

Public Health Ethics: A Tool for Deliberation and for the Development of Healthy Public Policies

Organized by the National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy, for the Journées annuelles de santé publique, November 24, 2010.

Note: Simultaneous translation (Fr-En and En-Fr) will be offered throughout this day-long event.

Workshop moderator:

Christopher W. McDougall, Research Officer, National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP), Institut national de santé publique du Québec

Learning objective for the morning session:

- Knowledge of major ethical principles and frameworks pertinent to public health, as well as innovative legal and administrative responses for framing and resolving ethical challenges raised by public health practice and policy making for such issues.

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Welcome and introduction to the workshop themes

10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Some theoretical considerations on ethics and public health, and especially on the appeal of principlism (a moral approach based on the commitment to a limited set of broadly supported principles) and its alignment with deliberative ethics

Raymond Massé, Professor, Department of anthropology, Laval University, and Director of the "Ethics and Public Health" group, Réseau de recherche en santé des populations du Québec
A 15-minute discussion and question period will follow this presentation.

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Institutional and governmental initiatives fostering deliberation and the formulation of policy that takes account of the ethics of public health

Daniel Weinstock, Director, Centre de recherche en éthique de l'Université de Montréal
A 15-minute discussion and question period will follow this presentation.

12:15 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Poster presentations and discussions with exhibitors

Learning objective for the afternoon session:

- Recognize the usefulness of deliberation and ethical framing as tools for guiding debate (professional, public, and political) and for the formulation of healthy public policies.
- Recognize the challenges facing the promotion of policies that promote social justice.

1:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Case studies

Moderator:

Raymond Massé, Professor, Department of anthropology, Laval University, and Director of the "Ethics and Public Health" group, Réseau de recherche en santé des populations du Québec

Case 1: Safe Injection Sites

Mario Gagnon, directeur général [Chief Executive Officer], Point de Repères

Case 2: Unsanitary housing

Stéphane Perron, Physician-Advisor, Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal/Direction de santé publique [Health and social services agency, Montréal/ Public Health Department]

Case 3: Down's syndrome screening programs

Ghislaine Cléret de Langavant, Assistant Ethics Commissioner, Commissaire à la santé et au bien-être [Commission on health and well-being]

A 10-minute discussion and question period will follow each of these presentations.


3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Break

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Conceptual and practical considerations (and hazards) when “morally framing” healthy public policy

Susan Sherwin, Professor (ret.), Department of philosophy, Dalhousie University

 This presentation will be in English. Simultaneous translation will be available.

Speaker to be confirmed

A 20-minute discussion and question period will follow.

4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Synthesis and critical reflection

Raymond Massé, Professor, Department of anthropology, Laval University and Director of the “Ethics and Public Health” group, Réseau de recherche en santé des populations du Québec

5:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Closing remarks

Christopher W. McDougall, Research Officer, National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP), Institut national de santé publique du Québec

With gratitude to the Scientific Committee for their commitment and contributions:

Chair: Christopher W. McDougall, Research Officer, National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP), Institut national de santé publique du Québec

Planning: Marie-Christine Hogue, Network Development Officer, National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP), Institut national de santé publique du Québec

Committee Members:

Raymond Massé, Professor, Department of anthropology, Laval University, and Director of the “Ethics and Public Health” group, Réseau de recherche en santé des populations du Québec

Mireille Lacroix, Senior Policy Analyst, Policy and Partnerships Division, Office of Public Health Practice, Public Health Agency of Canada

Isabelle Mondou, Coordinator, Comité d'éthique de la recherche, Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal

Bryn Williams-Jones, Associate Professor & Director, Bioethics Programme, Department of social and preventive medicine, Faculty of Medicine and School of Public Health, University of Montréal

Ève Dubé, Researcher, Public Health Research Unit, Centre hospitalier de l'Université Laval – Centre hospitalier universitaire de Québec; Associate Professor, Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, Laval University; and Planning, Programming and Research Officer, Institut national de santé publique du Québec

Special thanks to **France Filiatrault**, Secretariat Coordinator and Secretary of the Comité d'éthique de santé publique, for her invaluable input on the workshop programme.

For more information, consult the [JASP website](#) (available only in French)