



Annual Report  
Patient & Community Partnership for Education  
[www.health.ubc.ca/pcpe](http://www.health.ubc.ca/pcpe)  
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Patient & Community Partnership for Education (PCPE), a unit within UBC Health, brings the expertise of patients, caregivers, and people with lived experience of social determinants of health into the education of health students at UBC. We work in partnership to include diverse, autonomous and authentic voices of patients in the education of health and social care professionals so that the care delivered is genuinely patient-centred and based on informed and shared decision-making. We advocate for patients as active collaborators – teachers, assessors, curriculum developers and educational decision-makers, researchers and health systems leaders.

**As part of UBC Health, PCPE:**

- Is a broker and bridge between the community and the academic institution (faculties and professional programs).
- Provides a central hub and resource for patient engagement for health programs at UBC.
- Recruits and supports patients / community members for UBC Health committees and activities.
- Promotes the adoption of guiding principles and best practices for patient / public engagement.
- Advises on infrastructure needed to support patient engagement / implementation of the guiding principles.

**2023-24 Highlights**

- A new international collaboration with **10 institutions** across **5 countries** to develop international guidelines and educational resources to promote patient and public involvement in interprofessional education of undergraduate health care students (PULPIT).
- 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Patient & Community Voices at UBC newsletter (**121+ issues** since 2014)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Kerston Community Educator Award (**19 recipients** since 2014)
- Raised **\$93,900** with the ‘*Empowering Patient Voices in Health Professional Education*’ campaign which enabled us to hire and support the work of a community engagement coordinator (Mandy Young) as a proof-of-concept for an on-going position to add capacity to patient involvement at UBC.
- Site visit to BAHIANA School of Medicine & Public Health in Brazil to identify institutional infrastructure and supports needed to improve equity, diversity, and inclusion of underrepresented groups at UBC.
- Updated vision and priorities for 2023-28 to include patients and community as active contributors across UBC Health activities, approved in principle by UBC Health Patient & Community Advisory Committee (PAC).



## Central Hub for Patient Engagement

- **1,700+ students** (including **31 students** from distributed programs in the North), **66 patient educators**, **517 teaching hours by patient educators**
- **9 activities** (**2 new** – older adult panel for social work students in SOWK 440 and a successful pilot of online Health Mentors for OSOT 519 students in Prince George)
- Recruited **4 public members** for the Gateway Oversight Committee and Working Groups.
- Co-developed a UBC Health position statement for patient engagement in research
- Coordinated PAC input (**9 patient / community representatives**) in the following UBC Health initiatives: distributed interprofessional education; definition of collaborative health education for the Gateway project; models of peer support for the new Gateway clinic (5 regularly scheduled meetings, 1 ad hoc meeting).
- Recruited **4 public members** for the Gateway Oversight Committee and Working Groups.
- Updated and streamlined recruitment principles and processes for volunteers, including PAC.
- **10 new requests** from students, staff and faculty (e.g., PT focus groups, OT strategic plan advisory committee, MEDD FLEX projects, caregiver curriculum focus group, Integrated Curriculum) filled by **60 patient and community volunteers**
- Collaborated with UBC Community Engagement to assist **3 community organizations** to build relationships with UBC.

## Continuing Programs and Resources

- Health Mentors Program (cohort 13): **150 students**, **1,104 teaching hours by 46 Health Mentors**.
- Patient & Community Voices workshops: 8 workshops, **93 students** (including **4 students** from Prince George), **50 hours of teaching by 25 patient / community educators**.
- Living Library Health Mentors: 26 patient experiences (**5 new**) and 10 caregiver experiences (**1 new**) catalogued and available to medical students and faculty on Entrada (also available on Canvas to UBC faculty, staff and students). **24 students** (including **4 students** in Prince George).



## IMPACT

"Hearing right from the patient is the best way for us to understand the impacts we have on patients' lives."

– Pharmacy student

"Patient partners talked about issues related to their care that the students had never considered before. This is definitely a learning opportunity I would like to offer my students again."

– Kelly Allison,  
Assistant Professor of Teaching,  
School of Social Work

Interprofessional programs like this work! It was wonderful working with students from other programs and comparing the differences in culture."

– OT Student,  
Health Mentors Program

For the students, it may be an early and positive teamwork experience. The students' kind and curious questions brought into focus new aspects of living with disabilities. Their compassion softened my sufferings." – Health Mentor

## Completed Work

- Completed a national survey of patient involvement in health professional education (**n=67 faculty and staff from 15 institutions**) in collaboration with the Centre for Excellence on Partnerships with Patients and the Public (University of Montreal).
- Virtual Clinical Education Informed by Patient Experiences – a collaboration to develop a series of **5 podcasts** with Dr. Adrian Yee, Director of Curriculum in the Faculty of Medicine (**9 Health Mentors**).

## Work in-progress

- Planning is underway for the 3<sup>rd</sup> international conference on, 'Where's the Patient's Voice in Health Professional Education – 20 years on?' 12-15 November 2025, Marriot Pinnacle, Vancouver.
- Creation of a Canadian network / community of practice to advance patient involvement in education in collaboration with the Centre for Excellence on Partnerships with Patients and the Public (University of Montreal).
- Health Mentors pilot program under development at Hospital Italiano of Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Year 2 pilot Health Mentors Program at BAHIANA School of Medicine and Public Health, Brazil.
- Collaboration with Dr Timothy Wideman, Department of Physical Therapy, McGill University on a project 'Developing a novel educational intervention to improve care for Canadians living in pain'.
- Co-development of orientation resources and onboarding processes for new patient / community volunteers with a working group (**8 Health Mentors, 2 patient / community representatives**) to pilot this Fall.
- Faculty outreach for 2024-25 academic year (7 need help with recruitment).



## Student Projects Supervised

- Patience Emanuel, 1<sup>st</sup> year medical student research project, *Understanding the Experience of Persons Living with Mental Illness* (**9 patients**)
- Sara Mohammed, 1<sup>st</sup> year medical student, Living Library Video: *'I am much more than cancer'* (**1 patient**)



## Publications (\*student co-authors)

Towle A, \*Wang L, \*Ong K, Kline C. Guiding principles for patient and public engagement in the educational mission of the medical school. *Academic Medicine*; 2024 (published on-line ahead of print)

Towle, A., \*Ong, K., \*Wang, L., & Kline, C.C. (2023). Patient/public perceptions on engagement with a medical school: What needs to happen to support authentic and sustained participation. *Medical Teacher*, 1-8.

Ong, K., Williams-Yuen, J., & Towle, A. (2023). Partnering with patients and the public for better healthcare: What can medical students do?. *UBC Medical Journal*, 14(2), 29-30.



## Peer Reviewed Conference Abstracts

Xia J, Kline C, **Lauscher D**. The Impact of patient journey on student learning in an HIV Module. Canadian Pharmacy Education & Research Conference, Quebec City, 12-14 June 2024. (Poster)

Towle A, **Canfield C**, **Firus K**, Godolphin W, Hubinette M, Kline C, **Lauscher D**. Novel ideas for engaging patient partners in medical education. International Congress on Academic Medicine, Vancouver, Canada, 11-15 April 2024. (Workshop)



Towle A, **Lauscher D**, Godolphin W, Hubinette M, Kline C, Jackson M, Descoteaux A, Wong C, Balounaick-Arowas V, Karazivan P. Advancing partnership with patients, families and persons with lived experience in medical education. International Congress on Academic Medicine, Vancouver, Canada, 11-15 April 2024. (Workshop)

Evans C, Metersky K, Towle A, Kline C. Practical Strategies for Education: Patients at the Heart. Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative, Collaboration a la Carte, 27 March 2024.

Lisboa M. & Kline C. Health Mentors Program: participatory and interprofessional teaching and extension technology centered on the patient experience. BIAHANA Scientific and Cultural Exhibition (XXIII MCC Mostra Cientific E Cultural) 20 October 2023. (Oral Presentation)

Towle A, Hubinette M, Kline C. Partnering with Patients in Research and Education. Centre for Health Education Scholarship (CHES), 3 October 2023. (Round Table)

Kline C, Lisboa M, Mendes S, Silva A, Araújo A. Lessons from an international collaboration to pilot the UBC interprofessional Health Mentors program in Brazil. Centre for Health Education Scholarship (CHES) Celebration of Scholarship, 3 October 2023. (Poster)



Kline C, \*Neto V, Lisboa M. Patients at the centre of interprofessional learning: Lessons from an international collaboration to bring an interprofessional Health Mentors program from Canada to Brazil. Nexus Summit September 18-19 and 27-28, 2023. (Oral Presentation)

Towle A, **Canfield C**, Kline C, **Lauscher, D**. Guiding Principles for Patient / Public Involvement in Interprofessional Education. Nexus Summit September 18-19 and 27-28, 2023. (Workshop)

## Manuscripts in preparation or under review

\*Gong C, \*Burke J, Kline, C, Yee A, Towle A. "This is really actually critical:" A qualitative study exploring community perceptions on planetary health and integrating planetary health into medical curriculum using a community engagement approach"(draft manuscript for Canadian Medical Education Journal *Medical Teacher*)

Ferreira R, Bosveld M, Gosak L, Kline C, Leal M, Mateus E. Best Practices on Public and Patient Involvement in Interprofessional Healthcare Education (draft letter to the Editor, *Health Expectations*)

Kline C, Riganti P, Moller-Hansen A, Godolphin W, Towle A. Maximizing transformative mentorship relationships: How patients are changed by mentoring students in an interprofessional health mentors program (draft manuscript for submission to *Advances in Health Sciences Education*)

Towle A, Yee A, Canfield C. The Patient as Curriculum Developer. New chapter commissioned for the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the book 'A Practical Guide for Medical and Health Professions Teachers' Edited by JA Dent, RM Harden and Y Steinert.