

# CONSORTIUM FOR Nursing History Inquiry



a place of mind  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

School of Nursing  
Faculty of Applied Science

# Nursing History Symposium

**Thursday**  
**November 20, 2014**  
**10:00am – 2:30pm**

UBC School of Nursing  
Room T182 • UBC Hospital  
2211 Wesbrook Mall  
Vancouver, BC

## Registration

General: \$15.00

Students and Retirees: \$10.00

**RSVP Online by Nov 19th**

For assistance call 604-822-1409

## PROGRAM

10:00

### Welcome & Coffee

10:15 – 10:30

Geertje Boschma, Professor, UBC School of Nursing & Faculty Lead for the Consortium for Nursing History Inquiry: "Historical Research: Context and Perspective on Nursing and Health."

10:30 – 11:10

Mona Gleason, Professor, Educational Studies, UBC: "Constructing Child Health."

11:10 – 11:45

Commentary & Discussion:  
Judy Lynam, Professor, UBC School of Nursing and Gladys McPherson, Assistant Professor, UBC School of Nursing

11:45 – 1:00

### Lunch in Room T187/T188

1:00 – 1:40

Linda Quiney, Historian: "Veiled Concerns: Social and Professional Tensions of VAD's and Military Nurses during the First World War."

1:40 – 2:15

Commentary & Discussion:  
Glennis Zilm, Honorary Professor, UBC School of Nursing and Susan Duncan, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, Thompson Rivers University

2:15 – 2:30

### Closing



IRVING K. BARBER LEARNING CENTRE

[nursinghistory@nursing.ubc.ca](mailto:nursinghistory@nursing.ubc.ca)

[@ubcnursing](https://twitter.com/ubcnursing) [#ubcnursinghistory](https://twitter.com/ubcnursinghistory)

[Register Online Here](#)

# Nursing History Symposium

## Abstracts

### **Mona Gleason: Constructing Child Health**

This presentation explores how health professionals contributed to conceptions of “the healthy child” in early twentieth century Canada. Based on her recently published book entitled *Small Matters: Canadian Children in Sickness and Health, 1900 to 1940* (McGill-Queens, 2013), Mona Gleason will focus on how and why increasing attention to the health of children on the part of doctors, nurses and educators in schools changed the culture of childhood and the culture of nursing in this critical period of change. Gleason asks how, and with what consequences for youngsters and their families, adult professionals contributed to the social construction of what was considered “healthy” and “normal.”

Mona Gleason is a Professor in the Department of Educational Studies at UBC. She specializes in the history of children and youth and the history of education. Her new book, *Small Matters: Canadian Children in Sickness and in Health, 1900-1940* appeared in 2013 with McGill-Queens University Press.

**Respondents:** Judy Lynam, Professor, UBC School of Nursing  
Gladys McPherson, Assistant Professor, UBC School of Nursing

### **Linda Quiney: Veiled Concerns: Social and Professional Tensions of Voluntary Aid Detachment's and Military Nurses during the First World War**

Some 2,000 Canadian and Newfoundland VADs were recruited to serve as Voluntary Aid Detachment nursing assistants during the First World War. With only a brief training and minimal hospital experience, the VADs entered the unfamiliar world of the military hospital to work alongside the qualified Canadian military nurses at home, and British military nurses overseas, performing tasks that ranged from scrubbing floors and cleaning bedpans, to applying dressings and foment, and even assisting in the operating theatres. In this discussion Linda Quiney examines the boundaries that defined the VADs' place at the bedside, the contested space of the wartime hospital wards, and the challenges they presented to the authority of the nursing professionals.

Linda Quiney is a historian. She has taught health history courses at the Department of History at UBC and is affiliate member of the Consortium for Nursing History Inquiry at the UBC School of Nursing. Currently she is working on a book on Canadian Women as Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) nurses during and after World War One.

**Respondents:** Glennis Zilm, Honorary Professor, UBC School of Nursing  
Susan Duncan, Associate Professor, School of Nursing,  
Thompson Rivers University