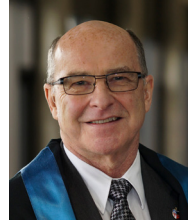


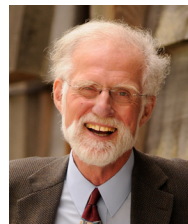
## SPEAKERS



**Dr. Rick Singleton** was educated at Memorial University, University of Western Ontario, Graduate Theological Foundation, Indiana and Foundation House, Oxford. He holds certification in grief counselling and health services management as well as a PhD in health ethics and a doctor of ministry degree with a specialty in grief and bereavement counselling. He is an adjunct professor of philosophy in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities and adjunct professor in the Division of Community Health and Humanities at the Faculty of Medicine.



**Dr. Max Liboiron** is an assistant professor in geography at Memorial University where she directs the Civic Laboratory for Environmental Action Research (CLEAR). CLEAR develops anti-colonial methodologies and instruments in the natural sciences by grounding them in Indigenous thought and Métis legal orders.



**Dr. Michael McDonald** is the founding director of the W. Maurice Young Centre for Applied Ethics at the University of British Columbia and is Professor *Emeritus*. A major focus of his work has been on the ethics of research involving humans and its governance. He headed the team of external consultants who advised the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador on the legislation for establishing the Provincial Health Research Board. In 2009, the Canadian Bioethics Society awarded Dr. McDonald its Lifetime Achievement Award. Most recently he served on the CIHR Working Group on Ethics in Patient Engagement in Research whose recommendations are now before CIHR.



**Dr. Sean McGrath** is a member of the College of the Royal Society of Canada. He is the author of many books, including the recently published *Thinking Nature: An Essay in Negative Ecology* (Edinburgh University Press, 2019).



**Biplab Kumar Halder** recently completed a Master of Health Ethics degree. His thesis explores why women's autonomy matters in promoting their reproductive health. He conducted this research by illustrating the activities of Bangladeshi community health clinics.



**Janelle Skeard** hails from a mining and forestry community in rural Newfoundland and is intimately familiar with the exploitation of genetic resources. Her MA in economic geography focused on the socioeconomic benefits of a mining company town post-closure and the subsequent return of the mining industry to the area. She is keen to blend her love of natural resources with the ethics associated with genetic research in the province of NL.



**Valerie Webber's** research uses critical interpretive medical anthropology to analyze how notions of 'health' influence discourse around and experiences of sexuality, particularly in how health is used in establishing hierarchies of respectability. She has worked in various areas of the adult industry for over 15 years and her dissertation looks at the politics of sexual health management in porn production. She has been involved in various queer, sex worker and sexual health community efforts, and is currently volunteering with local sex worker rights organization Safe Harbour Outreach Project (SHOP).



# MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR BIOETHICS Symposium

October 4, 2019  
Faculty of Medicine  
5M501

**Memorial University's Centre for Bioethics Inaugural Symposium**  
**ORDER OF EVENTS**

9:00	<b>Dr. Daryl Pullman</b> Professor of medical ethics, Memorial University, Director, Centre for Bioethics	WELCOME	2:00	<b>Dr. Sean McGrath</b> Professor of philosophy and theology, Memorial University	<b>THE FUTURE NATURE INITIATIVE: AN EXPERIMENT IN PUBLIC ECOLOGY</b>  <i>In 2015, with SSHRC funding, a team of graduate students and faculty members in humanities and social sciences began an experiment in public ecology. The aim was to raise awareness around ecological health in Newfoundland and Labrador by helping the public think about the future of nature in the province. We openly embraced the ambiguity in the term "nature" precipitated by developments in science and technology and the 2016 declaration of the era of climate change as a new geological epoch (the Anthropocene). Our method was to deploy the breadth of ecological science at Memorial to facilitate a public meditation upon what we love about this place, and what the future might hold in store for the woods, the water, the wildlife and the human populations of Newfoundland and Labrador. We have held multiple events in national parks, art galleries, northern communities and other public venues. In this presentation I will articulate the principles and assumptions of the Future Nature Initiative and summarise our results to date.</i>
9:10	<b>Dr. Rick Singleton</b> Provost and vice-chancellor, Queen's College Faculty of Theology	<b>ETHICS AND COSMOLOGY</b>  <i>Scientific developments have brought about insights on the origin of the universe. The new cosmology triggers new questions for scientists, philosophers and theologians. The way we think about anything, including the universe, will influence our decisions and actions. The new cosmology and the environmental crisis calls us to unity among humanity and a respectful bond of humanity with all creation.</i>	<b>EMERGING SCHOLARS PANEL: STUDENT SHOWCASE</b>		
10:10	Break		3:00	<b>Biplab Kumar Halder, MHE</b> Doctoral candidate, Division of Community Health and Humanities, Memorial University	<b>THE PROMISE AND PERILS OF NON-INVASIVE PRENATAL TESTING (NIPT): SHOULD IT BE PUBLICLY FUNDED?</b>  <i>Non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT) has gained considerable attention from consumers, policy-makers, and biotech companies because of its non-invasiveness, its ability to detect certain genetic conditions at an early stage of pregnancy, and its accuracy in detecting chromosomal aneuploidies in a fetus. In Canada, several provinces and territories offer public funding for NIPT for eligible candidates. While publicly-funded NIPT programs may foster equity for women in accessing this service, it advances a new form of eugenics through an implicit influence on women's reproductive autonomy. I argue this from a feminist relational theory that explains how socio-political and economic forces shape women's decisions regarding reproduction.</i>
10:30	<b>Dr. Max Liboiron</b> Associate vice president (Indigenous Research), Memorial University	<b>KILLING RELATIVES: SOME CONSIDERATIONS OF ANIMAL ETHICS IN INDIGENOUS SCIENCE</b>  <i>University animal care ethics aim to care for and reduce harm for animals used in science. Yet those concepts and practices of care and harm often differ from those of Indigenous groups, particularly ones that understand animals as relatives. This talk touches on some of the ethical issues that arise when Michif and other Indigenous scientists engage with fish-as-relatives in university laboratory and field work.</i>		<b>Janelle Skeard, MA, MHE</b> Grants facilitation officer, clinical research, Faculty of Medicine, and PhD candidate, Interdisciplinary PhD Program, Memorial University	<b>MINING "THE ROCK" – TOWARDS A BENEFIT-SHARING FRAMEWORK FOR HUMAN GENETIC RESEARCH IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR</b>  <i>Historically, discussions around access and benefit-sharing have focused on genes in contexts other than human health (i.e. plant and animal genetic resources). At the same time, resource development literature emphasizes the importance of companies obtaining a 'social license to operate' (SLO) in which companies engage heavily with the communities in which they extract resources to gain their approval for projects. Given that human genetic research utilizes a naturally-occurring resource, with significant implications for human health, it stands to reason that establishing an acceptable benefit-sharing framework is ethically justified.</i>
12:00* Lecture Theatre A	<b>Dr. Michael McDonald</b> Professor Emeritus, W. Maurice Young Centre for Applied Ethics, School of Population and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia	<b>PARTNERING WITH PATIENTS IN RESEARCH: ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS</b>  <i>Over the past several years there has been, in Canada and elsewhere, a move toward patient oriented research including the CIHR Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR). A major thrust of this endeavour has been to encourage patient partnerships in research activities including having patients and family members on research teams or acting in roles such as community liaison, interviewers and knowledge translation. Tapping into the rich experiential knowledge of patients and their families has proven to be an important source of beneficial health research.</i>  <i>My aim in this presentation is to highlight the key ethical components needed for building successful patient partnerships in health research and offer practical advice to both academic researchers and potential patient partners in research.</i>		<b>Valerie Webber, MPH, MA</b> PhD candidate, Division of Community Health and Humanities, Memorial University	<b>THE LIMITS OF BODILY AUTONOMY</b>  <i>As Margaret Olivia Little writes, "Under mainstream political theory [...] the very notion of a person is someone physically separate from others" (1999:296). This is apparent in much of the accepted thinking around bioethics, sexual health and labour rights. Through a brief exploration of controversies around filming pornography with 'crossover' talent (that is, cismen working on both gay and straight pornography), this paper highlights shortcomings of this concept of personhood for thinking about health, safety and work.</i>
1:00	Lunch				

\* All events take place in 5M101 with the exception of the 12 p.m. talk happening in Lecture Theatre A.