

# CARL NIMROD EDUCATOR AWARD RECIPIENTS 2023

## Dr. Sue Chandra, MD, FRCSC, MSc University of Alberta



Dr. Sue Chandra is an Associate Professor and Maternal-Fetal Medicine Specialist in the department of Obstetrics Gynecology, University of Alberta. She did her medical school and residency training in ObGyn at Memorial University followed by a fellowship in Maternal-Fetal medicine at Dalhousie University. Her clinical and research interests include prenatal screening and diagnosis, clinical epidemiology and Quality Improvement, and has co-developed provincial guidelines on QI in Obstetrical ultrasound. She is passionate about teaching and learning and has previously served as residency program director for the ObGyn program and Undergraduate ObGyn block coordinator at the University of Alberta. She currently serves as Chair of the Specialty committee for Maternal-Fetal Medicine for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and is a member of the RCPSC MFM exam board. She is passionate about advocacy and social justice. She has created modules on anti-racism for the preclinical undergraduate medical curriculum as well as faculty development for the University of Alberta and serves on her University of Alberta faculty of medicine DEI committee.

## Dr. Catherine Dagenais, MD, FRCSC Université de Laval



Dr. Catherine Dagenais is a person of perseverance. After completing a professional master's degree in psychology at the Université de Montréal and working for a few years in the field, she decided to turn to medicine. Right from the start, she was passionate about obstetrics. She obtained her doctorate in medicine from Laval University, completing her specialty in obstetrics and gynecology. As a mother of two, she undertook a subspecialty in maternal-fetal medicine at McMaster University. Returning to Québec, she began her practice at the CHU de Québec in 2018. From the beginning, she was involved in teaching. In 2020, she became responsible for weekly courses in the obstetrics department of the Centre Mère-Enfant, which are distributed to all referral centers in Eastern Québec and provided a platform of visibility for residents in the program. She was appointed Clinical Professor in 2022. She is greatly appreciated for her people skills, and for the teaching and coaching she provides in the clinic and during residents' academic work. She is also passionate about improvement and quality of care, and collaborates actively with the in-hospital nursing teams in her area.

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**Dr. Erika Fowler, MD, FRCSC**  
Memorial University of Newfoundland



Dr. Erika Fowler is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology as well as a Clinical Clerkship Coordinator at the Memorial University of Newfoundland. She completed a Bachelor of Science in Pure Mathematics, before going on to complete a Master's in Clinical Epidemiology, and then a Doctorate of Medicine. She continued into residency while still at Memorial University, but completed her Fellowship at the University of Ottawa in 2015. She is a passionate teacher of undergraduate medical education and has done many hours of clinical teaching, simulation, case rounds, as well as been a presenter and moderator for many national conferences.

**Dr. Adam Garber, MD, MSc, FRCSC**  
University of Ottawa



Dr. Adam Garber received his medical degree in 2010 from Western University and completed his Fellowship in Obstetrics and Gynecology in 2015 from the University of Ottawa. He completed a Senior Fellowship in Simulation Based Education through the Department of Innovation in Medical Education in 2016, University of Ottawa Skills and Simulation Centre (uOSSC) and a master's degree in health professions education through McMaster in 2017. Presently he is an assistant professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Ottawa. His roles for the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology include Associate Program Director, Simulation Fellowship Program Director, and Competence Committee Chair. He is a member of the uOSSC simulation fellowship faculty and participates in the national SOGC simulation working group. His academic interests lie in innovative simulation techniques, team training, and patient safety.

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**Dr. Sebastian R. Hobson, BMedSc(Hons), MPH, PhD, FRANZCOG,  
FACOG, FRCSC**  
University of Toronto



Dr. Sebastian Hobson is a Maternal-Fetal Medicine Specialist who has particular clinical and research interests in labour and delivery care, complex obstetric surgery and placenta accreta spectrum disorders. He attended medical school and residency training at Monash Health and Monash University in Melbourne whilst concurrently completing a Masters in Public Health and PhD in preeclampsia. After further training in Maternal-Fetal Medicine with A/Prof Christine Tippett and gynaecologic oncology surgery with Dr L Jane McNeilage in Australia, Sebastian moved to Canada to join the Maternal-Fetal Medicine Division at Mount Sinai Hospital and the University of Toronto. Currently, Sebastian is Head of Labour & Delivery at Mount Sinai Hospital and Program Director for the Complex Obstetric Surgery Fellowship. He is the immediate past Chair of the Clinical Obstetrics Committee for SOGC, and an MFM examiner for the RCPSC. Sebastian has been the recipient of several teaching awards and is dedicated to mentoring and educating the next generation of care providers in the “Art of Obstetrics”.

**Dr. Naana Afua Jumah, MD, FRCSC**  
Northern Ontario School of Medicine



Dr. Naana Afua Jumah is an Obstetrician Gynaecologist at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre and a researcher at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University. Dr. Jumah’s research and clinical practice focuses on Indigenous women’s health and substance use in pregnancy in Northwestern Ontario. Through a series of integrated research studies, Dr. Jumah seeks to determine how to organize a model of care that addresses the needs of substance involved pregnant women living in rural and remote areas in order to improve maternal and neonatal outcomes. Dr Jumah is the Senior Director of Academics at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, Vice-Chair of the PSI Foundation and the Education Director for the Society of Canadian Colposcopists. Dr Jumah holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Toronto and a DPhil in Medical Engineering from the University of Oxford, which she completed as a Rhodes Scholar. Following her doctorate, she graduated from Harvard Medical School and then completed her residency in Obstetrics and Gynaecology with a specialization in Addiction Medicine at the University of Toronto.

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### Dr. Yvonne Leong, MD, FRCSC

Western University



Dr. Yvonne Leong is an Assistant Professor within the Division of Urogynaecology, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University. She received her undergraduate medical degree and postgraduate Obstetrics & Gynaecology training from the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University in 2007 and 2012 respectively. She completed a fellowship in Urogynaecology & Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery at the University of Toronto in 2015 and a Masters of Health Professions Education through Maastricht University, The Netherlands in 2019. Dr. Leong is currently the Director of Postgraduate Medical Education for the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology. She has provided leadership during transition to Competence By Design, played a key role in curricular revisions and has received accolades for postgraduate teaching.

### Dr. Sonia Macfarlane, MD, FRCSC

McGill University



Dr. Sonia Macfarlane is an obstetrician-gynecologist at St. Mary's Hospital in Montreal, with an interest in physiologic childbirth, cross-cultural medicine and medical education. After completing a bachelor's degree at the University of British Columbia, she worked with at-risk populations and refugees in rural Thailand, where she developed a passion for women's health. She completed her Micro-biology/immunology degree, medical school, residency in Obstetrics & Gynecology, and subsequent Fellowship in Medical Education at McGill University. As an Assistant-Professor in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at McGill, Dr. Macfarlane has been dedicated to both undergraduate and postgraduate medical education. As Director of Resident Wellness for the McGill Obstetrics & Gynecology Residency Program, she is focused on resident advocacy, wellness, and burnout. After 10 years as Clinical Site-Director for undergraduate medical education, and 5 years as Electives Director, Dr. Macfarlane took on a new role as Clerkship Component Director (Medicine) for the McGill MDCM Program in 2022. She has a passion for assessment and the development of innovative teaching and learning activities to motivate the next generation of learners. Dr. Macfarlane has been the recipient of the McGill MSW Award for wellness and clinical teaching and the Obstetrics & Gynecology Resident Teaching Award.

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### **Dr. Fiona Mattatall, BSc, MSc, MD, FRCSC** University of Calgary



Dr. Fiona Mattatall has a background in biochemistry, studied medicine at Queen's University and went into residency at Dalhousie University. In both settings, she was inspired by amazing educators. She started clinical practice in Calgary in 2005. That year she began her work in educating family medicine colleagues that continues to this day. The following year Dr. Mattatall began lecturing at the undergraduate medical level. This also continues to this day as she is part of the University of Calgary RIME (Re-Imagining Medical Education) team. In addition, Dr. Mattatall teaches at the resident level with didactic lectures across specialties as well as co-developing the Gender Diversity block for ObGyn residents. She led the team in developing the first online Gender Diversity modules for SOGC. Lastly, her passion for public education has brought Dr. Mattatall to be a speaker for local groups covering many aspects of women's health.

### **Dr. Fariba Mohtashami, MD, FRCSC** University of British Columbia



Dr. Fariba Mohtashami is a gynecologic surgeon and an outspoken advocate for equity in surgery for women. She is a Clinical Professor, Head of the Division of General Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, Canada. She is actively involved in the surgical education of residents and fellows, as well as mentoring colleagues who want to advance their surgical skills. Her teaching focuses on fundamentals of surgery such as surgical anatomy and dissection techniques. She is a regular invited speaker on "Surgical Sexism," where she explores the impact of gender stereotypes in Medicine and Gynecologic surgery, from residency training to access to hospital resources and remuneration. Dr. Mohtashami is a regular chair, speaker, and faculty at a variety of international and national conferences and post-graduate courses organized by the American Association of Laparoscopic Gynecologists (AAGL), the Canadian Society for the Advancement of the Gynecological Excellence (CanSAGE), and the European Union by the Dutch Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (IRCAD).

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## Dr. Michelle Morais, MD, BSc, FRCSC McMaster University



After earning her Bachelor of Science (with honours) at the University of New Brunswick, Dr. Michelle Morais went on to obtain her medical degree at Memorial University. She completed her residency and subsequent fellowship training at McMaster University. Dr. Morais recently completed the clinician educator program at McMaster and received her DRCPSC status with the Royal College. Today, Dr. Morais is an Associate Professor in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology and a Maternal Fetal Medicine specialist at McMaster University Medical Centre. Dr. Morais is finishing her term as the Postgraduate Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program Director and is also the Director of Career Development for the Undergraduate Medical Education Program at McMaster University. Dr. Morais has been the recipient of the PARO Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award as well as the CREOG Senior Resident Teaching Award. Medical education research interests include simulation, burnout, and program assessment.

## Dr. Helen Pymar, MD, FRCSC, MPH University of Manitoba



Dr. Helen Pymar is a professor in obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg with a fellowship in family planning and contraception from Magee Women's Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA , which she completed after her residency in obstetrics and gynaecology in London, Ontario and medical school in Kingston, Ontario. She is the director of the pregnancy counselling clinic and early pregnancy assessment clinic with an interest in first-trimester ultrasound provision.

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### **Dr. Andrée Sansregret, MD, FRCSC** Université de Montréal



Dr. Andrée Sansregret graduated with a medical degree from McGill University in 1998 and subsequently pursued her residency at the University of Montreal (1998-2003). She was awarded a fellowship by the Royal College to undertake a master's in pedagogy at the University of Montreal (2004-07). She attained the position of Associate Professor at the University of Montreal in June 2014. Her primary interest lies in simulation as a pedagogical method to enhance teamwork in critical situations. She became the academic co-director of the Mother-Child Simulation Center at CHU Ste-Justine in March 2012, accredited by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. She has served as the chair of the national task force on simulation for the SOGC since June 2019. Additionally, she has taken on the role of director of the simulation-based fellowship training program at the University of Montreal since July 2023. Dr. Sansregret also holds an interest in minimally invasive pelvic surgery and the operative management of disorders within the spectrum of placenta accreta.

### **Dr. Viji Udayasankar, MD, FRCSC** University of Saskatchewan



Dr Vijayalakshmi (Viji) Udayasankar completed medical school in India and her postgraduate training in the UK. She joined the team in Prince Albert, SK, where she has been practicing ObGyn for 15+ years in a regional setting catering to a large rural community in Northern Saskatchewan. She received a Clinical Excellence Award in 2017 for providing outstanding service to patients within and beyond her health region. She has established the Combined Diabetes in Pregnancy Clinic, one of a kind in the rural north and provides care for some of the most high-risk patients with great dedication and proficiency. She is involved in multidisciplinary teaching of Obstetrics skills, running simulations in her hospital and in teaching medical students, residents in family medicine, and OBGYNs. She has established peripheral satellite O&G clinics in rural hospitals and has inspired medical students to complete research projects in rural settings. As a department lead, she has helped the department grow and has provided support to junior colleagues in her team. She is a strong advocate for patient safety and quality. She will continue to inspire the next generation of learners to practice O&G with great dedication and the highest standards to which she aspires to in her practice.

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## **Dr. Michel Van den Hof, BSc, MD, FRCSC** Dalhousie University



Dr. Michel Van den Hof has been a Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine, Dalhousie University since 1989. His expertise in maternal fetal medicine investigations such as prenatal diagnosis and obstetric ultrasound is recognized nationally and internationally. Dr. Van den Hof was the Division Head of Maternal Fetal Medicine and Director of the Prenatal Screening and Diagnosis Program from 1999-2012. He has been Physician Lead of the Rh Program of Nova Scotia for over 25 years and is also the current Interim Head of Obstetrics at The IWK Health Center. Dr. Van den Hof was the Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program Director from 2012 – 2020. In 2018, he received the Dalhousie University Program Directors' Award for Leadership. Dr. Van den Hof has been lauded for the development of a national residency MCQ exam. This exam is relevant to the Canadian context, of a high standard and well-received in all Centres across Canada. Dr. Van den Hof has played an integral role in developing an educational program in prenatal diagnosis and maternal fetal medicine for Obstetrics and Gynaecology residents and MFM fellows and has inspired many medical students to pursue residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Van den Hof is known for his integrity and clinical excellence.

## **Dr. Mathieu Viau, MD, FRCSC** Université de Sherbrooke



Dr. Mathieu Viau has been an Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Université de Sherbrooke since 2020. He has been a part of oncology clinical research regarding cancer in the reproductive system at the CHUS Research Center with a specific research focus on endometrial and ovarian cancer. He completed his Doctor of Medicine in 2013 at the Université de Sherbrooke, before going on to complete his residency program in 2018 at Laval University.

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## Dr. Ashley Waddington, MD, MPA, FRCSC Queen's University



Dr. Ashley Waddington is an Associate Professor in the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Queen's University. She graduated from medical school at McMaster University in 2006. She came to Kingston for the Contraception Advice, Research and Education (CARE) Fellowship after completing her residency in ObGyn at Dalhousie University. She completed her Fellowship in 2013 and has been a co-director of the CARE Fellowship since 2014. Dr Waddington founded the Complications of Early Pregnancy Clinic at the Kingston Health Sciences Centre in 2013 and the Transgender Clinic in 2017. She has been the Medical Director of the Lakeside Clinic at Kingston General Hospital since 2014, as well as the Medical Director of the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Program since 2019. Her clinical and research interests include complicated contraceptive cases, abortion care and access, adolescent gynecology, early pregnancy complications, patient safety and quality improvement, and transgender health.