



GLOBAL IMPACT REPORT

2019-2021



**NEUROETHICS
CANADA**

BRAIN HEALTH HUMAN VALUES

We acknowledge that our laboratories are on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam people), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This report, usually one that Neuroethics Canada publishes annually, is a three-year retrospective this time. We could say that the pandemic was the cause of the delay, but it would be unfair to suggest that it did so in a vacuum. In reality, we have been busier than ever before and, given the extra pressures imposed by the global health crisis, we really did have to focus our energies on our research, strategic initiatives, and wellness of the team.

We never lose sight of our external- and public-facing responsibilities and, along with our new projects, people, and funding, we still delivered on holding conversations with the local, national, and international community, providing leadership to our burgeoning field of neuroethics, and positively influencing policy and decision-makers in neuroscience and biomedicine broadly. While the closure of physical borders was a necessary means to curtail the spread of the coronavirus, intellectual borders have remained open to international collaboration among scientists and society to reverse the fragmentation caused by the pandemic. It is through world-wide cooperation that stigma and discrimination are being suppressed, cures discovered, and preventive measures to new threats implemented for a safer future for all people.

Even while this retrospective represents a full three years, it is only a snapshot of all that we have accomplished. Nonetheless, it is a snapshot of which we are very proud. Please visit our website at www.neuroethicscanada.ca for more details, as well as a view to 2022 and beyond.

Sincerely,
Judy Illes, CM, PHD, FRSC, FCAHS



Core Faculty



Judy Illes, CM, PHD, FRSC, FCAHS
 Director, Neuroethics Canada
 Distinguished University Scholar
 Canada Research Chair in Neuroethics (2007-2021)
 Professor of Neurology, Department of Medicine
 University of British Columbia

Dr. Judy Illes is a pioneer and scholar in the field of neuroethics. She has made groundbreaking contributions to ethical, social, and policy challenges at the intersection of biomedical ethics and neuroscience, with a specific focus on neurotechnology, cross-cultural values, and the commercialization of health care. Dr. Illes was appointed to the Order of Canada in 2017.



Julie M. Robillard, PhD
 Scientist, Children's and Women's Hospital and Health Centres
 Assistant Professor of Neurology, Department of Medicine
 University of British Columbia

Dr. Julie Robillard brings her multidisciplinary background in neuroscience and biomedical ethics to the study of issues at the intersection of brain health and technology. Dr. Robillard's current work focuses on the evaluation of the ethics, experience and impact of technology for mental health. She is also co-leading a research group on the integration of artificial intelligence in technology for older adults.



Patrick J. McDonald, MD, MHSc, FRCSC
 Faculty, Neuroethics Canada
 Pediatric Neurosurgeon, Winnipeg Children's Hospital
 Head, Section of Neurosurgery
 University of Manitoba



B. Lynn Beattie, MD, FRCPC
 Faculty, Neuroethics Canada
 Professor Emerita, Division of Geriatric Medicine, Department of Medicine
 University of British Columbia

Scientific Advisory Board



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 University of British Columbia
 Vancouver, BC



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 Community Stakeholder
 Vancouver, BC



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 Drs. William F. and Virginia Connolly Mitty
 Professor of Bioethics
 Director, Division of Medical Ethics, Department of Population Health, School of Medicine
 New York University
 New York, NY



Anthony Phillips, CM, PhD, FRSC
 Professor of Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry
 University of British Columbia
 Vancouver, BC



Hervé Chneiweiss, MD, PhD
 Chair, International Bioethics Committee (UNESCO)
 Director, Neuroscience Paris Seine
 Université Pierre et Marie Curie
 Paris, France



Rémi Quirion, OC, CQ, PhD, FRSC
 Chief Scientist
 Government of Québec
 Montreal, QC



Joseph J. Fins, MD, MACP, FRCP
 E. William Davis Professor of Medical Ethics
 Chief of Division of Medical Ethics
 Weill Cornell Medical College
 New York, NY



Catherine Roome, PEng, FEC, ICDD
 Co-Founder
 Pulse Technologies
 Vancouver, BC

PEOPLE

Alumni Spotlight



Matthew P. Kirschen, MD, PhD, FAAN
Co-Chair
Ethics, Law and Humanities Committee
American Academy of Neurology

Assistant Professor
Departments of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine,
Pediatrics, and Neurology
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania
Perelman School of Medicine



Laura Y. Cabrera, PhD
Dorothy Foehr Huck and J. Lloyd Huck Chair in Neuroethics
Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences

Associate Professor
Department of Engineering Science and Mechanics
Pennsylvania State University



Daniel Z. Buchman, PhD
Member
Standing Committee on Ethics
Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Bioethicist and Independent Scientist
Campbell Family Mental Health Research Institute
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

By the Numbers

124

Full- and part-time Neuroethics Canada
scientists, ethicists, health professionals,
legal experts, educators, policy makers,
and graduate and undergraduate students
and researchers

35

Faculty Affiliates

International Neuroethics Patient Initiative (INPI)

INPI is a multinational collaboration examining neuroscience patents and the protection of intellectual property as they pertain to brain health and disease.

Funding: CIHR/ERAnet program

Tannenbaum Open Science Initiative (TOSI)

Working closely with the INPI team, TOSI is gathering expert perspectives on neuroscience patents, intellectual property, and open science to inform the future of open science policy at the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health and neuroscience broadly across Canada.

Funding: Tannenbaum Open Science Initiative, McGill University

Mend the Gap

Bringing together scientists, engineers, clinicians, translation specialists, and the spinal cord injury community through a \$24 million grant, Mend the Gap addresses the grand challenge of repairing the spinal cord after injury.

Funding: NSERC

Informing Choice for Neurotechnological Innovation in Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery

This Canada-USA research collaboration aims to identify the values and priorities of caregivers and physicians when considering neurotechnological treatments for children with drug resistant epilepsy, and to deliver resources for decision-making.

Funding: NIH/NIMH BRAIN Initiative

Exploring Physician Perspectives on Prescribing Medical Cannabis to Pediatric Patients

In collaboration with the Canadian Childhood Cannabinoid Clinical Trials (C4T) team, this research investigates physician perspectives on prescribing medical cannabis to children with brain and other cancers, and neurodevelopmental disorders.

Funding: C4T, University of Manitoba

Exploring Equitable and Culturally Meaningful Access to Advanced Neurotechnologies

Through multidisciplinary, cross-cultural consultations, this project seeks to elucidate shared concerns and unique considerations that collectively inform the equitable and culturally meaningful delivery of advanced neurotechnologies to diverse populations.

Funding: North Growth Foundation

Insights on Managing Pain in Children and Teens (IMPACT)

This project identifies areas for improvement in the communication of pain management information at discharge for families who have children in postoperative care.

Funding: Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

Program Evaluation of the First Link® Dementia Support Service in British Columbia

This mixed-methods evaluation project is identifying key strengths and areas for improvement of the First Link® Dementia Support Service from the perspective of various stakeholders, including persons living with dementia, their care partners, and health care professionals.

Funding: Alzheimer Society of British Columbia

Social Co-creation of Robotic Assistive Technologies (SOCRATES)

Using interdisciplinary, co-design methodology, the SOCRATES project is creating and testing a holistic approach to social robot development that addresses key adoption barriers.

Funding: New Frontiers Grant from Canada's Tri-Council Agencies, AGE-WELL NCE

Conflicts of Interest in Neurosurgical Research

With disclosures of financial relationships between neurosurgeons and industry, this project is delivering guidance for improved reporting of the financial scale and scope of industry involvement with neurosurgeons.

Funding: Department of Surgery, University of Manitoba

Ethical Issues in Concussion Research and Care

This research looks at the range of care being offered in Canadian concussion clinics and examines some of the unresolved ethical issues in concussion care and research.

Funding: Department of Surgery, University of Manitoba

Ethics Education in North American Neurosurgical Training Programs

Surveying how neurosurgery program directors across North America provide education in ethics to their trainees, this project will close gaps and enhance the future of Resident training.

Funding: Department of Surgery, University of Manitoba

Transitioning from Pediatric to Adult Care in Hydrocephalus

As children with hydrocephalus grow into adults, there is often difficulty accessing appropriate care. In this research, we are studying the perspectives of clinicians, patients and caregivers on the transitioning process with the goal of creating best practice models.

Funding: Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia, Department of Surgery, University of Manitoba

RESEARCH

Evaluation of a Complex Consent Process (CSF) in a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) of a Novel Surgical Intervention to Treat Infant Hydrocephalus

As part of a North American multi-centre RCT, this project is using qualitative methodologies to evaluate consent processes for CSF shunting with endoscopic third ventriculostomy and choroid plexus coagulation (ETV-CPC) to treat hydrocephalus.

Funding: Department of Surgery, University of Manitoba

Developing a Framework for Operating Room (OR) Innovation and COVID Risk Mitigation

Through the use of a Delphic panel of surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses, and ethicists, this work will deliver an ethical framework for innovations in the operating theatre that reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 for OR team members and patients.

Funding: Department of Surgery, University of Manitoba

International and National Strategic Initiatives



Canadian Brain Research Strategy (CBRS)

The CBRS, as one of seven member-nations of the International Brain Initiative, builds on Canada's strengths and current investments in cutting-edge collaborative neuroscience to transform neurological and mental health for Canadians.



Pan Canadian Neurotechnology Ethics Consortium (PCNEC)

Harnessing the innovation and scholarship of Canada's leading neurosurgeons, ethicists, health lawyers, and others, PCNEC explores the factors that key stakeholders take into consideration when determining the readiness of novel neurointervention for translation into first-in-human and clinical trials.


By the Numbers



Publications



Clinical Neuroethics
Film Nights



MENTAL HEALTH NOW:



Neurotechnology and the shifting face of psychiatry

FEATURING:

<p>Laura A. Calabro, PhD Assistant Professor of Neuroethics Center for Ethics & Humanities in the Life Sciences McGill State University</p>	<p>Andrew Howard, MD Clinical Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery Faculty of Medicine University of British Columbia</p>	<p>Caitlin Coombs, MSc Graduate Research Assistant Neuroscience Canada University of British Columbia</p>
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MODERATED BY:

Judy Illes, PhD, PhD
Canada Research Chair in Neuroethics
Professor of Neurology
University of British Columbia

Monday, July 26, 2010

6:00PM - 7:00PM

Neuroscience Canada is proud to

Community Conversations: Mental health now:
Neurotechnology and the shifting face of psychiatry. July 2019

Wicked Health Challenge: Covid19 Edition

what lies ahead?

ADVERSITY

UNCERTAINTY

SIMPLE

COMPLICATED

COMPLEX

CHAOTIC

Join us:
Tuesday, June 2nd
1:00-2:30pm

(Slides, activities, and games! You'll be amazed and inspired!)

Wicked Health Challenge Dialogues:
COVID19 Edition: What lies ahead?, June 2020

ONLINE
COMPANION
CONVERSATIONS


THE ETHICS OF
MEDICAL CANNABIS
FOR CHILDREN IN AN
UNREGULATED WORLD

A collaboration between Neuroethics Canada and the Canadian Childhood Neuroethical Clinical Trials

Join us for an interactive conversation with experts on the topic of ethics and medical cannabis for children and youth in health care.

Moderated by:
Hal Sidani, MD, MSc,
Medical Director, Division Head and Investigator,
BC Children's Hospital
Cannuck Khan, Children's Hospital
Professor of Neurology, University of British Columbia

July 10th, 8:30 AM, PST
Director, Neuroethics Canada
Professor of Neurology, University of British Columbia



Wednesday, July 23, 2020
8:00PM - 8:30PM PST
Register from the Zoom details
www.zoom.us/j/929231434

Community Conversations: Ethics of Medical Cannabis for Children in an Unregulated World, June 2021

By the Numbers

- 21 Major lectures
- 3 Testimonies/diplomacy presentations (GESDA, Council of Europe, International Bioethics Commission [UNESCO])
- 7 Conference awards

88

Total conference presentations



Location of collaborations:
United States, Germany,
France, South Korea, China
Australia, United Kingdom

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Faculty

Dr. Judy Illes

- Recipient of the Patricia Price Browne Prize in Biomedical Ethics (2019)
- Awarded the 2020 UBC Faculty of Medicine Distinguished Researcher
- Appointed Director-at-Large, Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (2020)
- Recipient of the 2021 UBC Department of Medicine Martin M. Hoffman Award for Excellence in Research
- Awarded UBC Distinguished University Scholar Award (2021)

Dr. Patrick J. McDonald

- Appointed Head of Neurosurgery, Department of Surgery, University of Manitoba (2021)
- Appointed Chair of the Ethics Committee and Vice Chair of the Neurosurgery Specialty Committee, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (2021)
- Awarded Certificate of Appreciation from the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (2021)
- Ended tenure as President of the Canadian Neurosurgical Society (2018-2021)

Dr. Julie M. Robillard

- Awarded the Dr. Andrew Eisen Leadership Development Award by the ALS Society of BC (2019)
- Recipient of Outstanding Academic Performance Award, Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia (2019 and 2020)
- Recipient of Outstanding Reviewer Award, Spring 2021 Project Grant Competition, Canadian Institutes for Health Research

Dr. B. Lynn Beattie

- Inducted into the 2019 Vancouver Coastal Health Medical Staff Hall of Honour
- Appointed to the Order of Canada (2020)

Students



Armaghan Alam

- Appointed to the Board of Directors, Mental Health Commission of Canada (2020)
- Awarded the 2021 Canadian Medical Hall of Fame Award



Louise Harding

- Received the "Best Overall Contribution: Clinical Neuroethics" Award at the 2020 International Neuroethics Society Meeting
- Awarded a 2021/2022 W. Maurice Young Centre for Applied Ethics Graduate Fellowship
- Awarded a Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master's Award by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (2021)



Quinn Boyle

Awarded Top Presentation at the 2021 International Neuroethics Society Annual Meeting



Gabriella Guerra

Awarded Top Poster Presentation at the 2021 UBC Neuroscience Undergraduate Research Conference



Jaya Kailley

Honoured with Top Oral Presentation at the 2021 UBC Neuroscience Undergraduate Research Conference

“

**“Information engenders trust,
and trust engenders resilience.”**

- Dr. Judy Illes

”

Quoted in *What is the end game? Ontario's stark modelling forecast could help Canadians cope with COVID-19*

The National Post, https://nationalpost.com/news/what-is-the-end-game-ontarios-stark-modelling-forecast-could-help-canadians-cope-with-covid-19?video_autoplay=true, 3 April 2020. Also in The Chatham Daily News, The Province, and The London Press.

“

“[People with dementia are] experiencing high levels of stress and much more loneliness than before the pandemic... It's important that we are in touch with what is going on with their lives and can provide support when needed.”

- Dr. Julie Robillard

”

Quoted in *People with dementia experience more stress, loneliness during pandemic: UBC study*

Vancouver Sun, <https://vancouver.sun.com/health/seniors/people-with-dementia-experienced-more-stress-loneliness-during-covid-19-says-ubc-study>, 3 March 2021.

By the Numbers

46

Quotes in the media

6

Op Eds

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- Association of Bioethics Program Directors
- Canadian Academy of Health Sciences
- Canadian Bioethics Society
- Canadian Brain Research Strategy
- Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging
- Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation
- Canadian Neurosurgical Society
- Canadian Open Neuroscience Platform
- College of Reviewers (CIHR)
- Curing Coma Ethics Committee
- Ethics, Law and Humanities Committee, American Academy of Neurology
- Euro-BioImaging Scientific Advisory Board
- Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (CIHR)
- International Brain Research Organization
- International Neuroethics Society
- Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research
- National Biomedical Research Ethics Council
- Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies (UBC)
- Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
- Standing Committee on Ethics (CIHR)

TEASERS FOR 2022

- **Publications:** 8 (and counting)
- **Awards and distinctions as of April 2022:**
 - Dr. Judy Illes**
 - *Named UBC Distinguished Scholar in Neuroethics*
 - *Recipient of the 2022 Prize for Outstanding Scholarship, Italian Society for Neuroethics*
 - Miles Schaffrick**
 - *Named UBC Westbrook Scholar*
 - *Recipient of the HSBC Emerging Leader Scholarship*
- **Major event**
 - Ethics for UBC**

A series of panel discussions that explore the current landscape of ethics scholarship and education across the Vancouver and Okanagan campuses of the University of British Columbia.
- **Major new initiative**
 - National Bioethics Council**

An initiative to explore the need for and possibility of a Canadian national bioethics council.



A 5-part speaker series to energize ethics scholarship & education at UBC

SPONSORS

We offer our deepest gratitude to all who join and support us in the endeavours of Neuroethics Canada.



BC Children's Hospital



Canada Foundation for Innovation



Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada



**CANADA
RESEARCH CHAIRS**
**CHAIRES DE
RECHERCHE DU
CANADA**

Canada Research Chairs



Consulat général de France
à Vancouver

Consulate General of France in Vancouver



Dana Foundation



Djavad Mowafaghian
CENTRE FOR BRAIN HEALTH
Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for
Brain Health



International Neuroethics Society



For Neuroblastoma Research
James Fund For Neuroblastoma Research



National Institutes of Health



Natural Sciences and Engineering
Research Council of Canada



New Frontiers in Research Fund



North Growth Foundation



University of British Columbia



Technical Safety BC



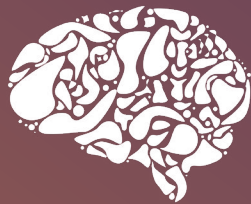
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BRAIN HEALTH HUMAN VALUES

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