

Virtual CGEM Seminar Series January 13th - Dr. Laura Arbour

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Virtual CGEM Seminar Series

Sponsored by:

Genome Atlantic and Dalhousie University

**Please Join us virtually on January 13th via Microsoft Teams for a presentation titled
*"Solutions and Challenges in achieving equity in genetic and genomic health care
for Indigenous People of Canada: The Silent Genomes Project"***

Presented by Dr. Laura Arbour



Presenter Biography:

Dr. Laura Arbour is a Professor in the Department of Medical Genetics at the University of British Columbia, situated at the Island Medical Program on Vancouver Island. She is a clinician scientist who has dedicated her medical career to addressing genetic issues affecting health in Indigenous populations.

Trained as both a pediatrician and clinical geneticist (McGill University) her multifaceted Community Genetics Research Program tackles rare, single gene disorders (Long QT syndrome), and more complex conditions (congenital anomalies, infant mortality, primary biliary cholangitis). Clinically, she is the Medical Genetics lead of the BC Inherited Arrhythmia Program. She is also currently the project lead on a Genome Canada/Genome BC/CIHR funded Large Scale Research Project, entitled "Silent Genomes: Reducing health-care disparities and improving diagnostic success for Indigenous children with genetic disease" which aims to address the challenges of equitable access to genetic/genomic diagnosis and care for Canadian Indigenous populations.

Title of Presentation:

"Solutions and Challenges in Achieving Equity in Genetic and Genomic Health Care for Indigenous People of Canada: The Silent Genomes Project"

Key Points:

- 1) Historical barriers to equitable genetic and genomic health care and research will be reviewed and acknowledged.
- 2) Current barriers to genetic and genomic diagnosis, including a lack of Indigenous genomic reference data in public databases, will be presented.
- 3) In keeping with the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, the role of Indigenous governance of biomedical samples and data will be emphasized.
- 4) The Silent Genomes Project's approach to working with Indigenous scholars, patients, families and communities to focus on potential solutions to reducing the equity gap will be discussed.

When: Wednesday, January 13th, 2021 at 12:00-1:00pm

Where: Microsoft Teams. The link will be distributed via email shortly after registration is complete.

REGISTER HERE: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cgem-seminar-series-january-13th-dr-laura-arbour-tickets-132433230357>



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