

**World Indigenous Cancer Conference (WICC)**  
**12th - 14th April 2016**  
**Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre**  
**Queensland, Australia**

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**Keynote Speakers**

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**Professor David R Williams**

Florence Sprague Norman & Laura Smart Norman  
Professor of Public Health; Professor of African and African American Studies and of Sociology; Co-Leader, Cancer Risk Reduction and Disparities Program, Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center; Harvard University, USA

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Professor Williams is the Florence and Laura Norman Professor of Public Health at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Professor of African and African American Studies and of Sociology at Harvard University. Previously, he served 6 years on the faculty of Yale University and 14 at the University of Michigan. He holds an MPH from Loma Linda University and a PhD in Sociology from the University of Michigan.

Prof. Williams is an internationally recognized authority on social influences on health. His research has enhanced our understanding of the complex ways in which socioeconomic status, race, stress, racial discrimination and religious involvement can affect physical and mental health. The Everyday Discrimination scale that he developed is currently one of the most widely used measures to assess perceived discrimination in health studies. In recent years, Prof. Williams has been very interested in social inequalities in cancer. He directed the Lung Cancer Disparities Center at Harvard and serves on the Steering Committee for the California Breast Cancer Research Program’s Special Research Initiative on disparities in breast cancer and the environment and breast cancer. He is the author of more than 365 scholarly papers and he was ranked as one of the Top 10 Most Cited Researchers in the Social Sciences in the world in 2005 and as the Most Cited Black Scholar in the Social Sciences in 2008. In 2014, Thomson Reuters ranked him as one of the World's Most Influential Scientific Minds.

He has received numerous honors and awards. He is an elected to member of the Institute of Medicine and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has also received an inaugural Decade of Behavior Research Award, the Leo G. Reeder Award from the American Sociological Association, and the Stephen Smith Award for Distinguished Contributions in Public Health from the New York Academy of Medicine.
Professor Tom Calma AO  
National Coordinator Tackling Indigenous Smoking, Australia

Professor Calma is an Aboriginal Elder from the Kungarakan tribal group and a member of the Iwaidja tribal group whose traditional lands are south west of Darwin and on the Cobourg Peninsula in the Northern Territory of Australia, respectively. He has been involved in Indigenous affairs at a local, community, state, national and international level and worked in the public sector for 40 years and is currently on a number of boards and committees focusing on rural and remote Australia, health, education, justice reinvestment, reconciliation and economic development. These include the Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre; Poche Centres for Indigenous Health Network; Ninti-One Ltd/Cooperative Research Centre for Remote Economic Participation; National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership in Mental Health; Reconciliation Australia and the National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples’ Ethics Committee.

Prof. Calma was Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission 2004-2010 and Race Discrimination Commissioner 2004-2009.

Prof. Calma was inaugural Chair of the Close the Gap Steering Committee for Indigenous Health Equality, helped establish the National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples, developed the inaugural National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy, and lead the way in promotion of Justice Reinvestment.

Prof. Calma is currently National Coordinator, Tackling Indigenous Smoking, and Chancellor of the University of Canberra (the first Indigenous male Chancellor of an Australian university).

In 2012 Prof. Calma was awarded an Order of Australia; Officer of the General Division (AO), and in 2013 was ACT Australian of the Year; both awarded for service to the Indigenous community and as an advocate for human rights and social justice. In November 2014 Prof. Calma was awarded the Indigenous Allied Health Australia Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his lifelong dedication to improving the lives of Indigenous Australians.

Prof. Calma was appointed a Professor at the University of Sydney Medical School in March 2015 to perform the role of Chair and Patron of the Poche Centres for Indigenous Health Network.
Associate Professor Gail Garvey
Division leader of Epidemiology and Health Systems, Australia

Associate Professor Garvey is an Indigenous researcher who is currently leading two large national grants: a National Centre of Research Excellence in Cancer and Indigenous People; and a Cancer Council New South Wales Strategic Research Partnership Grant with investigators from leading research institutes across Australia. She is also currently a chief investigator of other large epidemiological and psycho-oncology cancer projects that are reviewing support services, screening programs, system approaches to service delivery and the feasibility of specific interventions to improve the outcomes in cancer for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

She plays a leadership role in Indigenous cancer research nationally and was instrumental in bringing together key cancer researchers, clinicians and Indigenous consumers to identify cancer research priorities in 2010. Gail advocates involving Indigenous stakeholders and clinicians throughout the research process to achieve maximum impact from research, and has an impressive record in Indigenous research capacity-building.

Dr Chris Wild
Director, International Agency for Research on Cancer, France

The main research interest of Christopher P. Wild is to understand the interplay between environmental and genetic risk factors in the causation of human cancer. He particularly seeks to apply biomarkers in population-based studies to this end. His specific areas of research have been focused on liver and oesophageal cancers.

He was Professor of Molecular Epidemiology at the University of Leeds from 1996 and Director of the Leeds Institute of Genetics, Health and Therapeutics before being appointed as Director of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (WHO/IARC, Lyon, France) in 2009.
Professor Richard Sullivan
Professor of Cancer & Global Health at Kings College London, Director at the Institute of Cancer Policy, and Co-Director of King’s Conflict & Health Research Group, England

Richard Sullivan is Professor of Cancer & Global Health at Kings College London (KCL), Director, Institute of Cancer Policy and Co-Director of King’s Conflict & Health Research Group. Richard serves on the executive boards of King’s Health Partners Comprehensive Cancer Centre, the Centre for Global Health at King’s and the Union for International Cancer Control. He also holds Visiting Chairs at the Universidad Catolica, Santiago and Tata Memorial Centre, and is an elected Fellow of the European Academy of Cancer Sciences.

Richard is past UK Director of the Council for Emerging National Security Affairs (CENSA) a national security think-tank where he specialised in counter-proliferation and the security implications of global health. Richard qualified in medicine, and trained in surgery (urology) gaining his PhD in cell signalling from University College London. He was clinical director of Cancer Research UK between 1999 and 2008. Following a period at the London School of Economics working on complex healthcare systems he moved to King’s College London in 2011.

Richard’s research programmes focus on global cancer policy and conflict & health. In cancer public policy he has worked on a range of global policy research programmes, most recently Lancet Commission on Global Surgery 2030, Lancet Series on Women’s Equity, Health and Cancer and the Lancet Oncology Commission on Global Cancer Surgery. The King’s Conflict & Research Group is also carrying out a Lancet Commission into Civil-Military co-operation in Global Health, in addition to a wide variety of field studies including: basic package of health services in Afghanistan, armed violence reduction as public health measure, intelligence, security and global health, and health intelligence in the Syrian conflict. Richard has worked extensively in many conflict regions from the Balkans through to Afghanistan, Libya, Syria and DR Congo in both healthcare systems reconstruction and cancer control.
Mr Romlie Mokak  
CEO The Lowitja Institute, Australia

Mr Mokak has been the Chief Executive Officer of the Lowitja Institute, Australia’s national institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research, since July 2014. Prior to this appointment, Mr Mokak was the CEO of the Australian Indigenous Doctors Association (AIDA) in Canberra, building that organisation into a substantial and critical contributor to improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

A Djugun man from Western Australia, Mr Mokak was born in Darwin and has extensive experience in medical education and workforce development. He has also worked at community, state and national levels in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander policy areas, including disability, ageing, population health, financing and substance use. He holds a Bachelor of Social Science degree and a Postgraduate Diploma in Special Education. He has also completed the Australian and New Zealand Health Leadership Program.

Dr Linda Burhansstipanov  
Director, Native American Cancer Research, USA

Linda Burhansstipanov, MSPH, DrPH, (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma) has worked in public health since 1971, primarily with Native American issues. She taught full-time at universities for 18 years (CSULB and UCLA). She developed and implemented the Native American Cancer Research Program at the National Cancer Institute from 1989-1993. She is the founder and National Grants Director of Native American Cancer Research Corporation. She currently is the principal investigator and subcontractor for >5 NIH grants. She serves on multiple federal advisory boards. She has over 125 peer-reviewed publications, of which most address Native American cancer, public health and data issues.

Fun Fact: LB is in the beginning phases of re-training a 5 year old Tennessee Walker Horse who keeps dislocating his neck vertebrae by toss 300+ pound tree stumps (for his new round training pen)
Dr Alexandra King  
MD, FRCPC, Canada

Dr. Alexandra King, MD, FRCPC, is a member of the Nipissing First Nation (Ontario). Her clinical work mainly focuses on HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C, which disproportionately affect First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. Her research interests include HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C; also Indigenous wellness and identity. She serves on many local and national initiatives, including CIHR HIV/AIDS Community-Based Research Steering Committee, Canadian National Aboriginal Working Group on HIV & AIDS, the Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development, and CanHepC. She is also the co-lead for the CIHR Canadian HIV Trials Network Working Group for Health for People Who Use Drugs.

Dr Julia Brotherton  
Public health physician; Medical Director of National HPV Vaccination Program Register, Australia

Dr. Brotherton is a public health physician and Medical Director of Australia’s National HPV Vaccination Program Register. She is a medical graduate from the University of Newcastle, NSW, has a Masters degree in Public Health and a Doctorate of Philosophy from the University of Sydney and holds a Fellowship in Public Health Medicine.

For the past ten years Dr. Brotherton has been involved in research and policy development informing the implementation and evaluation of HPV vaccination programs in Australia. She has been a lead investigator in Australian research which has demonstrated the world’s first evidence of dramatic declines in both HPV infections and pre-cancerous cervical lesions in young women post- vaccination. She has over 100 publications to date.
**Dr Angeline Letendre**  
*Lead Scientist, Community Research Stream at Alberta Cancer Prevention Legacy Fund, Alberta Health Services, Canada*

Dr. Letendre is a current board member, and research chair for the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada (ANAC). Dr. Letendre is the first person of Aboriginal descent to graduate from the University of Alberta with a doctoral degree in Nursing. Building on more than two decades of frontline nursing experience, the focus of Dr. Letendre’s career has been to contribute to the improved wellness of First Nations, Inuit and Metis people. This has included work in cultural competency skills development in indigenous nursing, community-based research and partnered activities at local, provincial and national levels, as well as cancer care strategy and program planning.

Currently Dr. Letendre is a primary co-Lead for two 3-year projects funded through the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer in partnership with First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples of Alberta and Alberta Health Services. Recently, Dr. Letendre has joined forces with researchers from Australia, New Zealand and the United States to investigate the cancer research interests for Indigenous peoples from these countries. Outcomes of this work promise to include the development of international researcher-level partnerships for the exploration, strategy development and recommendations in cancer-related research with Indigenous populations in the associated countries.

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**Professor Diana Sarfati**  
*Public health physician; co-Head of Department of the Department of Public Health and the Director of the Cancer Control and Screening Research Group at University of Otago, New Zealand*

Professor Diana Sarfati is a public health physician and cancer epidemiologist with a particular interest in addressing inequities in cancer outcomes between ethnic groups in New Zealand. She is the co-Head of Department of the Department of Public Health and the Director of the Cancer Control and Screening Research Group at University of Otago, Wellington.
Prof. Sarfati has led several studies investigating patient and health system factors that influence cancer survival. She is involved in a number of national and international cancer-related collaborations, particularly in relation to social and ethnic inequities in cancer outcomes, and the interactions between comorbidity and cancer.

Prof. Sarfati is currently a member of the National Screening Advisory Committee, the National Bowel Cancer Working Group, the Health Promotion Committee of the Cancer Society (National), and the Medical and Scientific Committee of the Cancer Society (Wellington). She was previously a member of the National Ethics Advisory Committee and the Bowel Cancer Taskforce, both as a Ministerial appointee, and a member of the New Zealand Cancer Registry Clinical Advisory Group.

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**Dr John Waldon**

Research advisor and consultant with 2Tama Limited; Conjoint Lecturer, Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit, School of Public Health & Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of NSW, Australia

Dr John Waldon, whose grandfather served in the Australian Army, is of European, Chinese and Maori descent, is a life member of the Cancer Society of New Zealand (Manawatu Centre), a member of the Public Health Association of New Zealand and the Paediatrics Society of New Zealand.

Currently a conjoint lecturer at UNSW, it was while he was a Laboratory Manager for the Hepatitis Research Unit at Whakatane Hospital (1988-1994) that Dr. Waldon began his health research career and his interest in cancer and the well-being of Indigenous children. His health research career includes three international appointments that began with a Short Term Consultancy in the EPI section of the Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) of the World Health Organization (WHO) to investigate the use of Hepatitis B vaccine in 2003, and two fellowships. Dr. Waldon contributes to the International Group for Indigenous Health Measurement (IGIHM) and has also co-authored many research reports informing the development of Maori health care and policy while at Massey University (1994-2011). Dr Waldon’s experience in these roles combined with his research experience enables him to provide a Maori perspective based on a careful analysis of a wide variety of information sources as a research consultant.
Dr Judith Salmon Kaur
Medical Director for the Native American Programs of the Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center, Professor of Oncology at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Director of the Mayo Clinic Hospice Program and Palliative Care Task Force, USA

Dr Kaur is the medical director for the Native American Programs of the Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center and in this role develops and oversees programs geared towards cancer education and prevention, including; Native C.I.R.C.L.E., which provides and develops culturally appropriate cancer education materials for lay persons, allied health and clinicians working in Native communities, and; "Spirit of Eagles", a Community Networks Program with outreach nationally to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Dr. Kaur’s research also includes a special interest in women’s cancers, particularly breast and cervical cancer. Dr. Kaur is a Professor of Oncology at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. She is also the Director of the Mayo Clinic Hospice Program and Palliative Care Task Force. Dr. Kaur is Choctaw/Cherokee and one of only 2 American Indian medical oncologists in the country.

In 2007, Dr. Kaur was awarded “Physician of the Year” by the Association of American Indian Physicians. In the following year, 2008, she was appointed to the National Cancer Advisory Board by President George W. Bush (4 year appointment) and was also became a Fellow of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Care. Dr. Kaur is one of the Medical Directors for Mayo Clinic's Hospice program and the Research Director for the Palliative Care Program and Course Director for an "Intensive Case-based Training in Palliative Care" for the Indian Health Service.
**Professor Patsy Yates**  
Head of School, School of Nursing, Faculty of Health, Queensland University of Technology; Director, Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education (CPCRE), Queensland Health, Australia

Professor Patsy Yates is jointly appointed as Head, School of Nursing at Queensland University of Technology and Director for Queensland Health’s statewide Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education (CPCRE). She has over 30 years’ experience in research, education and clinical practice in cancer and palliative care. She leads a range of research and service improvement programs focused on developing workforce capacity in cancer and palliative care, advancing the management of cancer related symptoms and treatment side effects, and strengthening the nexus between research, policy and practice in cancer care. She is currently President for Palliative Care Australia.

She was a member of the Executive Committee for the International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care from 2004-2012. Professor Yates has also been a member of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Queensland since 2008. She is regularly invited to provide expert advice to professional groups and government bodies, and has held ministerial appointments on a number of Boards and Committees for Federal and State Governments. Professor Yates has received awards in recognition of her research, teaching and service, including being awarded the Tom Reeve Oration Award for Outstanding Contribution to Cancer Care and Life Membership from the Cancer Nurses Society of Australia as well as the Clinical Oncological Society of Australia. In 2010, she was awarded a Citation from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning. Professor Yates is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and has recently been inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame.
Professor Helen Zorbas AO  
CEO, Cancer Australia; Conjoint Professor, School of Medicine, University of Western Sydney, Australia

Professor Zorbas is CEO of Cancer Australia, the Australian government’s national agency in cancer control. She has been responsible for directing a number of national cancer control initiatives to improve evidence-based practice, policy and health service delivery, in both the clinical and psycho-social aspects of cancer care. Professor Zorbas has chaired and held positions on a number of key national government cancer and health committees. She is Conjoint Professor in the School of Medicine, University of Western Sydney. Her clinical experience is as a general practitioner and specialist breast physician, in both public and private sectors.

In 2013 Professor Zorbas was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in recognition of her distinguished service to public health through leadership in the delivery of improved information and services to cancer patients and their families and contributions to research and clinical trials.

Ms Leanne Pilkington  
Aboriginal Program Officer, BreastScreen, Australia

Leanne Pilkington is a Nyoongar woman from WA. She and her husband share six children and seventeen grandchildren – so far. Family is most important to her. Leanne has worked with BreastScreen WA for 9 years and has contributed to cross-cultural awareness training programs with BreastScreen WA, RPH and the WA Cancer Council and presented at various state, national and international conferences. She has a Bachelor of Social Science (Indigenous Service) is currently studying her Masters of Philosophy, International Health. She was awarded the WA NAIDOC Scholar of the Year in 2003. But her most important award is written on her coffee cup – “World’s Best Mum”.

Leanne is passionate about Aboriginal and Women’s health issues and has worked in Health, Aged Care and Education before ending up at BreastScreen WA. It was karma, as several members of her extended family have battled breast cancer and some still are. She sees this as her chance for ‘payback’ against the disease. By raising awareness of breast cancer and breast screening to Indigenous women and encouraging women to participate, she feels that she is getting her own back at this disease.
Ms Lisa Whop  
PhD Candidate, Menzies School of Health Research, Australia

Lisa Whop is a descendent of the Goemulgal people of Mabuiag Island in the Torres Strait Islands and also has family connections to the darling downs region in South West Queensland.

Lisa’s research to date has focused on improving outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with cancer. Her PhD project is focused on the Queensland part of the National Indigenous Cervical Screening Project – the first population-based study in Australia to investigate Indigenous women’s participation in cervical screening, prevalence of cervical abnormalities and time to clinical follow-up following the detection of a high-grade lesion. Her research interests include women’s health, Indigenous health and health systems research.

She graduated from a Bachelor of Medical Science from the Queensland University of Technology in 2008 and a Masters of Applied Epidemiology from the Australian National University in 2011. Currently, Lisa is enrolled at the Charles Darwin University and is in the final stages of completing her PhD. She is supported by a Sidney Myer Health Scholarship, a scholarship from the Lowitja Institute and a top-up from Menzies Enhanced Living Scholarship.

Dr Freddie Bray  
Head, Section of Cancer Surveillance, International Agency for Research on Cancer, France

Dr Bray is Head of the Cancer Surveillance Section at the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), in Lyon, France. He has worked previously at IARC 1998-2005 and at the Cancer Registry of Norway and University of Oslo 2005-2010. He has a PhD in Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and degrees in Statistics from the University of Aberdeen and Medical Statistics from the University of Leicester, U.K. His areas of research revolve around the descriptive epidemiology of cancer, including the estimation of the global cancer burden and the analysis of time trends including global predictions of the future scale and profile of cancer linked to human development transitions. He has close to 200 book chapters and articles in journals including The Lancet, Lancet Oncology, JNCI and Nature Reviews Cancer. In support of the overwhelming need for high quality cancer surveillance systems given their current paucity and an ever-increasing cancer problem, Dr Bray leads the Global Initiative for Cancer Registration (http://gicr.iarc.fr), an international multi-partner program designed to ensure a sustainable expansion of the coverage and quality of population-based cancer registries in LMIC through tailored, localized support and advocacy to individual countries.
Associate Professor Nadine Caron  
Co-Director, Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health; Associate Professor, UBC Faculty of Medicine’s School of Population and Public Health, Canada

Finishing at the top of her class, in 1997 Dr. Nadine Caron became the first Indigenous woman to graduate from the UBC Faculty of Medicine, and was named one of Macleans’ “100 Canadians to Watch.” After completing her surgical residency at the University of California San Francisco and her Masters of Public Health at Harvard, she recognized that her heart – and research interests – lay in Canada. She returned to British Columbia, where she now holds the positions of General and Endocrine surgeon at the University Hospital of Northern British Colombia, Associate Professor in UBC’s Northern Medical Program, associate faculty member at John Hopkins Centre for American Indian Health and Co-Director of the Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health at UBC. Nadine is passionate about health policy and has served on many committees to help shape Canada’s health agenda. She is internationally renowned for her advocacy work to address the special health needs and disparities of rural, remote, northern and Aboriginal communities.