



illustrations by Eric Hart

MEET THE MINISTERS

If there is one thing we Canadians love to talk about, it is healthcare (besides hockey of course!) Since there is no hockey this season, the editors of *Healthcare Quarterly* thought it would be a good idea to assemble the provincial and territorial health ministers and their deputies who make sure healthcare gets talked about across Canada. Also, it would give our readers something to talk about.

as of February 17, 2005

MEET THE MINISTERS

British Columbia

>> **Hon. Shirley Bond**

Minister of Health Services

Appointed: December 15, 2004



She has served as Deputy Premier since September 20, 2004. She previously served as Minister of Advanced Education since June 5, 2001. Minister Bond is also Vice-Chair of the Government Caucus Committee on Education. Ms. Bond served three terms on the Prince George School Board, the last as chair. She also worked with the continuing education department of the Prince George School District, becoming its business manager. She was given the BC Interior, North & Yukon Woman of Distinction Award for her work in public education. She was protocol director for the 2001 Special Olympic Summer Games.



>>> **Dr. Penny Ballem**

Deputy Minister of Health Services

Appointed: August 2001

For the past two decades Dr. Ballem has been a health administrator, an academic physician and an advisor both provincially and nationally. Her other

positions include vice-president of the Children's and Women's Health Centre of BC and clinical associate professor in the faculty of medicine at the University of BC. As well, Dr. Ballem was deputy medical director of the Canadian Red Cross, Blood Transfusion Service, in BC. She is known as an innovator for her work in developing a network of interdisciplinary health services for women throughout British Columbia and has received awards for her work in education, research and advocacy in women's health.

Alberta

>> **Hon. Iris Evans**

Minister of Health and Wellness

Appointed: November 25, 2004

In addition to her role as Minister, Ms. Evans serves as Vice-Chair of the Standing Policy Committee on Health and Community Living and as a member of Treasury Board. She served as Minister of Municipal Affairs and in May 1999 was appointed the province's first Minister of Children's Services. She serves as honorary volunteer chair for breast cancer research fundraising and provides support for the newly established Collective Kitchen in Strathcona County.



>> **Ms. Paddy Meade**

Deputy Minister, Alberta Health and Wellness

Appointed: November 2004

The ministry includes the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC), where Ms. Meade previously



served as CEO. She came to Health and Wellness after three years in Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. Ms. Meade's experience also includes six years as executive director of the Correctional Services Division Young Offender Branch for Alberta Justice. She was program director at the Enviro Wildness School in southern Alberta and spent several years working with youth in conflict with the law, including service as director of the Young Offender Centres in Calgary and as program director of the Strathmore Youth Development Centre.

Saskatchewan

>> **Hon. John T. Nilson, Q.C.**

Minister of Health and Minister

Responsible for Seniors

Appointed: February 8, 2001



John T. Nilson was born in Saskatoon and raised in western Canada.

He obtained his education at Pacific

Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA, University of Oslo, Norway and St. Olaf College in Minnesota, prior to obtaining his law degree from the University of British Columbia in 1977. He was admitted to the bar in Saskatchewan in 1979. He practised law and mediation from 1978 until he was elected as MLA for the Regina Lakeview Constituency in June, 1995. He was appointed to Cabinet as Minister of Justice and Attorney General in November, 1995.

>> **Mr. John Wright**

Deputy Minister of Health

Appointed: July 1, 2004

Mr. Wright began his extensive career in 1977 with Saskatchewan Finance. He served as Deputy Minister for Finance from 1990 to 1995.

Between 1995 and June 2004, Mr. Wright's appointments included: President and CEO of Saskatchewan Government Insurance; President of the Crown Investments Corporation; and President and CEO of SaskPower Corporation.

He has served on the Board of Governors for the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan, and is an Adjunct Professor in the faculty of Graduate Studies and Research at the University of Regina.



Manitoba

>> **Hon. Tim Sale**

Minister of Health

Appointed: October, 2004

Tim Sale was elected in 1995 to serve the Constituency of Crescentwood. For five years before his election, Tim owned a successful consulting business serving the healthcare, education and public finance sectors of governments



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across Canada. His 25 years of experience in management included five years of senior management experience in government. Tim taught at both the Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg in the field of economics, health policy and management. A Minister of the Anglican Church of Canada, Tim served two terms as a trustee for the Fort Garry School Division and eight years on the board of the United Way in Winnipeg, and was a spokesperson for the Manitoba Medicare Alert Coalition.

>> **Ms. Arlene Wilgosh**
Deputy Minister of Health
Appointed: January, 2005

Yukon

>> **Hon. Peter Jenkins**
Minister of Health and Social Services
Appointed: November 30, 2002

Peter Jenkins was first elected to represent Klondike in the Yukon Legislative Assembly in the 1996 general election. He was reelected in the general elections of April 17, 2000 and November 4, 2002.

Mr. Jenkins assumed the party leadership after the 2000 general election and held that position until June 2002. Before entering territorial politics Mr. Jenkins served as the Mayor of Dawson City for 14 years. Mr. Jenkins has been an active member of the Klondike Visitors Association. In 1984 he chaired the World Gold Panning Championship. He has also served as a fire and ambulance volunteer.

>> **Mr. John Greschner**
Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services
Appointed: July, 2004

Mr. Greschner began his career as a psychologist in rural and northern Saskatchewan and then served as a manager of community and mental health programs in a variety of hospital and community health organizations in Saskatchewan, Ontario and British Columbia. He has worked for the Government of British Columbia since 1988 in a number of senior positions including: Director of Salaried and Sessional Programs, Medical Services Plan; Executive Director of Pharmacare; Assistant Deputy Minister of Health; Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods; Deputy Commissioner and Chair of the Tribunal Division of the Childrens Commission; and Deputy Child and Youth Officer.

Nunavut

>> **Hon. Levinia Brown**
Minister of Health and Social Services
Appointed: March, 2003

Ms. Brown was the first teaching aid in Rankin Inlet. A graduate of St. Anthony Hospital in La Pas, Manitoba,



Ms. Brown has worked as a Certified Nursing Assistant in the Northwest Territories, BC and Alberta. She was instrumental in establishing an eastern board program (EATEP) in Iqaluit, and in 1980, became the first chairperson of the Keewatin Regional Education Authority.

>> **Mr. Bernie Blais**
Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services
Appointed: July, 2003.

Mr. Blais has more than 22 years of senior executive experience in the healthcare field, including service as an Assistant Deputy Minister of Health in Manitoba and President and CEO of Chatham-Kent Health Alliance.

Northwest Territories

>> **Hon. J. Michael Miltenberger**
Minister of Health and Social Services
Minister Responsible for Seniors
Minister Responsible for Persons with Disabilities
Appointed: 2003



J. Michael Miltenberger was elected to Cabinet on March 29, 1999 then reelected to Cabinet on October 31, 2001 and again December 10, 2003. Prior to Mr. Miltenberger's appointment to Cabinet, he served as Chair of Caucus and Western Caucus; Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Programs; and Member of the Standing Committees on Government Operations and Rules, Procedures and Privileges.

Mr. Miltenberger served six years as Regional Superintendent of Health and Social Services in Fort Smith. Active in the community, Mr. Miltenberger is a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Pelican Rapids Golf & Country Club, Senior Society and Fort Smith Métis Local #50.



>> **Mr. D.J. (Dave) Murray**
Deputy Minister, Department of Health and Social Services
Appointed: July 2002

Mr. Murray has been an employee of the Government of the Northwest Territories for over 26 years, originally joining the Government in 1978.

During his tenure with the Government, he served for ten years in the Department of Public Works as the Director of Finance, the Director of Policy, Planning and Training and the Director of Accommodation Services. Mr. Murray joined the Housing Corporation in 1992 as Vice-President of Community and Program Services (Operations) and was appointed President in May 1997. He was appointed Deputy Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs in February 2000.

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Ontario

>> **Hon. George Smitherman**
Minister of Health and Long-Term
Care for Ontario
Appointed: October, 2003



George Smitherman was elected in 1999 and reelected in 2003. In opposition, Mr. Smitherman served as deputy whip and held additional responsibilities as chair of the Greater Toronto Area caucus and as critic for financial institutions.

Prior to becoming an MPP, Mr. Smitherman had extensive experience at Queen's Park as well as first-hand knowledge of municipal and federal government. He served as chief of staff to Toronto mayor Barbara Hall. He also served as an advisor to federal Cabinet ministers David Collenette and Herb Gray. Mr. Smitherman is particularly proud of three initiatives that are helping to transform the Regent Park community.



>> **Mr. Ron Sapsford**
Deputy Minister of Health and
Long-Term Care for Ontario
Appointed: March 1, 2005

Prior to his appointment as the Deputy Minister of Health and Long-Term Care for Ontario, Mr. Sapsford was the Executive Vice-President and Chief

Operating Officer of Hamilton Health Sciences. Throughout his career he has served in a wide range of positions affecting hospitals and nursing homes, including his role as Assistant Deputy Minister with the Ministry of Health and as Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer of the Ontario Hospital Association. He brings extensive experience in the healthcare sector to the OPS as well as a strong commitment to his profession through teaching and committee work.

Quebec

>> **Hon. Philippe Couillard**
Minister of Health and Social
Services
Appointed: April 29, 2003



Dr. Philippe Couillard was awarded a doctorate in medicine from the Université de Montréal at the age of 22 and became a certified neurosurgeon at 28. By the time he was 32, he was the Head Surgeon of the Department of Neurosurgery at the Hôpital Saint-Luc. Actively involved in his medical practice as well as in teaching and medical administration, Mr. Philippe Couillard was a co-founder of the Department of Neurosurgery in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia (1992-1996). Until quite recently, Mr. Philippe Couillard held the position of Head Surgeon and Director of the Department of Surgery at the Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke, and was also a professor at the Faculty of Medicine of the Université de Sherbrooke. He also chairs the Comité ministériel du développement social (Ministerial Committee on Social Development).

>> **Mr. Juan Roberto Iglesias**
Deputy Minister of Health and
Social Services
Appointed: April, 2003



Mr. Iglesias graduated from the Université de Sherbrooke with a degree in medicine and was awarded a fellowship in epidemiology at McGill University. Since 1993, he has held the position of Assistant Dean of Clinical Sciences at the Faculty of Medicine of the Université de Sherbrooke, and until quite recently was a member and the chair of the Conseil médical du Québec (Québec Medical Council). Mr. Iglesias has served as Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Health and Associate Deputy Minister of Cross-Sectoral Coordination (1989-1993) within the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux. Prior to this, he held a full professorship at the Université de Sherbrooke and practised family medicine at the Farnham CLSC.

New Brunswick

>> **Hon. Elvy Robichaud**
Minister of Health and Wellness
Appointed: June 27, 2003



He was first elected as the member for the constituency of Tracadie in a September 26, 1994 byelection. A former Opposition House leader, Mr. Robichaud served on the legislature's Standing Committees on Procedure, Law Amendments, Public Accounts, and as a member of the Select Committee on Demographics. He also served as official Opposition critic for Health, Community Services, Municipalities, Culture, Sports, Fisheries and Aquaculture. An avid physical recreation enthusiast, he has been the recreation director for the Town of Tracadie, president of New Brunswick Special Olympics, co-chair of the Department of Education Adapted Physical Recreation Program Committee and treasurer of Leisure New Brunswick.

>> **Ms. Nora Kelly**
Deputy Minister of Health
and Wellness
Appointed: February 2001



Previous to this appointment, she was Deputy Minister of Training and Development. Some of the other positions Ms. Kelly has held include Deputy Minister of Labour, Assistant Deputy Minister for Corrections and Community Services as well as Vice-President, Operations for the Workplace, Safety and Compensation Commission. Ms. Kelly holds a Diplôme d'alliance Française (Paris), a B.A. in Political Science from Loyola College (Montreal) and an M.B.A. from Concordia University (Montreal).



Nova Scotia

>> **Hon. Angus MacIsaac**
Minister of Health
Appointed: August, 2003

Mr. MacIsaac was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1969, at the age of 25. He returned to Nova Scotia legislature with election in July 1999 and was reelected in 2003. His Cabinet duties have included Minister of: Education; Housing; and Municipal Affairs. He has been Minister responsible for the administration of the Youth Secretariat Act. He is a past president of the Nova Scotia Progressive Conservative Association. Mr. MacIsaac has served on a number of provincial and national boards and committees.

>> **Ms. Cheryl A. Doiron**

Deputy Minister of Health, Nova Scotia Department of Health
Appointed: October, 2004

Cheryl is a senior health executive with extensive experience in operations, planning and systems change management. Prior to coming to Nova Scotia, she was responsible for integrated health services in Surrey, NB. Previously, she worked for a number of years in her home province of New Brunswick. During the initial years of regionalization in that province, she was the Vice-President of Operations and Planning at the Atlantic Health Services Corporation.

During her four years as Associate Deputy, Cheryl has been the Chief Operating Officer of the Department of Health. She has also been a long-standing, certified member of the Canadian College of Health Service Executives and has served on various provincial and national boards.



Newfoundland & Labrador

>> **Hon. John Ottenheimer**
Minister of Health and Community Services
Appointed: October, 2004

Mr. Ottenheimer was elected in St. John's East in the general elections of 1996, 1999 and 2003. He has served in the PC Caucus as the Chair of the Strategy Committee, the Chair of the PC Caucus and the critic for the portfolios of Education, Justice, Treasury Board, Mines and Energy, and Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs. He is a past Director and Fundraising Chairperson with the Newfoundland and Labrador Heart and Stroke Foundation; he served as Subcommittee Chairperson with the Law Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador; and he has served as Honorary Chair of the Eastern Avalon Chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada.

>> **Mr. John G. Abbott**

Deputy Minister of Health and Community Services
Appointed: December, 2004

Over the past three years, John served as the voluntary Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Healthcare Corporation of St. John's. Mr. Abbott has had a successful private management consulting practice that allowed him to undertake assignments in such diverse areas as the design and delivery of healthcare services, electronic service delivery, organizational analysis and general government services. Previously, Mr. Abbott served with distinction as a senior executive with the provincial government. In 1999, he was recognized for his contribution to public service in the province by being awarded the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Public Administration by the Institute for Public Administration of Canada.

Prince Edward Island

>> **Hon. J. Chester Gillan**

Minister of Health and Social Services and Minister Responsible for Seniors
Appointed: October 9, 2003

Chester Gillan was first elected as a Conservative MLA in 1996 and was reelected in 2000 and again in 2003. He served as Minister of Education from November 1996 to May 2000 and Minister of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Environment from November 2000 to August 2002. He was re-appointed Minister of Education on August 22, 2002 and retained the Environment portfolio. Mr. Gillan is past president of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, served as chair of the Council of Ministers of Education of Canada from 1996-1997 and is a charter member of the Canadian Environmental Education Association. Mr. Gillan has also served as a director for Island Nature Trust.



>> **Mr. David B. Riley**

Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services
Appointed: August, 2003

In 1989, Mr. Riley left his private law practice for an appointment with the Department of Provincial Affairs and Attorney General, Legal Aid Division. In 1996, he was appointed as Deputy Minister of Community Services and the Deputy Attorney General with the provincial government. Mr. Riley served in this capacity until 1999 when he accepted the position of CEO of East Prince Health. He has been involved in professional activities including membership with the Prince Edward Island Law Society from 1980 to the present and has served on various committees. An active member in his community, he served on various boards including the United Way, the PEI Hockey Association and the Kensington Area Figure Skating Club.

