LINDA REINSTEIN

Linda Reinstein became an activist after her husband, Alan, was diagnosed with mesothelioma in 2003. Her search for answers led her to the realization that she and Alan were far from being alone. In 2004, she co-founded the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO) to reach out to those who have been affected by asbestos-related disease.

Now serving as President and CEO, Reinstein has focused the power of the social networks to instantly unite those affected by asbestos-related disease, and those fighting for a ban on asbestos in the U.S. and elsewhere.

Since 2004, Reinstein has been a strong political voice for justice in every major asbestos-related issue. She has frequently served as a U.S. Congressional witness and has also presented persuasive testimony and keynote speeches to the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives and the British House of Commons.

Focused on occupational and environmental disease prevention, Reinstein’s proficiency in the powerful advocacy space of online media has greatly increased the effectiveness of ADAO’s core mission of education, advocacy, and community support actions.

CHRISTINE BERG

Christine D. Berg is currently a consultant in cancer screening and an Adjunct Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology and Molecular Radiation Sciences, John Hopkins Medicine. She is also Co-Director and Affiliate Professor, Program on Climate and Health within the Center for Climate Change Communication at George Mason University. She is the former Chief, Early Detection Research Group, Division of Cancer Prevention, National Cancer Institute. In this position, she was Project Officer for the Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian Cancer Screening Trial (PLCO) and the National Lung Screening Trial (NLST).

The NLST was a joint project of the American College of Radiology Imaging Network and the Lung Screening Study, Division of Cancer Prevention. The PLCO and the NLST have recently successfully concluded. This research is having important public health implications in the United States and abroad. For example, the recent release of the United States Preventive Services Task Force guidelines on lung cancer screening will affect uptake and insurance coverage for lung cancer screening.

Additionally, she was responsible for the utilization of the PLCO Biorepository which is an international resource for validation of markers of early detection and for the molecular epidemiology of cancer. She previously worked at Suburban Hospital as the Cancer Center Director and at the Georgetown University Medical School Lombardi Cancer Center as the head of Breast Cancer Radiation Oncology and as Director of the residency training program. She is board certified in Internal Medicine, Medical Oncology and Radiation Oncology.
Jim Bidner became involved in representing workers with occupational disease in 1999 through the Toronto Building Trades Worker Services. At the time he was working out of the Occupational Health Clinic for Ontario Workers (OHCOW) clinic in Sarnia representing all trades. After that, he was hired exclusively by the United Association Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 663, with a membership of 1,350. For the majority of the workers he represents, claims are submitted for various types of lung cancer, as well as kidney and liver cancers and leukemia.

Having come from a construction background and working career in Sarnia’s Chemical Valley, he is quite familiar with various carcinogens, toxins and other work-related exposures. This experience has prepared him to help the workers he represents.

Paul Demers has been the Director of the Occupational Cancer Research Centre in Toronto and a Senior Scientist with Cancer Care Ontario since moving to Toronto in 2010. He is also the Scientific Director of CAREX Canada, a workplace and environmental carcinogen surveillance program. He is a Professor with the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto and a Clinical Professor with the University of British Columbia. Paul Demers has a Ph.D. in epidemiology and a M.Sc. in industrial hygiene, both from the University of Washington.

His research has focused primarily on occupational and environmental cancer, lung disease, and heart disease. His recent epidemiologic studies have been on uranium and asbestos miners, firefighters, paramedics, aluminum smelter workers, and sawmill workers, as well as studies on the impact of wood dust, pesticides, air pollution, and noise. In addition, he has an interest in both occupational carcinogens and cancer surveillance. He has been a member of many national and international expert panels dealing with occupational and environmental cancer for organizations such as the International Agency for Research on Cancer, the U.S. National Toxicology Program, the U.S. Institute of Medicine, the Canadian Cancer Society, the Council of Canadian Academies, and the Royal Society of Canada.
**BILL EVANS**

Dr. Bill Evans is a medical oncologist with a career long interest in lung cancer. He practiced for 10 years at the Toronto General Hospital before moving to Ottawa where he served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre for 12 years. After 15 years in Ottawa, he returned to Toronto as the provincial head of systemic therapy at the provincial office of Cancer Care Ontario, where he introduced a number of quality initiatives including the measurement of provincial wait times for cancer and a province-wide patient satisfaction survey. He chaired the provincial Lung Disease Site Group that developed over 20 practice guidelines during his tenure as Chair. He also led the introduction of PET scanning in Ontario based on evidence.

From 2005 to 2013, he was the President of the Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre at Hamilton Health Sciences in Hamilton, Ontario and the regional Vice-President for cancer services in the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN. He retired from these positions in June 2013 and is now Professor Emeritus in the Department of Oncology, McMaster University. He continues to be the Vice-Chair of the Cancer Quality Council of Ontario and Chairs Cancer Care Ontario’s Smoking Cessation Advisory Committee. Dr. Evans is also President of his own consulting company Oncosynthesis Consulting Inc.

Dr. Evans has published over 260 publications in peer-reviewed journals on various aspects of lung cancer treatment, the cost and cost-effectiveness of cancer care and on various aspects of health care delivery.

**RICK HAMILTON**

By trade, Rick Hamilton is a journeyman welder and has worked at Denison uranium mines in Elliot Lake. He is also a union activist and the former Vice President /CB benefits officer of USWA Local 5762, the same local that led the wild cat strike in 1974 leading to the implementation of Ontario’s Health and Safety Act.

Rick is the Former President OPSEU local 604 as well as the Former President Algoma Manitoulin and District Labour Council. He has been employed for 20 years as Worker Adviser in Elliot Lake specializing in occupational disease representation. He is a peer instructor for the Ontario Federation of Labour Occupational disability response team, specializing in Occupational disease instruction. He is licensed as a paralegal by the Law Society of Upper Canada.

He has served as a city councillor in Elliot Lake from 1999 to 2002 and as Deputy Mayor from 2000-2006. He is the current Mayor of Elliot Lake since 2006.

Rick is the father of two grown children Jennifer and Rick Jr. and the grandfather of five wonderful grandchildren.
**Occupational Lung Cancer Symposium:**

**Speaker and Panelist Biographies**

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**JON KERNER**

Dr. Jon Kerner joined the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer in 2008 as the Chair of the Primary Prevention Advisory Group and Senior Scientific Advisor, Knowledge Translation. He continues to be engaged with the Partnership full time in his role of Senior Scientific Leader and is based in Toronto.

Prior to joining the Partnership, Dr. Kerner spent 20 years as a peer-reviewed and funded researcher at two National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers: Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Georgetown University’s Lombardi Cancer Center. In 2000, Dr. Kerner joined the National Cancer Institute (NCI) as an assistant Deputy Division Director and later Deputy Division Director for Research Dissemination and Diffusion in the Division of Cancer Control & Population Sciences.

At NCI, he facilitated the translation of evidence-based interventions into community public health and clinical practice, developed the first NCI dissemination and implementation research funding opportunities and supported NCI, National Institutes of Health (NIH), and Centers for Disease Control collaborative health disparities research initiatives. He received an NIH Directors special merit award for his leadership in the design, development and implementation of the Cancer Control P.L.A.N.E.T., and an NIH Directors award for his work supporting evidence-based cancer control for America’s First Peoples.

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**ANTHONY MILLER**

Anthony B. Miller, MD, FRCP, FRCP (C), FFPHM (UK), FACE is Professor Emeritus at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, Canada, and Director of the Canadian National Breast Screening Study. After training in internal medicine in the UK, he joined the Medical Research Council Tuberculosis and Chest Diseases Unit in 1962.

He was Director of Epidemiology Unit of the National Cancer Institute of Canada, 1971-1986 and Chairman of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Biostatistics of the University of Toronto, 1992-1996. He served as Special Expert in the Early Detection Branch, Division of Cancer Prevention, US National Cancer Institute, 1996-7, was Senior Epidemiologist, International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon, France 1997-8, and served as Head, Division of Clinical Epidemiology, Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum (German Cancer Research Centre), Heidelberg, Germany 1998-2002.

He has been a consultant to the World Health Organization (WHO) on cancer control and to the US NCI on cancer screening, working on both the Prostate Lung Colon and Ovary Trial and the National Lung Screening Trial. He is Scientific Lead of the Cancer Risk Management Initiative of the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer and a member of the Partnership’s Cancer Control Council.
CHERYL PETERS

Cheryl Peters is the lead scientist for CAREX's occupational exposure project. She started working with CAREX Canada at the beginning of the project in 2007.

She is also a graduate student in the School of Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia (UBC), studying occupational exposure assessment for solar ultraviolet light, and the effects of sex and gender on occupational carcinogen exposures.

She completed her MSc in occupational and environmental hygiene at UBC in 2007, where she studied the effect of early-career exposures in the construction trades on subsequent lung health, including asthma and chronic bronchitis.

Cheryl also holds a BSc in earth and ocean sciences and geography, and her interest in environmental and occupational health stemmed from her work as a geologist in northern BC and the Yukon.

HEIDI ROBERTS

Dr. Roberts is a radiologist in the Joint Department of Medical Imaging (JDMI) at UHN/MSH/WCH. She trained in Germany, where she graduated from Medical School in 1988, and finished her residency as a diagnostic radiologist in 1993. Following a research fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) in 1994, Dr. Roberts went back to Germany, and returned to North America in 1997, where she remained on the faculty of the Department of Radiology at UCSF until she moved to Toronto in 2002.

Since then, Dr. Roberts is a staff radiologist in the cardiothoracic division in the JDMI. In 2003, she started the Lung Cancer Screening Study at PMH as part of the International Early Lung Cancer Action Program (I-ELCAP), and she is the local Principal Investigator of the Pan-Canadian Early Lung Cancer Detection Study. More than 5000 individuals have been screened under her supervision in those research studies.

Since 2007, Dr. Roberts is the Site Director for Medical Imaging at Women's College Hospital, since 2010 head of the chest section in JDMI, and as of July 2010, Professor of Radiology at the University of Toronto. Roberts is the Principal Investigator of the Lung Cancer Screening Study, using low-dose computed tomography for the early diagnosis of lung cancer in high-risk smokers. This study is part of a multi-center study based in New York, the 'International Early Lung Cancer Action Program, I-ELCAP; Toronto is the only Canadian site. Almost 1000 individuals have been screened here at UHN, with a cancer prevalence of about 2%.

Based on this experience, a screening program in previous asbestos workers targeting the early diagnosis of lung cancer and mesothelioma started in spring 2005. Other research projects include the characterization of lung nodules and the prognostic assessment of advanced lung cancers using contrast-enhanced, dynamic computed tomography.
Occupational Lung Cancer Symposium:
Speaker and Panelist Biographies

KURT STRAIF

Kurt Straif is Head of the IARC Monographs of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), WHO, Lyon, France.

His research focuses on environmental risk factors for cancer. He serves on several international and national committees on primary and secondary prevention of cancer. He has a long record of teaching medicine and epidemiology and is the Scientific Director of the IARC International Summer School on Cancer Epidemiology since 2010.

He studied medicine and philosophy (theory of science) at the Universities of Liège (Belgium), Heidelberg and Bonn (Germany) and is Board-certified in Internal Medicine and Occupational, Environmental and Social Medicine. Straif received his MPH and PhD in Epidemiology from UCLA in 1991 and 2001, respectively.

MARTIN TAMMEMAGI

Dr. Tammemagi is an epidemiologist on the US National Cancer Institute’s Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian (PLCO) Cancer Screening Trial. In the PLCO trial Dr. Tammemagi has and is leading a number of ancillary studies and he is full active member of the PLCO Lung Committee.

Dr. Tammemagi is also an epidemiologist on the US National Cancer Institute’s National Lung Screening Trial (NLST). He is a full active member of the NLST Epidemiology and Health Services Research Working Group. In addition, Dr. Tammemagi is Co-Chair of the NLST Joint Epidemiology Working Group, and he is leading several ancillary studies in the NLST.

He also serves as an epidemiologist/analyst and co-investigator in the Pan-Canadian Early Detection of Lung Cancer Study. Dr. Tammemagi is leading a study that is evaluating the impact of computed tomography chest screening on quality of life in the following study: Low-dose computed tomography for the early diagnosis of mesothelioma and lung cancer in prior asbestos workers.
Ross Upshur received BA (Hons.) and MA degrees in philosophy and his MD from McMaster University. He completed his MSc in epidemiology and fellowship training in Community Medicine and Public Health at the University of Toronto. He is currently the Medical Director, Clinical Research, Bridgepoint Health.

Dr. Upshur is the Canada Research Chair in Primary Care Research. At the University of Toronto he is a Professor at the Department of Family and Community Medicine and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, Adjunct Scientist at the Institute of Clinical Evaluative Sciences, an affiliate of the Institute of the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology and a member of the Centre for Environment. He is an Adjunct Associate Professor in the School of Geography and Earth Sciences and Associate Member of the Institute of Environment and Health at McMaster University. He is the former Director of the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics (2006-2011) and was a staff physician at the Department of Family and Community Medicine, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre from 1998-2013.

He has held grants as PI from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and National Institutes of Health (NIH). He has trained numerous undergraduate, graduate and post graduate students in clinical medicine and research. He has taught and designed courses in research methods, bioethics and philosophy of medicine. He has over 300 publications including more than 180 peer reviewed publications spanning these domains. He has consulted for numerous governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Roel Vermeulen is an Associate Professor at the Environmental Epidemiology Division of the Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences at Utrecht University in the Netherlands, and an Adjunct Professor in molecular epidemiology at the University Medical Centre at the same university. His research focuses on occupational and environmental risk factors for cancer, asthma and neurological diseases.

He has an extensive international portfolio of research projects in the field of chemical exposures in the workplace. He is currently involved in studies on the health effect of asbestos, benzene, diesel, dioxins, electromagnetic fields, formaldehyde, nanomaterials, pesticides, perfluorinated compounds and trichloroethylene. These studies are characterized by an emphasis on quantitative exposure modeling, integration of molecular data including genetics and exposure-response modeling.

Dr. Vermeulen is a member of the Dutch Health Council, has served on multiple international committees and editorial boards, is an Associate Editor of the Annals of Occupational Hygiene and Frontiers in Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention, consults for national and international funding organization and scientific projects, and lectured at multiple national and international scientific meetings. He has co-authored over 250 peer-reviewed papers.