

Virtual Conference Overview

SATURDAY MARCH 14 TH , 2020	
WELCOME REMARKS	Dr. Peter Tiidus , Dean of Applied Health Sciences – <i>Brock University</i>
OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS	Sonia Pagura , Director of Quality, Safety, Risk and Patient Relations – <i>Niagara Health</i>
PATIENT PARTNER KEYNOTE	Mary Maida , Patient Partner – <i>Niagara Health Engagement Network</i>
PANEL PRESENTATION	Laura Blundell , Executive Director – <i>Niagara Falls Community Health Centre</i> Robert D’Addazio , Health Promoter – <i>Niagara Region Public Health</i> Sonia Pagura , Director of Quality, Safety, Risk and Patient Relations – <i>Niagara Health</i>
CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS	Dr. Madelyn Law , Associate Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning – <i>Brock University</i>

FEATURED SPEAKER PROFILES

Opening Keynote Address



Sonia Pagura

Sonia is currently the Director of Quality, Safety, Risk, and Patient Relations at Niagara Health. She has helped develop the Niagara Health Engagement Network, empowering patients to engage in their healthcare. She is an experienced Senior Director of Quality with progressive leadership and a demonstrated history of working across the hospital and health care sectors. She is skilled in Public Speaking, Management, Healthcare, Healthcare Management, and Project Management, including a surveyor for Health Standards Organization and Master Facilitator for CPSI in patient safety. She is a strong consulting professional with a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in progress focused in Paediatrics from University of Toronto.

Patient Partner Keynote



Mary Maida

Mary has been a patient partner at Niagara Health since inception in February 2019. Growing up, she had a parent who suffered with chronic illness and ultimately passed at a young age. A few years later, Mary became the mother to an incredible little girl with special needs. Her time caring for her father provided the familiarity, resiliency and ability to handle the onslaught of medical requirements that would come in order to care for her young daughter. The Niagara Health Engagement Network has provided an opportunity for Mary to share her experiences and shed a caregiver perspective on the current processes within the healthcare system.

Mary has a Bachelor of Commerce, Honours Marketing from the University of Guelph. She knew from a young age that she wanted to dedicate her life to helping others. She has spent her entire career in non-profit fundraising and is currently the Lead Fund Developer for Community Living St. Catharines.

Transdisciplinary Panel Presentation



Robert D'Addazio

Robbie is a graduate of the Health Science program at Brock University and also holds a Master of Public Health from the University of Guelph. He previously worked at Cancer Care Ontario in knowledge dissemination and evaluation and currently works at Niagara Region Public Health as a Health Promoter in the School Health program. He has experience collaborating with community partners on both the planning and delivery of public health programs as well as using their feedback for program improvement.



Laura Blundell

Laura has over 15 year of healthcare leadership and is the Executive Director of the Niagara Falls Community Health Centre. She has a Master's in Community Health from Brock University and has research expertise in quality improvement in primary care team based settings. Laura is passionate about addressing barriers to healthcare and providing better system navigation for all. When Laura isn't travelling for pleasure, she

lives in St. Catharines with her husband, two children and their dog, Oswald.

Closing Keynote Address



Madelyn P. Law

Madelyn P. Law is the Associate Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning, Associate Professor in the Department of Health Sciences and the Director of the Interprofessional Education for Quality Improvement Program (I-EQUIP). Madelyn channels her passion into building partnerships and relationships within the health sector and opening up avenues for research and experiential education for students in order to make a difference in the community. Her research is focused on organizational culture and change management to enhance the quality of existing health systems. This work has led her to contribute to quality improvement projects alongside professionals in a variety of areas including public health, acute care, rehabilitation, primary care and community care settings.

A Special Thank You To...

We would like to recognize all the organizations and individuals who helped make this conference a success. Thank you to Brock University's Faculty of Applied Health Sciences, the Interprofessional Education for Quality Improvement Program, Niagara Health, Niagara Region Public Health, the Niagara Falls Community Health Centre, and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement Open School. We would also like to give special appreciation to Dr. Gervan Fearon and Dr. Peter Tiidus, for their support. Thank you to all the incredible speakers for their willingness to share their expertise, ideas, and experiences. This conference would not have been possible without them. Finally, we would like to thank Dr. Madelyn Law for her exceptional ongoing support and encouragement.