



# Patient & Community Voices Workshops 2015-2016 Series



## 7 Community-Led Interprofessional Workshops:

### **Talk is Cheap: Living and Communicating with Aphasia**

February 4th, 2016 and March 10th, 2016

### **Positive Reflections from Voices Unheard: Learning from Persons Living with HIV**

March 17th, 2016

### **How to Work with Interpreters in a Multicultural Clinical Setting**

March 22nd, 2016 and April 13th, 2016

### **Stereotypes, Truth & Moving towards Reconciliation: What health professional students need to know about First Nations History**

April 12th, 2016

### **Experiences in Health Care: Learning from those with Blood Cancers and Multiple Sclerosis**

May 19th, 2016

[meetingofexperts.org](http://meetingofexperts.org)

Since 2008, we've held **43** workshops with over **650** students and over **150** community educators!

**Patient & Community Voices Workshops:** Designed by community members with input from faculty and students. They typically last 2 to 3 hours and are held in a community setting outside usual class time. They are instructed by community educators, who are patients/clients and caregivers who share with students their unique experiences and expertise. The workshops are interactive and include small group discussions, by 3 or 4 community educators, and 20 to 30 students from multiple UBC health and human service programs.

**Background:** Since 2008, the Patient & Community Partnership for Education (formerly the Division of Health Care Communication) has coordinated Patient & Community Voices Workshops in collaboration with our community partners. People with chronic health concerns, and other "expert patients", have important life experiences and expertise that can and should enrich present university training. We believe that active patient participation is an essential component of training future health and human service professionals, for patient-centred, interprofessional practice.

## 2016 Partners & Collaborators:

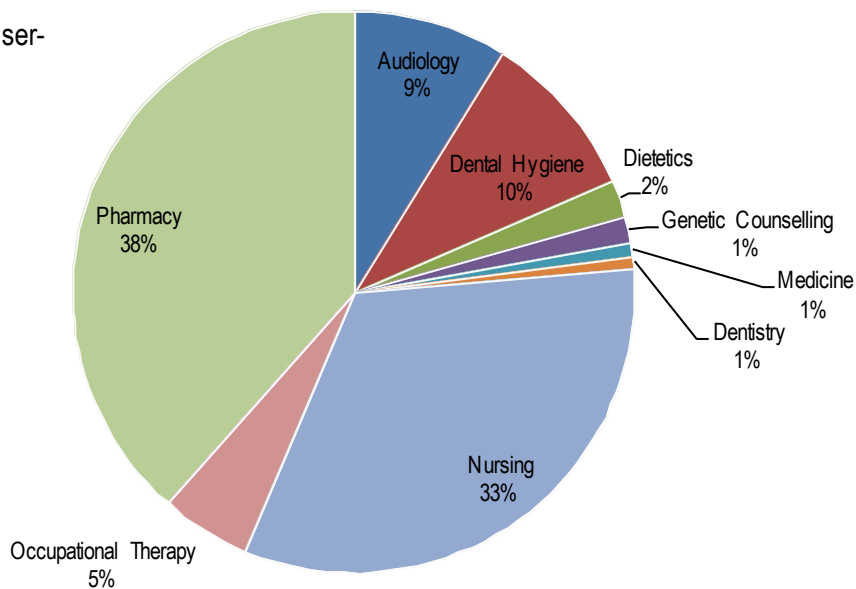
- Bilinguals International
- Indian Residential School Survivors Society
- Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of BC
- Multiple Sclerosis Society of BC
- Positive Living Society of BC
- UBC School of Audiology and Speech Sciences (SASS) Aphasia Mentoring Program



# Student Programs

⇒ **158 students** from **11** different UBC health and human service programs participated in the 2015-16 workshops

- \* Audiology and Speech Sciences: **12**
- \* Dentistry: **1**
- \* Dental Hygiene: **13**
- \* Dietetics: **3**
- \* Genetic Counselling: **2**
- \* Medicine: **1**
- \* Nursing: **44**
- \* Occupational Therapy: **7**
- \* Pharmacy: **52**
- \* Social Work: **15**
- \* Speech-Language Pathology: **6**



## Learning Outcomes

### At Patient & Community Voices Workshops, students learn:

- The varied and personal experiences of patients/clients living with a chronic condition or disability;
- The interactions that patients/clients have had with health professionals, and approaches to create positive relationships;
- The social impacts of living with a chronic condition or disability, such as stigma;
- Community resources and information available for health professionals and their patients/clients;
- The range of perspectives and scopes of practice of other health professions;
- Contributes 30 “exposure level” points to the student’s Interprofessional Education Passport.

**“There was a lot of valuable information that will allow me to be more comfortable working with interpreters and know how I can facilitate a discussion and best environment for a patient.” - 2nd year student**

**“I learned about the patients’ experiences with the healthcare teams. It was very helpful to learn about the patients’ perspectives and the physical and emotional changes that they went through.” - 1st year student**

**“I got to learn what would make a healthcare worker be more empathetic towards patients and how important they are in patients’ lives.” - 1st year student**

## Acknowledgements

Thank you to the community educators for volunteering, donating their time, and sharing their experiences with UBC students; it is greatly appreciated. As well, thank you to the program staff in different UBC departments and faculties for circulating our workshop invitations to their students!

**In the future:** we aim to continue to develop and present interprofessional workshops that enrich student learning, and to integrate the workshops into curriculum. We also aim to diversify the different health science disciplines that attend our workshops. The challenge is to acquire ongoing financial support for the coordination and communication of the workshops. The promise is enriched education for our students and social accountability by our academy.

Further Reading: [Patients as educators: Interprofessional learning for patient-centred care](#) by Angela Towle and William Godolphin *Medical Teacher* 2013; 35: 219–225.