

Domestic Violence Death Review Committee
Membership 2023

Tamara Bernard



Tamara Bernard is from Lake Nipigon, specifically Kiasheke Zaaging Anishinaabek (Gull Bay First Nation). Tamara's passion is to share stories and teachings to other people. She has presented at TEDx Talks and has dedicated her research to her late great grandmother, Jane Bernard, who was taken in 1966 along with Doreen Hardy – two among the known numbers of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada. Over a decade ago, at the time, Tamara guided early developments of Indigenous anti-human trafficking advocacy and spearheaded the first of its kind MMIWG exhibit titled “See Me’ that shared stories of women beyond the statistics. See Me is a permanent standing exhibit providing public education on violence against Indigenous women and girls. Tamara continues to contribute MMIWG research, anti-violence provincial and national reports, Indigenous gender-based violence education and policy, and Indigenous trauma-informed research and program development. Her next chapter preview, titled; ‘I am not murdered, but parts of me are missing’ will be released in July 2023, bringing light to the experiences as an Anishinaabe woman by sharing first-hand stories and remembrances of loved one’s being taken by colonial violence. She is a PhD student at Lakehead University, part-time professor, and manager at Dilico Anishinabek Family Care.

Robyn Bourgeois



Dr. Robyn Bourgeois is nêhiyaw iskwew (a Cree woman) of mixed Cree (Treaty 8), French, Scottish, and English ancestry. She is an associate professor in the Centre of Women's and Gender Studies at Brock University, and currently serves as the institution's Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement. A survivor of multiple forms of violence including IPV, Dr. Bourgeois has devoted her life to changing the world. Her research focuses on violence against Indigenous women and girls and Indigenous women's anti-violence resistance, and she has published and presented this work nationally and internationally. She teaches in the areas of Indigenous feminisms, decolonization, and gender-based violence. Dr. Bourgeois is an activist who has protested in the streets and collaborated with Indigenous communities and grassroots organizations to advance community-based anti-violence strategies. She has previously worked with the Government of Ontario around human trafficking; and in 2018, she testified as an expert and experiential witness on sexual violence and human trafficking at the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Between 2018 and 2020, Dr. Bourgeois led a study for CEVAW (Coalition to End Violence Against Women) Niagara assessing perceived and actual barriers people experiencing gender-based violence face when attempting to access supports provided by local organizations.

Humberto Carolo



Humberto is a globally recognized gender-based violence prevention expert and the Executive Director at White Ribbon. With a focus on engaging men and boys as allies in promoting gender equality and healthy masculinities, he has provided technical assistance and expert guidance to diverse organizations, institutions, governments, UN agencies, and industry sectors around the globe. Humberto is a former Co-chair and current Board member of the Global MenEngage Alliance and is a founding member of the North American MenEngage Network. In addition to his work in Canada and the United States, Humberto has developed significant cross-cultural experience in diverse settings, including Brazil, Cape Verde, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, Zambia, and Ethiopia.

Humberto serves on the External Advisory Council for the Department of National Defense and Canadian Armed Forces Sexual Misconduct Resource Centre and is a member of the Religions for Peace Standing Commission on Advancing Gender Equality. Humberto has a degree in Sociology, Political Science and Portuguese from the University of Toronto and is a graduate of the Emerging Leaders Program (Leadership and Non-Profit Management) from the York University Schulich School of Business. Humberto is a Diverse City Fellow (2014).

Pamela Cross



Pamela Cross is a feminist lawyer, a well-known and respected expert on violence against women and the law for her work as a researcher, writer, educator and trainer. She works with women's equality and violence against women organizations across Ontario. After leading the creation and expansion of legal programming and services at Luke's Place in her role as Legal Director, Pamela has moved her focus to advocacy, and is now the Luke's Place Advocacy Director, developing and leading law and policy reform efforts and media work at the provincial and national levels.

In 2022, Pamela participated in the Inquest into 2015 triple femicide of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam in Renfrew County, Ontario, both as an expert witness in her role as Luke's Place Legal Director and as an external consultant producing a report for the Inquest on behalf of the community. Following the Inquest, Pamela was commissioned by End Violence Against Women Renfrew County to develop a toolkit about community engagement with inquests, "We Remember". Learn more about Pamela [here](#).

Carolyn Fraser



Dr. Carolyn Fraser has a genuine passion for ending violence against women. She has focused much of her professional, academic research and volunteer time to the cause. Dr. Fraser was hired in 2017 by the Ontario Police College (OPC). She is considered the OPC resident subject matter expert in the field of domestic violence. Dr. Fraser is responsible for the coordination and delivery of the Domestic Violence Investigation training program for police officers across the province on behalf of the Ministry of the Solicitor General. Previously, Carolyn was a sworn Police Constable for 15 years with London Police Service, and for approximately half of her policing career she was assigned to a specialized domestic violence unit overseeing domestic violence investigations and monitoring high risk domestic violence offenders.

Dr. Fraser completed her Ph.D. at Western University in Critical Policy, Equity and Leadership Studies. Dr. Fraser also served as a co-researcher on a national project: The Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative among Vulnerable Populations. Her research interests encompass the role of police officers as it relates to their duty to provide safety planning and risk management with victims of domestic violence and children who are exposed to domestic violence. Dr. Fraser served several years as a Board member on the Board of Directors for Violence Against Women, Services Elgin County in the community she resides in.

Marlene Ham



Marlene currently works as the Executive Director at the Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses and brings over 20 years of experience in gender-based violence, social justice and equity work. Marlene's work over the last 20 years spans direct service, advocacy, government relations, awareness campaigns, policy development, research and training. Marlene has worked in shelters for women and children, provincial crisis lines, HIV/AIDS transitional housing programs, HIV/AIDS and Harm Reduction organizations and transitional housing for men living with substance use. Marlene has been a collaborative author in a range of journal publications, community-based research reports and other edited works spanning GBV issues, femicide, violence against women training, substance use, HIV/AIDS, 2sLGBTQ programming and social work.

Peter Jaffe



Dr. Peter Jaffe is a psychologist, Professor Emeritus, and one of the founding Directors of the Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children in the Faculty of Education at Western University (London Ontario, Canada). He has co-authored eleven books, 40 chapters and over 80 articles related to domestic violence, the impact of domestic violence on children, homicide prevention and the role of the criminal and family justice systems. For the past 30 years, he has presented workshops across the United States and Canada, as well as Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica and Europe to various groups including judges, lawyers, health, mental health professionals and educators. Since 1999, he has been on faculty for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in the US for judicial education programs entitled “Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases”.

He was a founding member of Ontario's Chief Coroner's Domestic Violence Death Review Committee in 2002. He has also been instrumental in developing violence prevention programs for schools. Together with David Wolfe, Claire Crooks and Ray Hughes, he helped in the development of “The Fourth R: Skills for Youth Relationships”, a school-based curriculum targeting multiple forms of violence, including bullying, dating violence and peer violence. The curriculum is being used in over 5,000 schools in Canada and the US. In 2009, he was named an Officer in the Order of Canada by the Governor General for his work preventing domestic violence in the community.

Shalini Konanur



Shalini Konanur is the Executive Director of the South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario (SALCO). She is also a lawyer who graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School and was called to the Bar in Ontario in 2000. Shalini has spent her entire legal career in Ontario's legal aid clinic system working with low-income Ontarians in rural and urban settings, with a focus over the past 15 years on supporting racialized communities. Shalini practices direct legal services in multiple areas of law including immigration, family, human rights, income maintenance, tenant's rights, and employment. Shalini has worked at all levels of administrative tribunals and courts up to the Supreme Court of Canada on cases that involve intersecting issues of violence and the law. Shalini has direct experience working with people facing intimate partner violence, including those with precarious or no immigration status. She also has significant knowledge of the complex barriers that many racialized people face in family violence situations.

She is the proud recipient of Ontario Victim Service Award of Distinction and the Ontario Bar Association's Award of Excellence in the Promotion of Women's Equality. Shalini is also well-known for her advocacy on issues of gender-based violence; including intimate partner violence, elder abuse, forced marriage and human trafficking. She is active in law reform and advocacy work in support of improving the justice system and social infrastructure for people facing violence with a specific lens towards the experiences of racialized communities. To that end, Shalini has appeared at multiple municipal, provincial, and federal government standing committees and at the United Nations to advocate for racialized communities facing gender-based violence. Shalini is also a current member of the Board of Governors of the Law Commission of Ontario and the Board Chair of Action Canada for Sexual Health and Rights (formerly known as Planned Parenthood Canada). In addition, she has helped to develop Canada's toolkit for people facing forced marriage, and she was a co-author of a Roadmap for Canada's National Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence.

Erin Lee



Erin is an experienced, passionate advocate who has spent decades working to end violence against women. Her work spans anti-violence programs, school board initiatives, provincial associations and numerous boards and committees. Currently Erin is the Executive Director of Lanark County Interval House and Community Support, Community Safety and Well Being Plan member, Coordinating Committee member and member of the Victimology Advisory of Algonquin College.

Erin has been a recipient of the Ministry of the Attorney General, Award of Distinction and the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario award for social change. Most recently, Lanark County Interval House in conjunction with the Ontario Provincial Police and community, received the OPP Accolade Award for the development of the Victim Advocate Program. Erin was a member of the EVA inquest working group after the triple femicide in Renfrew and offered testimony related to rural realities as a neighbouring county. Erin's advocacy is characterized as solution-focused, mentoring to new advocates and inclusive to all.

Deepa Mattoo



Deepa Mattoo is an award-winning lawyer and intersectional feminist whose work is rooted in equity and anti-oppressive and anti-racist practice. Deepa Mattoo is the executive director of the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic. Previously, she was the Clinic's director of legal services. Before joining the Schlifer Clinic, Deepa was the project coordinator, staff lawyer and executive director at the South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario.

As the executive director, Deepa oversees the Clinic's strategic direction and provides strategic leadership to the legal, counselling, and interpretation departments and for the Clinic's intervention and advocacy work. Deepa is directly involved in critical projects related to the criminalization of women, sexual violence and the precarious status of women, the risk assessment of gender-based violence, and interdisciplinary case management. Deepa also provides leadership for the Clinic's intervention and advocacy work and has appeared before parliamentary committees and UN civil society meetings on a wide range of social justice and human rights issues. She has also represented hundreds of clients at multiple tribunals and courts in numerous jurisdictions, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Deepa is an Adjunct Professor and Visiting Faculty at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Law. She is also an Adjunct Professor at Osgoode Hall Law School, where she is the co-director of the Feminist Advocacy Program hosted at the Schlifer Clinic.

In 2015, Deepa was awarded the Spirit of Schlifer Award. Deepa was the Law Foundation of Ontario's 2017 Community Leadership in Justice Fellow at Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto. Deepa is the recipient of the Law Society medal in 2022 and the Women of Distinction Award in 2022 for her contribution to access to justice and advocacy work. She has trained thousands of service providers for best practices and legal education to work with forced marriage survivors, racialized non-status women, and immigration law clients in the context of gender-based violence.

Sandra Montour



Sandra Montour is Mohawk, Turtle Clan from the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory. She is a mother and a “Soht” to three special grandchildren. Sandra brings with her 30 years experience in the Indigenous Family Violence Prevention Sector. She has devoted her career to eradicating domestic, family and sexual violence within her community, amongst her First Nations people. She is currently the Executive Director of Ganohkwasra Family Assault Support Services, located in Ohsweken. Sandra is also the President of the Aboriginal Shelters of Ontario and regularly advocates and supports the Indigenous Shelters located in rural, remote and urban communities in Ontario.

Sandra has a strong belief that we all need to work harder to foster the safety of Indigenous Women, 2-Spirited Individuals, Children and Families and she looks forward to working the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee to identify any patterns or systemic barriers that prevent the well being of families.

Jeanne Françoise Mouè



Jeanne Françoise Mouè oeuvre depuis plus de 20 ans dans le mouvement des femmes francophones en Ontario et elle est diplômée de l'Université du Québec en Outaouais en travail social. Mme Mouè a pris les rênes de la mise sur pied de la première maison d'hébergement pour femmes francophone victimes de violence conjugale et familiale dans le Centre-Sud de l'Ontario, comme directrice générale en 2012. Avant cela, madame elle a ouvert le Centre Novas, premier centre d'aide et de lutte contre les agressions à caractère sexuel dans la région de Prescott-Russell, elle a également occupé le poste de directrice générale au Centre Espoir Sophie, une halte-accueil pour femmes francophones marginalisées, située en plein coeur de la ville d'Ottawa. Toujours dans son implication auprès des femmes, Jeanne Françoise a travaillé comme intervenante auprès des femmes survivantes d'agression à caractère sexuel à Toronto, elle a été présidente de l'Action ontarienne contre la violence faite aux femmes (AOcVF) et elle est membre fondatrice du Mouvement ontarien de femmes immigrantes francophones (MOFIF).

A graduate of Université du Québec en Outaouais with a degree in social work, Jeanne Françoise Mouè has spent over 20 years working in the Francophone women's movement in Ontario. Ms. Mouè led the charge to establish the first safe house for French-speaking women who are victims of intimate partner violence and domestic abuse in Central Ontario, becoming its executive director in 2012. Prior to this, she opened Centre Novas, the first sexual assault support and prevention centre in the Prescott-Russell region. She also served as executive director of Centre Espoir Sophie, a drop-in centre for marginalized Francophone women in downtown Ottawa. Her advocacy on behalf of women doesn't end there: Jeanne Françoise has also worked as an advocate for survivors of sexual assault in Toronto, served as president of Action ontarienne contre la violence faite aux femmes (AOcVF) and helped found the Mouvement ontarien de femmes immigrantes francophones (MOFIF).

Prabhu Rajan



Prabhu Rajan is the Chair of the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, which has been at the forefront of promoting change in policy and practice through the analysis of intimate partner homicides. Prabhu is currently leading the revitalization of the DVDRC, including the first-ever public Call for Members that resulted in the appointment of a new group of diverse experts from across the province.

Prabhu Rajan is Chief Counsel to the Chief Coroner for Ontario and Chief Forensic Pathologist, and co-leads Ontario's Inquest System. Previously, he was the Legal Director for the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Training, Colleges & Universities, Deputy Legal Director at the Ministry of the Solicitor General and Deputy Legal Director at the Ministry of Labour. He spent much of his early career as Counsel and Legal Director at the Ontario Human Rights Commission. He is a graduate of the University of Manitoba (B.A. Criminology) and Osgoode Hall Law School. He articulated at a prominent union-side labour law firm and was called to the Bar in 1996.

Katreena Scott



Katreena Scott is a professor, clinical psychologist and Director of the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children at Western University. She holds a Tier I Canada Research Chair in Ending Child Abuse and Domestic Violence. Dr. Scott has also held positions as a professor at the University of Toronto (2002-2020), visiting professor at the University of Melbourne Australia (2016), Uppsala University, Sweden (2010) and an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Kingston, UK (2010).

Dr. Scott leads an applied research program aimed at ending gender-based and family, with specific expertise on addressing abuse perpetration in men. She has authored over 50 articles and book chapters on the development of violent relationships, the efficacy of interventions, the effect of abuse and trauma on children, and on empirically and ethically sound policies for working with abuse perpetrators. The Caring Dads program that she developed work with fathers to ensure safety and well-being of their children and families is currently running across Canada as well as in the US, UK, Australia and a number of European countries. A few of the major research initiatives Dr. Scott has led or co-led include projects aimed at improving the experience of family violence survivors in family court, research supporting workplaces in addressing domestic violence and national collaborative work to develop core competencies for GBV specialists. Dr. Scott was also part of the Australian Safer Families initiative and the Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative for Vulnerable Populations partnership grant. Dr. Scott testified as an expert witness at the Nova Scotia Mass Casualty Inquiry, the Inquest into the 2015 triple femicide of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam in Renfrew County and at the 2009 Inquest into the deaths of Andrew Osidacz & Jared Osidacz. She also testified as an international expert in Australia during the Victoria's 2016 Royal Commission into family violence on intervention. She regularly presents to audiences of academics, community-based service providers and to policy-makers to share emerging knowledge from research on gender-based and family violence. Dr. Scott held a Tier II Canada Research Chair in Family Violence Prevention and Treatment between 2008 and 2018 and an Early Researcher Award from the Government of Ontario from 2006 to 2009.

Deborah Sinclair



Deborah has been at the forefront of the movement to end violence against women and children in Canada for the past four decades. Throughout her career in human rights, public health intervention, and social justice work, Deborah has worked in many different capacities - clinician, writer, speaker, trainer, researcher, policy advisor and expert witness.

Deborah has served as a founding member of the DVDRC as well as several coalitions to address issues of gender-based violence, co-founded one of the first community intervention models in Canada and has trained thousands of services providers in Canada and around the world through her books and seminars. In 1985, her first manual, "Understanding wife assault, A training manual for counsellors and advocates" was considered the main training tool for VAW workers in Ontario and many parts of Canada and the world. In 2019, she successfully defended her doctoral dissertation titled "A Living History: How the Experiences of Early Activists Shaped the Violence Against Women (VAW) Movement in Ontario: A Case Study" at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto. Deborah is equally passionate about protecting the mental, physical and spiritual health of professionals and activists who courageously face unspeakable human atrocities in their everyday work situations through her seminars on vicarious trauma and community self-care. She currently has a clinical practice specializing in work with trauma survivors and their allies.

Eva Zachary



Eva is the Executive Director at Muskoka Victim Services (MVS). Her experience spans 15 years in crisis intervention, victim advocacy, critical incident and stress management, and the development and delivery of Peer Support programs.

To compliment her work at MVS, she is a board member of the Ontario Network of Victim Service Providers. Eva's background is in psychology. She is certified in Critical Incident and Stress Management (CCISM/UMBC) and carries the designations of Community and Workplace Traumatologist, and Trauma Services Specialist. As a victim advocate, Eva has boots-on-the-ground experience, working with victims of crime and tragic circumstance. With the increasing volume of complex domestic violence incidents across the province, Eva is dedicated to bringing public awareness to the cycles of domestic violence and eradicating the pervasiveness of this epidemic. Eva is optimistic about the future of the DVDRC and the opportunity to create positive change in Ontario communities and help prevent future domestic homicides.

Resource Members

Rebecca Law



Crown Counsel, Crown Law Office – Criminal
Ministry of the Attorney General

Rebecca was called to the bar in 2009 and has worked as a prosecutor in Kitchener-Waterloo and Toronto Region, appearing in all levels of Ontario courts. She has conducted a wide range of criminal prosecutions with a particular focus on family violence, child abuse, and online child exploitation. Since joining the Crown Law Office - Criminal in 2019, her primary focus has been the development of criminal law policy both within Ontario and through criminal law reform at the federal-provincial-territorial level. Rebecca is the intimate partner violence policy lead for the Criminal Law Division. Prior to attending law school, Rebecca worked at the former Ontario Criminal Injuries Compensation Board where she had the privilege of working with survivors of intimate partner violence and families who had lost loved ones to femicide.

Sandra Parker



Sandra is a dedicated healthcare professional and educator with over 39 years of experience in nursing practice and senior leadership roles. She has worked at many community and tertiary/quaternary hospitals across the GTA, including over 26 years at The Hospital for Sick Children. Her current role is with the Office of the Chief Coroner as a Provincial Nurse Manager. Sandra has worked with multidisciplinary healthcare subject matter experts and stakeholders across the province, including being instrumental in the organization and delivery of the first National Paediatric Conference in Ontario. She has presented at many conferences and produced publications that have been circulated nationally and internationally.

Sandra holds a Master of Arts in Education from Central Michigan University in the United States, a Project Management Certificate from Humber College, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Ryerson University, and a Diploma in Nursing from St. Clair College, in Ontario Canada. She is active in her community, having served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Vaughan Community Health Centre.