# **Opening Ceremony - ASI 2019 Forum**

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#### **Malcolm Shookner**

President, Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities

Malcolm Shookner has an extensive background in community development, social research, health promotion and public policy in the non-profit, academic and public sectors. He has worked on many projects that use indicators to measure the quality of life, sustainability, health and well-being of communities. Malcolm was formerly the Chief Statistician for Nova Scotia Community Counts (retired), a provincially supported website that provided information for and about communities.



# **Opening**

#### Julie Pellissier-Lush

Poet Laureate of PEI

Julie Pellissier-Lush, actress, and bestselling author of 'My Mi'kmaq Mother', Poet Laureate for PEI, recipient of the Queens Jubilee Medal in 2013 and Meritorious Service Medal recipient in 2017, was born in Summerside, PEI in 1970. She grew up all over Eastern Canada and spent a number of years in Winnipeg Manitoba before coming back home. Julie is graduated from the University of Winnipeg in 2000 with a double major in Psychology and Human Resource Management. She works as a Community Consultant Coordinator at Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI and was Vice President of the Aboriginal Women's Association for four terms. She writes, acts, and does photography to preserve the history and culture



of the Mi'kmaq for future generations. Julie wrote the poems for the play 'Mi'kmaq Legends' in 2010 and they have been performed for the last 8 years on many different stages in the Atlantic region. It is her hope that this play will someday travel all over Canada and beyond so more people have the opportunity to learn about the rich Mi'kmaq history! Julie lives in PEI with her husband Rick, her five children, and her Granddaughter Miah.

# Mi'kmaq Heritage Actors

This is a group of talented Prince Edward Island youth who deliver an amazing performance rich with acting, singing and dancing. The last few years the focus has been on creating new songs and new legends for their work on the stage and behind the drum. With their drumming, this group has been invited to several Mawiomi's and over the last few years they have started doing more openings and events to highlight the wonderful indigenous song and dance that they present. As performers they now have a summer spot at the Guild where they perform every Wednesday night with the older group, Mi'kmaq Legends.



This young group is dynamic and amazing in everything they do, and you can see the joy they have in sharing their culture and language with others.

# Profile of Child and Youth Mental Health in Canada

#### **Ed Mantler**

Vice President, Programs and Priorities, Mental Health Commission of Canada

A highly motivated visionary and an expert at building partnerships, engaging stakeholders, and inspiring change, Ed has led innovation and improvement in healthcare for over two decades.

As Vice President of Programs and Priorities at the Mental Health Commission of Canada, Ed is dedicated to promoting mental health and changing the attitudes of Canadians toward mental health problems and illnesses. By collaborating with stakeholders to improve mental health services and supports, he leads the way for change. Ed pays particular attention to reducing stigma and increasing mental resiliency through innovative measures like Mental Health First Aid, the National Standard for Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace, the Mental Health Strategy for Canada, the Knowledge Exchange Centre and Prevention and Promotion activities.

Ed is accustomed to wearing many different hats. He was CEO of the Physician Recruitment Agency of Saskatchewan and Senior Operating Officer of the University of Alberta Hospital. As an Accreditation Surveyor with Accreditation Canada, he contributes to quality and safety in healthcare across Canada and internationally. Ed is also a Registered Psychiatric Nurse, holds a Master's of Science Administration, and is a Certified Health Executive.

# Keynote Speaker Welcoming Communities – Space and place for peace and wellbeing!



Dr. Gaynor Watson Creed Public Health Physician, Nova Scotia

Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed is a Royal College certified specialist in Public Health and Preventive Medicine (PHPM), having completed her post graduate medical education in this field at McMaster University in 2005. She is also certified in Family Medicine. She is a passionate advocate for the role public health can play in advancing health equity.

Dr. Watson-Creed is a PEI native and received chemistry degrees from UPEI and University of Guelph before attending Dalhousie University for her MD in 1995. Although her current major role is as Deputy Chief Medical Officer of Health for the province of Nova Scotia, she holds and has held several other key population health roles during her career. She is currently the Assistant Dean of Serving and Engaging Society for Dalhousie University's



Faculty of Medicine, a new portfolio created in 2018, through which she hopes to create new opportunities for the medical school to catalyze much-needed change in the health care system and partner with communities to improve outcomes in health. She is also Chair of the Board of Engage Nova Scotia, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving Nova Scotia's place in the world. She sits as chair or member of several population health councils and boards nationally, including the examination Board for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and is co-chair of the Advisory Council to the National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health. She is a member of the CIHI Advisory Council on Population Health and advocates for high quality and well organized public health services in Canada.

Dr. Watson-Creed is a dedicated leader and in 2013, she received the Nova Scotia Public Health Champion Award. She was a member of the One Nova Scotia Coalition, which was the round table charged with responding to the state-of-the-Nova-Scotia-economy report laid out by the One Nova Scotia Commission (The Ivany Report), and received the William Grigor award for achievement in medicine from Doctors Nova Scotia in 2017. In 2018 she was awarded the President's award from Public Health Physicians of Canada for her advocacy regarding population health systems and services in Canada. She is a mom, wife and fitness instructor, and unwinds through building, sewing, gardening, baking and dance in her spare time.