

Biography Ian Dawe, MHSc, MD, FRCP(C)



Dr. Ian Dawe is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto and the Physician-in-Chief at Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences. At Ontario Shores, he provides leadership for medical professional practice and champions the quality and safety of medical practice and care at the Hospital. Working in collaboration with the Ontario Shores' senior leadership team, as well as its medical and allied health professionals, he is focused on advancing the quality of care and fostering leading interprofessional practices.

He was recently appointed as Chair of the Ontario Hospital Association's Suicide Prevention Standards Task Force, a diverse panel of researchers, academics, clinicians and lived experience experts with a mandate from the Minister of Health and Long Term Care to focus on establishing best practice, evidence-based standards to guide the care for at-risk people in all of Ontario's 171 hospitals.

Dr Dawe is the Mental Health and Addictions Physician Lead for the Central East Local Health Integration Network providing expert advice to the CE-LHIN CEO and its Senior Directors on performance and improvement opportunities in mental health systems within Ontario. He is also the immediate past Chair of Ontario's Clinical Expert Committee on Autism.

Dr. Dawe completed medical school at Memorial University of Newfoundland and a residency in psychiatry, two years of fellowship training (Suicide Studies, Emergency Psychiatry, and Mental Health Systems Research), and a Masters degree in Health Administration, all at the University of Toronto. His clinical and research areas of interest include recovery, suicide and suicidal behaviours, emergency psychiatry, quality and patient safety, health advocacy, and the design and evaluation of mental health delivery systems.

Formerly the Medical Director of Toronto's Emergency Mental Health and Addictions Alliance (2008-2011) and the Medical Director of the Psychiatric Emergency Service at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto (2003-2011), Dr. Dawe was a Research Associate with both the Keenan Research Centre of the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute at St Michael's Hospital and the Arthur Sommer Rotenberg Chair in Suicide Studies at the University of Toronto from 2003 through 2011. He has acted as principle or co-investigator in clinical trials and has authored numerous articles and reports on mental health care. He is a frequent invited lecturer and has presented his findings at a wide variety of provincial, national and international seminars, conferences and symposia.

Committed to education, Dr. Dawe is active in the training of medical, nursing, and social work students, art therapists, general practitioners, nurse practitioners, and psychiatrists in the common emergencies of mental health care including suicide, substance abuse, and other acute behavioral disturbances.

He sits as a member of the Boards of Directors of the Ontario Telemedicine Network, Peer Support Accreditation and Certification (Canada) and the Ontario Shores Foundation for Mental Health, as well as being an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors of Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences.

He has three young children, a wonderful, committed partner but yet, somehow remains an avid golfer...