**OPHA’s 2021 Award of Excellence, Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang**

Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang is the Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health for Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services.  From 2004 to 2017, Dr. Wang served as the Region’s Associate Medical Officer of Health and her portfolio consisted of providing support and medical leadership primarily to the infectious diseases division, the environmental health division, the emergency preparedness program and the Department’s population health surveillance and assessment functions.  In her current role, Dr. Wang provides leadership and oversight for all Public Health and Paramedic Services programs in the region, including the direct and indirect supervision of over 500 staff and a budget of over $80 million. Dr. Wang has also been an assistant professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University, since 2008.

**OPHA’s 2021 Award of Excellence, Erica Arnett**

Erica Arnett is a Program Manager with Southwestern Public Health currently. Erica began her career in public health in 2002 as a Health Promoter, first working for Huron County Health Unit and then Elgin St. Thomas Public Health. She joined the management team at Elgin St Thomas Public Health in 2015 as the Manager of Strategic Initiatives and later transitioned to a Program Manager role. As Program Manager she has managed the Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Team as well as the Healthy Schools Team with Southwestern Public Health.

Throughout her various roles in public health the thing that she has valued most is collaboration, partnerships and creating shared agendas with partners both internal and external to public health.

She holds a Health Sciences degree from University of Western Ontario and an MBA from Edinburgh Business School.

In her personal life Erica is a proud mom to two boys Spencer (15) and Parker (13) and loving wife to her partner Dave. Their family loves being active, outdoors and spending time with their three wonderful dogs.

**OPHA’s 2021 Legacy Award, Jo Ann Tober**

Jo Ann is the Chief Executive Officer for the Brant County Health Unit. Jo Ann is a Registered Nurse, holds a BScN from McMaster University and MSc and PhD in Applied Health Sciences from the University of Waterloo. Jo Ann has worked in public health for over 30 years and has taught numerous courses for Health Studies, Gerontology and Kinesiology undergraduate students at the University of Waterloo as an Adjunct Assistant Professor and the community health course for Nursing Students at McMaster University.

Throughout her career in nursing and administration, Jo Ann will leave a legacy that touches students, staff, and community, in addition to contributions to the promotion and enhancement of public health in Ontario and Canada.

Jo Ann’s innovative work with other health units and the Ministry of Health lead to the development of a working model of shared leadership of public health units, at a time in public health when some health units were struggling to hire full-time Medical Officers of Health. This model ensured the efficient and effective functioning of the health units during that period and beyond.

Under Jo Ann’s leadership, BCHU was at the forefront in adopting new technologies within a small health unit. BCHU was the first health unit of its size to fully integrate an electronic record system. Prior to H1N1, the BCHU had implemented an electronic immunization booking system that formed the basis of an organized and accessible appointments booking system which has further been built on to service H1N1 and COVID-19 vaccinations.

As a member of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care’s Performance Management Working Group (PMWG), Jo Ann shared in the task of reviewing aspects of the revitalization of public health in Ontario pertaining to performance management and accountability. Through PMWG, Jo Ann and her colleagues provided advice on the development and implementation of accountability agreements, which allowed setting specific expectations, establishing data reporting requirements and supporting enhanced public reporting.

In recognition of her knowledge, leadership, and skills in public health as well as in the nursing profession, Jo Ann was invited by her peers to join the group of a nursing academics in reviewing and making recommendations to the BScN university curriculums. Jo Ann also provided a public health lens on the *Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing Public Health Task Force* leading to the development of the “CASN–Entry-to-Practice Public Health Nursing Competencies for Undergraduate Nursing Education” and an e-Resource for Teaching Strategies of PHN Competencies, which have been implemented at universities in several provinces.

Jo Ann is dedicated to a strong public health component in the education and preparation of students considering public health as a career. BCHU under Jo Ann’s leadership, is committed to student placements to enrich the development of future public health practitioners as well as ongoing professional development and training of staff. Jo Ann continues to mentor public health practitioners including middle and senior level managers as they work together to advance public health in Ontario.

**OPHA’s 2021 Public Health Ally Award, Environmental Defense Canada**

**OPHA’s 2021 Public Health Ally Award, Canadian Health Association for Sustainability and Equity**

Kim Perrotta (MHSc) has been working to improve public policies related to occupational health, environmental health, and the built environment for over 30 years. She has worked inside and outside the public health sector with organizations such as Toronto Public Health, Halton Region Health Department, and the OPHA, and the Healthy Canada by Design CLASP Initiative, the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE), and most recently, the Canadian Health Association for Sustainability and Equity (CHASE). Kim has produced over 30 health-based policy reports including four major reports that include the logo of the OPHA. She has also produced many blogs, letters to ministers, media releases and op-eds on issues related to coal plants, active transportation, public transit, air pollution, health equity and climate change. Over the last several years, she has worked closely with the OPHA and other health organizations to help the public and decision-makers to see climate change as one of the most pressing health issues of our time, and to understand that the actions needed to fight climate change can produce significant health and health equity benefits for our communities today.

**OPHA’s 2021 Shella Basrur Award, Daniel Harris**

Daniel Harris completed his PhD in Epidemiology at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health in September 2022. His doctoral research investigated patterns of antipsychotic and other psychotropic medication use in nursing homes, with a focus on identifying possible evidence of medication substitution and drug switching. Dan currently works as a Research Scientist at the Brown University School of Public Health, continuing his work in pharmacoepidemiology and drug safety and effectiveness research.

**OPHA’s 2021 Shella Basrur Award, David Kinitz**

David is a social worker and PhD candidate in the Social and Behavioural Health Sciences Division at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto. His focus on social determinants of 2SLGBTQ+ mental health, such as employment and poverty. David's research is centered on critically deconstructing socio-political and economic structures with social justice aims that drive equitable health policy, research practices, and clinical care in order to improve the health and well-being of 2SLGBTQ+ populations.

**OPHA’s 2021 Shella Basrur Award, Miranda Loutet**

Miranda Loutet is a PhD candidate in Epidemiology at the University of Toronto’s Dalla Lana School of Public Health and affiliated with The Hospital for Sick Children’s Centre for Global Child Health. Miranda has experience in designing public health programs and research in the fields of global health, maternal and child health, mental health and infectious diseases. Her previous work and research has been conducted in collaboration with academic institutions, national public health agencies, non-governmental organizations and the World Health Organization. Her doctoral research aims to generate new evidence regarding the quantification and classification of breastfeeding patterns to improve methods of ascertainment of breastfeeding practices in large-scale surveys and studies of factors that influence breastfeeding practices and the effects on infant health outcomes.

**OPHA’s 2021 Shella Basrur Award, Dr. Corey McAuliffe**

Dr. Corey McAuliffe completed her PhD in Social and Behavioural Health Sciences from the University of Toronto and is currently a CIHR and Mitacs Health System Impact Fellow at the University of British Columbia and the Canadian Mental Health Association, BC Division. Her current work focuses on a campus suicide prevention initiative for all 25 of BC’s publicly funded post-secondary institutions, alongside a multi-year, nationally representative cross-sectional survey on the inequitable mental health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. McAuliffe's research focuses on critical, social, holistic, phenomenological, and community-oriented responses that identify structural and systemic barriers aimed at impacting policy, oriented towards a process of social change and equity through heightened attention to contextual and cultural differences.

**OPHA’s 2021 Shella Basrur Award, Christa Orchard**

Christa Orchard is a PhD student in epidemiology at the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health and a research associate at the Institute for Work & Health. Orchard’s PhD focuses on using unsupervised machine learning methods to better characterize mental health service use patterns among men and women in Ontario. Her past research work has focused on mental health following a workplace injury. Orchard holds a BSc in Psychology from the University of Sussex and the University of Toronto, and a Master of Public Health, specializing in epidemiology, from the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health.