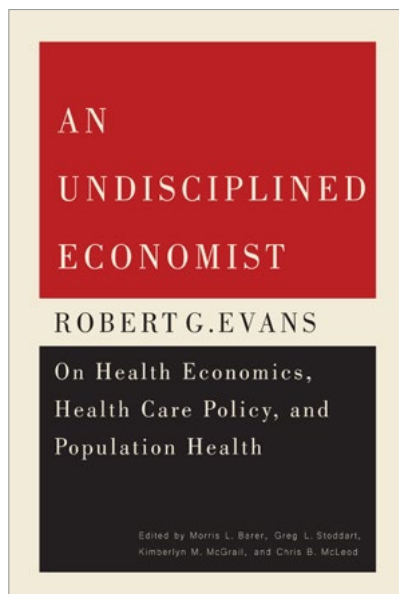
## Featured Speaker



### Bob Evans

A founding member of the UBC Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, Bob Evans is a lifelong leader in academia and an internationally esteemed health economist. His groundbreaking comparative studies of health care systems and funding strategies have shaped policy in Canada and provided insight to governments and health agencies worldwide. A decorated academic, Professor Evans is the recipient of Canada's highest honour for lifetime achievement, as an Officer of the Order of Canada. He also served as a member of the British Columbia Royal Commission on Health Care and Costs in 1990, and of the National Forum on Health, chaired by the prime minister of Canada, from 1994 to 1997. His canonical works, *Strained Mercy: The Economics of Canadian Health Care* and *Why Are Some People Healthy and Others Not? The Determinants of Health of Populations* are considered classics in the field.

In addition to serving as an Officer of the Order of Canada, he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and an Institute Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, where he was director of the Population Health Program from 1987 to 1997. In 2001, he became the first Canadian (and the second non-American) to win the Baxter International Foundation Prize for Health Services Research.



### An Undisciplined Economist

Robert G. Evans on Health Economics, Health Care Policy, and Population Health

Edited by Morris L. Barer, Greg L. Stoddart, Kimberlyn M. McGrail, and Chris B. McLeod

Available from McGill-Queen's University Press, summer 2016

For four decades Robert Evans has been Canada's foremost health policy analyst and commentator, playing a leadership role in the development of both health economics and population health at home and internationally. *An Undisciplined Economist* collects sixteen of Evans' most important contributions, including two new articles.

Visit the registration desk or [mqup.ca](http://mqup.ca) for information or to pre-order.

## Speakers



### François Béland

François Béland is a Professor in the Health Administration Department of the Université de Montréal and an Associate Professor in the Division of Geriatric Medicine at McGill University. For over 30 years

he has focused on research in gerontology, and he is particularly interested in the organization of integrated services for frail older persons, patterns of utilization and costs of such services, sustainability of Medicare, and health-related inequalities within the general population. He completed post-doctoral studies in healthcare organization at the University of Michigan in 1979, and holds a PhD (1978) in Sociology from Université Laval.



### Andrew Boozary

Andrew Boozary is a Visiting Scientist at the Harvard School of Public Health, Founding Editor of the Harvard Public Health Review, and Special Adviser on Health Care Transformation to the Ontario Minister of Health.

He completed his MD at the University of Ottawa, and received a Princeton University Fellowship Award to earn his Masters of Public Policy at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.



### Ivy Bourgeault

Ivy Lynn Bourgeault is a Professor in the Telfer School of Management and Institute of Population Health at the University of Ottawa, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Chair in Gender, Work

and Health Human Resources. She is also the Scientific Director of the pan-Ontario Population Health Improvement Research Network and the Ontario Health Human Resource Research Network, both housed at the University of Ottawa with funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-term Care. Dr. Bourgeault also leads the pan-Canadian Health Human Resources Network, established with funding from Health Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.



### Heather Davidson

Heather Davidson has worked for the BC government since 1991 in a series of progressively more senior positions, mostly in the Ministry of Health, where she is currently Assistant Deputy Minister of the Partnerships

and Innovation Division. She was an early advocate for evidence-based policy and decision making and has maintained strong linkages with the research community throughout her government career. Dr. Davidson holds a PhD in Psychology (Adult Development and Aging) from the University of Victoria. Prior to joining the provincial government, she worked as a gerontologist in a variety of clinical settings in Alberta and Ontario.

## Speakers



### Colleen Flood

Colleen M. Flood is a Professor at the University of Ottawa, a University Research Chair in Health Law and Policy, and the inaugural director of the Ottawa Centre for Health Law, Ethics and Policy. From 2000-2015 she was

a Professor and Canada Research Chair at the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto with cross-appointments to the School of Public Policy and the Institute of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation. From 2006 to 2011 she served as Scientific Director of the Institute of Health Services and Policy Research at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Her primary areas of scholarship are in comparative health care law and policy, public/private financing of health care systems, health care reform, constitutional law, administrative law, and accountability and governance issues more broadly.



### John Frank

John Frank is Director of the Scottish Collaboration for Public Health Research and Policy and holds a chair in public health at the University of Edinburgh. His broad research and professional interests concern the determi-

nants of population and individual health status, and especially the causes, remediation and prevention of socio-economic gradients in health. He has a strong background in effectively championing teamwork between public health researchers and public policy decision makers. John was the founding Director of Research at the Institute for Work & Health in Toronto. In 2000, he was appointed inaugural Scientific Director of the Institute of Population and Public Health at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. In 2013 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.



### Jerry Hurley

Jeremiah Hurley is Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, a professor in the Department of Economics, a member of the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis, and a member of the Department of

Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, all at McMaster University. His research on the economics of health and health care systems includes physician behaviour, funding models and resource allocation in health care, public and private roles in health care financing, financial incentives in health systems, equity in health systems, normative frameworks in health economics, and the application of experimental economic methods in health research. He has published in leading health economics, health policy, and health services research journals and has acted as a consultant to regional, provincial, national and international agencies.



### John Lavis

John N. Lavis holds the Canada Research Chair in Evidence-Informed Health Systems. He is the Director of the McMaster Health Forum, Co-Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Evidence-Informed Policy, Associate

Director of the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis, Professor in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and Associate Member of the Department of Political Science at McMaster University. He is also Adjunct Professor of Global Health, Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. His research focuses on how to support the use of research evidence in health policymaking, both in high-income countries like Canada and in a broad range of countries internationally. He holds an MD from Queen's University, an MSc from the London School of Economics, and a PhD from Harvard University.



## Speakers



### Steven Lewis

Steven Lewis is a health policy and research consultant based in Saskatoon, and Adjunct Professor of Health Policy at Simon Fraser University. Prior to resuming a full-time consulting practice he headed a health research grant-

ing agency and spent seven years as CEO of the Health Services Utilization and Research Commission in Saskatchewan. He has served on various boards and committees, including the National Forum on Health, the Governing Council of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Saskatchewan Health Quality Council, the Health Council of Canada, and the editorial boards of several journals. He writes and speaks frequently on topics such as the politics of health care, quality improvement, and equity in health and health care.



### Ted Marmor

Theodore Marmor is Professor Emeritus of Public Policy and Management and Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the Yale School of Management. His scholarship primarily concerns welfare state politics

and policy in North America and Western Europe. He particularly emphasizes the major spending programs, which is reflected in the second edition of *The Politics of Medicare* (2000) and *America's Misunderstood Welfare State* (1992, written with colleagues Mashaw and Harvey). The author or co-author of eleven books, Marmor has published over a hundred articles in a wide range of scholarly journals, as well as being a frequent op-ed contributor to US and Canadian newspapers.



### Danielle Martin

Danielle Martin, MD, CCFP, MPP, is Vice President, Medical Affairs and Health System Solutions and a family physician at Women's College Hospital in Toronto. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family and Community

Medicine at the University of Toronto, with cross appointments at the Institute for Health Policy, Management and Evaluation and the School of Public Policy and Governance. She works as an expert both within and outside academia on issues relating to the preservation and enhancement of public health care, and the intersection of primary care with other parts of our health and social systems. As an advocate and researcher she is increasingly involved in work relating to national pharmacare and poverty reduction. Danielle has a significant media presence and is often approached by media to comment on issues relating to health and health care systems.



### Ian Morrison

Ian Morrison is an internationally known author, consultant, and futurist specializing in long-term forecasting and planning with particular emphasis on health care and the changing business environment. He combines

research and consulting skills with an incisive Scottish wit to help public and private organizations plan their longer-term future. Ian has worked with more than one hundred Fortune 500 companies in health care, manufacturing, information technology, and financial services. Ian is President Emeritus of the Institute for the Future, and is a frequent commentator on the future for television, radio, and the print media. He holds an interdisciplinary PhD in urban studies from the University of British Columbia, an MA in geography from the University of Edinburgh, and a graduate degree in urban planning from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.



## Speakers



### Charles Normand

Charles Normand is Edward Kennedy Professor of Health Policy and Management at Trinity College Dublin. He is vice-Chairman of the Board of St. James's Hospital and is Chair of the WHO European Observatory on Health

Systems and Policy. He trained as an economist, and has worked for 25 years on the economics of health and health care. He has a particular interest in understanding the ways in which aging affects use of health and social care, and on financing of services for older people. His research is mainly on health care finance, economic evaluation in cancer prevention and treatment, equity and access to services, management of chronic diseases, screening policies and end of life care. He is a co-author of a leading textbook on health economics and the WHO guidebook on social health insurance.



### Michael Rachlis

Michael Rachlis practices as a private consultant in health policy analysis. He has consulted to the federal government, all ten provincial governments, and two royal commissions. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the University

of Toronto Dalla Lana School of Public Health. In 2010, the University of Manitoba conferred upon Dr. Rachlis an honorary doctor of laws in recognition of his service to Canadian health policy. Dr. Rachlis is based in Toronto but consults and lectures widely on health policy issues. He has been invited to make presentations to committees of the Canadian House of Commons and the Canadian Senate as well as the United States House of Representatives and Senate. He is a frequent media commentator on health policy issues and the author of three nationally bestselling books about Canada's health care system.



### Jeannie Shoveller

Jeannie Shoveller is a Professor at UBC's School of Population and Public Health and the Director of Epidemiology and Population Health and the Drug Treatment Program at the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS. Dr.

Shoveller leads and supports interdisciplinary research on social inequities and health outcomes, including HIV. Her research on interventions to enhance young people's sexual and reproductive health is widely known. She is the former Director of UBC's Human Early Learning Partnership; Co-Chair of the Population Health Intervention Research Initiative for Canada; and a member of the CIHR Institute of Population and Public Health Advisory Board. She works extensively abroad (Brazil, France, UK) and was recognized by the EU Commission as a Euro-Public Health Scholar in 2013. In 2015, she was inducted into the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences in acknowledgement of her leadership and contributions to health and social equity nationally and internationally.



### Michael Wolfson

Michael Wolfson received a BSc with honours from the University of Toronto jointly in mathematics, computer science and economics, and then a PhD from Cambridge in Economics in 1977. He retired as Assistant

Chief Statistician, Analysis and Development at Statistics Canada in 2009. He was awarded a Canada Research Chair in Population Health Modeling / Populomics in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa in 2010. Prior to joining Statistics Canada, he held increasingly senior positions in the Treasury Board Secretariat, the Department of Finance, the Privy Council Office, the House of Commons, and the Deputy Prime Minister's Office. While a senior public servant, he was also a founding Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research Program in Population Health.

## Posters

- 1 Policies and pathways to health system efficiency: Perspectives of health system decision makers**  
Sara Allin, Canadian Institute for Health Information
- 2 Continuity of care with family medicine physicians: Why it matters**  
Geoff Ballinger, Canadian Institute for Health Information
- 3 Reducing imaging tests for low back pain: Can patients choose wisely?**  
Nick Bansback, Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcome Sciences
- 4 Private drug plans in Canada: Cost drivers, 2005 to 2015**  
Nevzeta Bosnic, Patented Medicines Prices Review Board
- 5 Making a case for health workforce impact assessments: Why are some health workforce policies healthy and others not?**  
Ivy Lynn Bourgeault, University of Ottawa / Canadian Health Human Resources Network
- 6 Improving efficiency and access to mental health care: Combining tertiary care and community mental health agencies to triage CAMH patients**  
Olivia Calancie, Queen's University
- 7 The impact of an intervention to improve emergency, triage, assessment and admission care on pediatric hospital mortality in Rwanda: An interrupted time series analysis**  
Celestin Hategekimana, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of British Columbia
- 8 Exit strategies: The timing and pattern of physician retirements in BC**  
Lindsay Hedden, Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation
- 9 The New Drug Launch Monitor**  
Karine Landry, Patented Medicines Prices Review Board
- 10 Implementing a primary care performance measurement and reporting framework: A stakeholder engagement process**  
Julia Langton, Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia
- 11 Cost pressures in the hospital drug market, 2015**  
Elena Lungu, Patented Medicines Prices Review Board
- 12 Effects of British Columbia hospital closures on delivery of health care services and the population's health**  
Dimi Panagiotoglou, Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia
- 13 Visually representing electronic medical record (EMR) data to improve reflective practice in primary care**  
David Parker, Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia
- 14 Bridging the generational divide: Nurses united in providing quality patient care**  
Carol Reichert, Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions
- 15 The continued influence of medical dominance on health care and policy in Canada**  
Olena Schell, University of Regina

## Posters

- 16 **Achieving high performance for priority setting in Canadian health care organizations**  
Neale Smith, Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation
- 17 **Why are some countries' healthy policies recognized and others not? Reflecting on Bob Evans' appreciation of the Cuban "black swan"**  
Jerry Spiegel, School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia
- 18 **Scoping review on patient engagement measurement frameworks: Tools for understanding the Excellent Care for All Act**  
Vidhi Thakkar, Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto
- 19 **Direct-to-consumer genetic testing for health purposes: A Doctors of BC policy statement**  
Helen Thi, Doctors of BC
- 20 **The use and cost of diabetes drugs in public plans, 2008/09 to 2014/15**  
Gary Warwick, Patented Medicines Prices Review Board
- 21 **Evaluation of the impact of graduate medical education funding on hospital performance**  
Radoslav Zinoviev, Yale University

## Exhibitors

- 1 **British Columbia Primary Health Care Research Network**
- 2 **Patented Medicines Prices Review Board**

## Acknowledgements

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