Dr. Richard B. Splane Lecture in Social Policy
The Crisis In Long Term Care: A Panel Discussion

Thursday, March 31, 2022
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM PT
Zoom webinar

Programme

Land Acknowledgement and Welcome
Prof. Donna Baines, Director, UBC School of Social Work

Background to the Splane Lecture, Partner Introductions
Patsy George, Past President, United Nations Association in Canada, Vancouver Branch

PANEL
- **Isobel MacKenzie, Seniors Advocate, British Columbia**
- **Dr. Pat Armstrong, Distinguished Research Professor in Sociology, York University**
- **Máire Kirwan, Private Sector Coordinator, Hospital Employees' Union**

Moderator
Prof. Tim Stainton, School of Social Work; Director, Canadian Institute for Inclusion and Citizenship, UBC
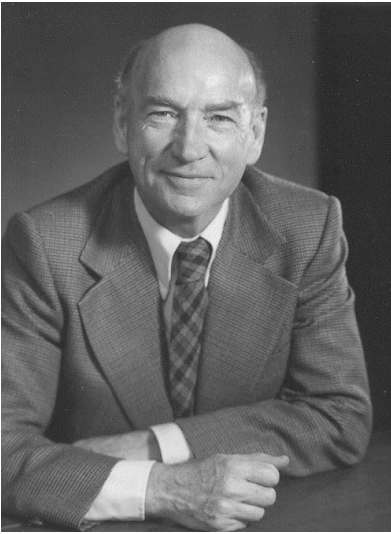
Question Period

Thank You
Prof. Donna Baines

Co-sponsored by:

Richard Splane, Professor Emeritus of the University of British Columbia, began his academic career at McMaster University, pursuing studies in economics, history and social work at the University of Toronto and social administration at the London School of Economics.

In the Second World War, he served in the Royal Canadian Air Force as a pilot in the Bomber Command. After the war, he joined the Department of National Health and Welfare as an Economist and became Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister. He was in-turn Director-General of Welfare Assistance and Services; Director of Unemployment Assistance; and, Assistant Deputy Minister of Social Allowances and Services. He is regarded as the "principal architect" of the Canada Assistance Plan.

Dr. Splane's special interest was international welfare. He served as Canada's representative on the UNICEF Board and was a member of the United Nations' Expert Group on Social Welfare Policy and Planning. In 1973, he was recruited by the University of

British Columbia, as a Professor in the School of Social Work, where he served until his retirement in 1982.

He has written three books, *Social welfare in Ontario, 1791-1893; a study of public welfare administration (1965), 75 years of community service to Canada: Canadian Council on Social Development, 1920-1995 (1996), and George Davidson: social policy and public policy exemplar (2003)*, and contributed numerous chapters and articles to professional journals and the press. He also collaborated with his wife, Dr. Verna Huffman Splane on a nursing research project in 55 countries.

In his community, he served with the University of British Columbia, the University Hill United Church and the United Way of Vancouver, Friends of SOS Children's Villages, as well as the Vancouver chapters of both the World Federalists and the United Nations Association.

Throughout his career, Dr. Splane has served in senior roles in his own professional organization and many others in civil society. His work in social policy has been recognized both nationally and internationally with honours from his profession, government and universities. He was granted an Honorary Degree LL.D. by Wilfred Laurier University (1988), McMaster University (1990), the University of Toronto (2005) and, with his wife Verna, the University of British Columbia's first-ever joint honorary degree (1996).

Isobel Mackenzie has over 20 years' experience working with seniors in home care, licensed care, community services and volunteer services. Isobel led B.C.'s largest not-for-profit agency, serving over 6,000 seniors annually. In this work, Isobel led the implementation of a new model of dementia care that has become a national best practice, and led the first safety accreditation for homecare workers, among many other accomplishments. Isobel has been widely recognized for her work and was named B.C. CEO of the Year for the not-for-profit sector and nominated as a Provincial Health Care Hero.

Prior to her appointment as the Seniors Advocate, Isobel served on a number of national and provincial boards and commissions, including the BC Medical Services Commission, the Canadian Homecare Association, BC Care Providers, BC Care Aide and Community Health Worker Registry, and the Capital Regional District Housing Corporation. Isobel also served on the University of Victoria's Board of Governors.

Isobel received both her undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Victoria and has a Certificate in Health Care Leadership from the University of Toronto.

Dr. Pat Armstrong is Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus at York University and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Focusing on women, work and the health and social services, she has published such books on health care as *Wash, Wear and Care. Clothes and Laundry in Long-term Care: Troubling Care: Critical Perspectives on Research and Practices; Critical to Care: The Invisible Women in Health Services;* and *Wasting Away; The Undermining of Canadian Health Care* as well as many book chapters, journal articles and reports intended for public audiences.*

Much of this work makes the relationship between women's paid and unpaid work central to the analysis and is carried out in partnership with unions and community organizations. She has also served as an expert witness in more than a dozen cases before Tribunals and Commissions and led multiple team research projects, including the 10-year interdisciplinary "Re-imagining Long-Term Residential Care: An International Study of Promising Practices" and a current one on "Covid-19, families and long-term residential care".

Máire Kirwan has been an activist in the labour movement for more than 30 years. She came to Vancouver in the early 1980's and once entering the workforce, she took on the role of shop steward in her union, becoming a strong advocate for working people and actively fighting for LGBTQ rights in the workplace and in the union, serving as a founding member of CUPE's Pink Triangle Committee.

In 2000 Máire began work at the Hospital Employees' Union as Staff Representative, shortly before the vicious liberal attack on health and community social service workers. Máire worked directly with members who were fired from their family supporting jobs, led workplace and community fightback campaigns, organized new workers and was part of a broader political movement for change.

Over the next 10 years, Máire led numerous province-wide campaigns, new worker organizing campaigns and was a senior staff advisor to the union's leadership during an internal review. While working in the union's education department Máire played a foundational role in the development union's early diversity, equity and inclusion strategy.

She is committed to improving the economic security and working conditions for HEU members working for multi-national corporations providing contract hospital support services and private for profit long term care operators. In 2015 Máire assumed a leadership role in HEU's newly formed private sector department, consolidating membership services. Today, she is HEU's coordinator of private sector services. In her role she has responsibility for more than 25 staff working in organizing, private sector collective bargaining and servicing, overseeing direct day-to-day services to 20,000 private sector members.

About the Partner Organizations

School of Social Work, University of British Columbia
We are the third oldest School of Social Work in Canada, dating back to the late 1920s, when instruction in social work at the University of British Columbia consisted of a two year diploma course within the Dept. of Economics, Sociology and Political Science. Today our nationally accredited programmes continue to educate and train social workers for the future and to develop high educational standards in all branches of social work. Our School is richly endowed with strength and excellence in teaching, research, community service and international development informed by an ethic of care and commitment to social justice. There is much evidence to show we continue to provide leadership in social work education within BC, across Canada and internationally.

The School places a high value on curiosity and applied research, community scholarship and service. It recognizes the integrity and distinctive value of its academic and professional degree programmes, values multidisciplinarity from its base within the Faculty of Arts and accords a high priority to inter-professional education through its active participation in the UBC College of Health Disciplines.

The School is committed through its teaching, research and community service to excellence in the development, dissemination and application of knowledge, values and skills relevant to social work. Faculty, staff and students are committed to principles of social and economic justice, equity and respect for the realities of diverse cultures and the strengths of civil society.

For more information, please visit: https://socialwork.ubc.ca/

United Nations Association in Canada, Vancouver Branch

The United Nations Association in Canada works to engage the Canadian public in the work of the United Nations and its agencies. We work closely with the educational communities in every province and territory to build their capacity to educate young people from a global perspective. We also work directly with youth, challenging them to develop the tools and skills necessary to confront some of the world's most complex problems.

Our projects also aim to define foreign policy priorities for our government. We host seminars and conferences with a variety of stakeholders and produce informative publications on topics such as peace and security, human rights and sustainable development. Each year the Association awards the Pearson Peace Medal to a Canadian who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of international service and understanding.

For more information, please visit: https://unavancouver.org/

School of Public Policy and Global Affairs, University of British Columbia

Founded in 2017, the UBC School of Public Policy and Global Affairs (SPPGA) integrates world-class scholarship, teaching, research, and policy engagement to contribute towards positive change.

SPPGA's approach equips policy leaders with the diverse perspectives, skills, and knowledge needed to contribute towards solutions to complex local and global issues. SPPGA draws on the expertise of University institutes, research centres and faculties, and invites collaboration with local and global communities.

SPPGA's broader goals are to nurture the global policy and change makers of the future and to support and enhance policymaking and governance, locally and globally.

SPPGA delivers the professional Master of Public Policy and Global Affairs (MPPGA) program at UBC.

For more information, please visit: https://sppga.ubc.ca/

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