



Canadian Association  
for Global Health

Association canadienne  
pour la santé mondiale



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Canadian Association for Global Health

## VISION

A vibrant global health community creating a healthier and more equitable world.

## MISSION

To connect, engage, and mobilize a strong global health community across Canada and internationally in support of health equity.

## ABOUT US

The Canadian Association for Global Health (CAGH) is a convener, partner, and champion for health equity. We bring together a vibrant global health community working to create a healthier and more equitable world. Our actions are rooted in collaborative research, learning, advocacy, policy and practice and driven by knowledge exchange, the design and delivery of meaningful international projects, and the flagship annual Canadian Conference on Global Health (CCGH).

We are a member-based, not-for-profit organization representing, and supported by, researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and students with academic and civil society partnerships across Canada and globally.

CAGH is the outcome of a member-supported amalgamation of the Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH) and the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research (CCGHR) and builds on our more than 60 years of combined history, leadership, and action.



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## Chair's Message

I am pleased to provide a welcome message for the 2024 annual report of the Canadian Association for Global Health. What a fantastic year of rebuilding at CAGH! There are many achievements, big and small, that we wish to highlight.

We witnessed a great outpouring of member support this year, particularly in the early part of 2024 after the short pause in operations we had in late 2023. We received dozens of expressions of interest for new Board positions, we held numerous well-attended member consultation and information meetings, and also met with government funders and other partners. This was a time of creative reimagining. I am very grateful for all the members and volunteers who stepped forward - it was inspiring to see the central value of global health equity continuing to inspire and guide us.

The CAGH Board and consultant staff worked diligently this year to stabilize and strengthen internal systems, build additional confidence among our members and partners as well as strengthen our organizational mandate and sustainability. We were pleased to welcome Nelko Mahlyanov Financial Support Consultant and Cameal Soverall Consultant Event Manager to the team. We also want to acknowledge CAGH Intern Ali Alansari for his work during his summer practicum.

In September, Board members Tina Lines and Lubna Bhayani attended the annual meetings of the Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa (CARTA) in Nairobi, Kenya. CAGH is a non-African partner in CARTA and we are proud to support this Consortium and its impactful capacity development activities.

Our flagship event of the year occurred in October with the Canadian Conference for Global Health (CCGH 2024). With critical support from many funders and partners, the fearless leadership of Co-Chairs Dr. Margaret Mutumba and Dr. Michelle Amri and Event Manager Cameal Soverall, the 30th annual conference took place in beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia. Thank you to Simon Fraser University downtown campus for hosting us and to the entire conference committee, sponsors and the more than 700 people who participated in-person and online.

The theme “polycrisis and global health” was critical and timely. CCGH 2024 brought a diverse group of people together and the conversations and networking at the conference was again inspiring. The Board also welcomed eight new members in October which provided a welcomed flow of new ideas and energy as well. So much to be grateful for and celebrate this year!

I am proud of CAGH and must acknowledge the many members, Board, staff and volunteers who contributed so much in 2024. Please enjoy the overview of our year’s activities!

Sincerely,  
Colleen Davison  
Chair, CAGH Board of Directors



# 30th Canadian Conference on Global Health

## Poly-crisis and global health: How can we improve human health and equity while protecting the planet?

The 2023 Canadian Conference on Global Health (CCGH 2023) was held from October 16 to 18, in Ottawa, and was delivered in a hybrid format.

In recent years, the world has experienced a series of economic, social, geopolitical, and environmental shocks that have impacted our development, well-being, and collective future. In Canada, we have seen inequities being exacerbated by concomitant crises affecting our health, education, housing, and ecological systems. The current global context is particularly challenging: the COVID-19 pandemic added an additional source of complexity; increasing state-sponsored violence over the past three years, such as in Artsakh, Ethiopia, Gaza, Sudan, and Ukraine, has also raised concern among humanitarian health communities due to its multi-layered impact on civilian

populations as well as the growing impunity of the state perpetrators of this violence. It is estimated that a combination of these shocks will result in 2.1 billion people living in fragile or extremely fragile countries by 2030

This combination of events, the COVID-19 pandemic, extreme climatic events, degradation of food and land systems, global instability precipitated by war and conflict, high energy prices, and inflation, have stalled, and even reversed progress. This has been termed as “poly-crisis”, an interconnected web of simultaneous adversities manifesting interdependently in a globalized world. Through complex and interrelated pathways, these critical events impact our health and well-being, and our planet.

Poly-crises and global health sub-themes addressed at CCGH 2024:

- Unpacking the drivers of poly-crisis.
- Mitigating and adapting to the impacts of poly-crisis.

## 2024 CANADIAN CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL HEALTH / 2024 CONFÉRENCE CANADIENNE SUR LA SANTÉ MONDIALE SAVE THE DATE/ RÉSERVE CETTE DATE

THEME: "POLY-CRISIS AND GLOBAL HEALTH: HOW CAN WE IMPROVE  
HUMAN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING, WHILE PROTECTING THE PLANET?"/  
THÈME: "POLY-CRISE ET SANTÉ MONDIALE : COMMENT POUVONS-NOUS  
AMÉLIORER LA SANTÉ ET LE BIEN-ÊTRE DES HUMAINS, TOUT EN  
PROTÉGEANT LA PLANÈTE?"

OCTOBER 25-27, 2024



25-27 OCTOBRE 2024

VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA

[www.cagh-acsm.org/en](http://www.cagh-acsm.org/en)

[www.cagh-acsm.org/fr](http://www.cagh-acsm.org/fr)

[conference@cagh-acsm.org](mailto:conference@cagh-acsm.org)



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CCGH 2024 drew in 700 participants with global health practitioners, students, university partners, civil society and government representatives – from 52 countries. Sixty percent of participants were from low and middle-income countries (LMICs). In addition, 47.9% of the registrants self-identified as women.

Funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) covered some costs of travel and registration fees enabling 152 LMIC participants to attend CCGH2024.

## CCGH2024 BY THE NUMBERS

- 700 Participants
- 60% LMIC delegates
- 52 Countries
- 400 Abstracts reviewed
- 14 Symposia
- 6 Workshops
- 2 Plenary sessions
- 91 Oral presentations
- 94 Poster presentations



Plenary panel on mitigating polycrisis at CCGH 2024

## Partners and Sponsors

CCGH 2024 was made possible with the gracious support of The International Development Research Center (IDRC), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) - Institute of Gender and Health & Institute of Population and Public Health, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Mercy Ships, Neglected Global Disease Initiative (NGDI-UBC), Simon Fraser University (SFU), Aga Khan Foundation Canada, Canada International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO), Pacific-Northwest Health Equity Network (PHEN), and Pegasus Institute.



## PROJECTS, WORKING AND AFFILIATE GROUPS

### Women in Global Health



WGH Canada and Women Lift met together on Oct 26, 2024 at Joey's Patio in Vancouver, Canada. Both organizations co-hosted a Meet and Greet with shared information about their advocacy priorities for attendees prior to a fun social gathering. This event is a flagship event for Women in Global Health. And with the support of CAGH, it was held again in collaboration with CCGH in 2024.

### Canadian Women in Global Health



CWIGH hosted a symposium on Gender equality in the global health workforce: Structural and organizational barriers and paths to change, during CCGH2024.

### Climate Change and Health



In June, the working group on climate change and health, and the [Canadian Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases](#) hosted a webinar on Youth Action on Climate, Water, and Neglected Tropical Diseases. Our CAGH Summer student Ali Ansari hosted the event.

CAGH's Mentornet Mentor Aisha Barkhad, a young global health leader, and Hooria Amiri, co-founder of C.A.N 1.5c shared their experiences with acting to end NTDs in a warming world where many communities remain at risk and don't have access to clean water and sanitation to prevent and treat NTDs.

The webinar also explored examples of integrated approaches to NTD prevention in the Americas and Asia. It highlighted the essential role of youth action in building a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable future for all. Please see the recording of this webinar [here](#).

### Cochrane Planetary Health

In October, CAGH's climate change and health group partnered with Cochrane Planetary Health on a webinar on climate change, health, and implementation science: Exploring the connections. The video can be found [here](#).

## Healthy World Conference



CAGH Members from the Climate and Health working group presented at CanWaCH's [Healthy World Conference](#) in May in Montreal. The 90-minute workshop titled 'Becoming a planetary health leader: Co-designing opportunities for action & impact through your organization' was co-led with Maëlle Marchand, Sara Marshall, Tina Lines and Adetola Oladimeji.

## Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa (CARTA)



CAGH has been a member of [CARTA](#) for many years, and this year, two CAGH Board Members (Tina Lines and Lubna Bhayani) were able to join in the annual partner meetings in Nairobi, Kenya in September. Time was dedicated to strategic planning to create a roadmap for the organization going forward.

Many partners presented their work, with an introduction to an incredible new tool, the [Africa Research Connect](#), which identifies health researchers' skills, experience & publications within Africa to support their connection with partners, projects, & funding. Please read the overview of CARTA's strategic meetings [here](#).

CAGH continues to work together on key activities, such as supporting proposal

workshops for PhD students supported by CARTA.

## G7 Global Health Advocacy

CAGH supported the creation of the G7 global health social media toolkit of multilingual graphics and messages in 2024. As well as participated in the G7 Global Health Advocacy [video](#).

## Cooperation Canada

Along with 100 other organizations, CAGH signed the Cooperation Canada NGO response to the 2024 federal budget. The statement is now live and can be found [here](#).

## CAGH Student Chapters



CAGH is privileged to have ten student chapters across several institutions in Canada:

- University of Alberta
- Western University
- Laurentian University
- University of Waterloo
- Queen's University
- Brock University
- York University
- McGill University
- McMaster University
- Carleton University

## MentorNet Program

CAGH provides a curriculum of more than 40 diverse educational modules in global health, as well as a program liaison to support and facilitate the mentorship process. The program is very flexible, with mentors and mentees able to adapt the program in a way that suits them best. On average, mentor-mentee pairs meet monthly through Zoom or in person, using the educational modules provided by their program liaisons as a starting point.



In 2024, CAGH MentorNet connected 19 mentor-mentee pairs interested in global health with experts in the field for discussion and coaching over a period of 8 to 10 months. These pairs had the opportunity to work on a project together and also be profiled on CAGH social media platforms. One mentee created an inclusive Instagram campaign for International Breastfeeding Awareness Week, delivering accessible, evidence-based content on breastfeeding benefits, mental health, and stigma.

CAGH also re-signed affiliation agreements with University of Western Ontario, Queen's University and University of Ottawa to be able to host Master of Public Health students for professional internships. It is important for CAGH to contribute to this form of mentorship and it also greatly benefits from the contributions of student interns each year.

## Students & Emerging Professionals (SEPs)



The student and emerging professionals network executive continued to meeting during 2024 to create a vision for its work into the future. They helped to coordinate an evening reception at Simon Fraser University down town campus to open CCGH2024 with a focus on mentorship. Dr. Peter Singer was the invited speaker and the evening focused on the ongoing work of CAGH MentorNet as well as the central role of mentorship in global health work overall.



Dr. Singer is Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto, Co-founder of Grand Challenges Canada and University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics and former Special Advisor to the Director General of World Health Organization (WHO). Dr. Singer has a long and distinguished track record of mentoring the next generation of global health leaders.

## FINANCIALS

### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the year ended December 31, 2024

| REVENUES                               | 2024             |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|
| Global Health Conferences              |                  |
| -Registrations                         | \$133,548        |
| -International Development             |                  |
| Research Centre                        | \$100,000        |
| -Global Affairs Canada                 | \$100,000        |
| -Other Contributions                   | \$18,000         |
| Memberships                            | \$15,420         |
| Health Systems Global                  | -                |
| Public Health Agency of Canada         | -                |
| World Vision Canada                    | -                |
| Digital Storytelling for Global Health |                  |
| Research and Action                    | -                |
| Other                                  | \$1,244          |
|                                        | <b>\$368,212</b> |

### EXPENSES

|                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Global Health Conferences         | \$197,514        |
| <b>Administrative expenses</b>    |                  |
| -Variable costs                   | \$37,852         |
| -Fixed costs                      | \$11,234         |
| -Salaries and benefits            | \$7,251          |
| -Governance                       | -                |
| -Other                            | \$161            |
| Health Systems Global             | -                |
| Knowledge exchange and networking | -                |
| World Vision Canada               | -                |
| Program Development               | -                |
| Other Initiatives                 | -                |
|                                   | <b>\$254,012</b> |

### EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES\*

**\$114,200**

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ended December 31, 2024

| ASSETS                            | 2024             |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>             |                  |
| Cash                              | \$143,591        |
| Accounts receivable               | \$11,770         |
| Grants and contributions received | \$7,000          |
| Work in progress                  | -                |
| Prepaid expenses                  | \$4,279          |
|                                   | <b>\$166,640</b> |

### LIABILITIES

|                                         |              |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>              |              |
| Accounts payable & accrued liabilities. | \$587        |
| Grants and contribution payable         | -            |
|                                         | <b>\$587</b> |

### NET ASSETS

|                           |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Unrestricted              | \$66,053         |
| Internal restriction      |                  |
| -Contingency Reserve Fund | \$100,000        |
|                           | <b>\$166,053</b> |
|                           | <b>\$166,640</b> |

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the year ended December 31, 2024

| BALANCE, BEGINNING     | 2024             | 2023            |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>OF YEAR</b>         | \$51,853         | \$181,381       |
| Deficiency of revenues |                  |                 |
| over expenses          | \$114,200        | (\$129,528)     |
| Internal restriction   | -                | -               |
| <b>BALANCE, END</b>    |                  |                 |
| <b>OF YEAR</b>         | <b>\$166,053</b> | <b>\$51,853</b> |

Full financial statements can be provided by [email request](#).

# Acknowledgments

## CAGH Board

Colleen Davison (Chair)  
Saad El-Din Hassan (Vice- Chair)\*  
Carly La Berge (Secretary)\*  
Lubna Bhayani  
Michelle Amri  
Nalini Singhal  
Nasreen Jessani  
Tina Lines  
Shahin Kassam\*  
Nandita Thatte\*  
Bev Johnson\*  
Frantz Jean Louis\*  
Vaisnavi Gnanasekaran\*  
Yewande Kofoworola Ogundeji\*

## CAGH Team

Nelko Mahlyanov, *Finance Support Consultant*  
Cameal Soverall, *Event Management Consultant*  
Arielle Baguio, *Administrative Assistant*  
Johanna Manga, *Event & Reporting Assistant*  
Ali Alansari, *Intern*

*\*Since October 2024*

## CAGH Members, Partners and Funders

CAGH would like to acknowledge the many members, partners and funders that make our work possible. In 2024, critical staffing gaps were filled by volunteers who stepped forward when needed to assist. We are grateful for their ongoing commitment. We would also like to acknowledge the ongoing support of our major funders: the International Development Research Centre, Global Affairs Canada, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, as well as many others who provide more limited but targeted funding support. Thank you. We appreciate all forms of ongoing support and recognize that it has allowed us to continue as conveners, partners and champions for global health equity together.



## Get Involved

### BECOME A MEMBER

Join our diverse community committed to improving global health, health equity, and systems strengthening in Canada and around the world.

By becoming a member, you can help advance CAGH's work in addressing critical global health needs and building the next generation of health actors and leaders. You'll also benefit from greater opportunities to share your perspectives, learn from your colleagues, and stay informed through our member-only resources and forums.

Interested in becoming a member?  
Visit our [website](#) to learn more.

### DONATE

[Donate now](#) to help advance CAGH's mission – to create a healthier, more equitable world. Your support will help us make a meaningful impact across Canada and internationally.

## CONTACT US

P.O. Box 189  
Stn "B"  
Ottawa, ON, Canada  
K1P 6C4  
[info@cagh-acsm.org](mailto:info@cagh-acsm.org)  
[cagh-acsm.org](http://cagh-acsm.org)