



Joint Centre for Bioethics
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

5th ANNUAL UPSHUR LECTURE ON PUBLIC HEALTH ETHICS

Tuesday, November 29, 2016, 4:10-5:30 pm
Health Science Building, 155 College Street, **Room 100**
(please note change in date and room location)

This event will be webcast.

To join the seminar:

<https://jcb.adobeconnect.com/bioethicsseminars/>

Evidence, Ethics and the Epistemology: A Three-Legged Stool of Public Health Policy

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President and CEO, Council of Canadian Academies

Abstract: It is now *de rigueur* for governments to embrace the value of using evidence in policy development, often referring to 'evidence-based' or 'evidence-informed' policy as a goal. The justification is that data provide an objective foundation on which to develop policy, avoiding perceptions of bias, ideology or subjectivity. This approach is satisfying at many levels, but may unwittingly camouflage two other values of equal import: the value of adopting an explicit epistemic stance about how evidence can/should be used; the value of incorporating ethical considerations into all policy deliberations from problem formulation to implementation.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

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A partnership among the University of Toronto; Centre for Addiction and Mental Health; Holland Bloorview Kids Rehab; The Hospital for Sick Children; Humber River Hospital; Mount Sinai Hospital; Toronto Community Care Access Centre; Trillium Health Partners; and University Health Network (Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto General Hospital, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, and Toronto Western Hospital).