



**MSSU
USSM**

Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit
Unité de soutien SRAP des Maritimes

Spring 2025
NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S NEW

Just launched: New centralized hub of MSSU research projects

Curious about the research studies we support? Now you can find them all in one place on our website. This new searchable list is a showcase of the patient-oriented research we have contributed to across the Maritimes to support our health systems and improve patient care. Designed to be accessible and engaging, each project links to a plain-language summary, reports, stories and KT products, making it easy for anyone to explore project outcomes. We hope these pages spark new ideas, inspire collaboration and help bring even more patient-oriented research to life. [Read the news article.](#)

**Explore our Research
Projects**

Join our team as a Research Assistant

The Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit (MSSU) is looking for a detail-oriented Research Assistant with competency with statistical data analysis and related software to join our team. Based in Halifax, Nova Scotia, this role supports high-impact, patient-oriented research aimed at improving health across the Maritimes. Reporting to the Research Manager, the Research Assistant will contribute to multi-disciplinary projects by coordinating research activities, supporting ethics submissions, and handling key administrative tasks. If you have a background in health research, strong organizational skills, and a passion for making a difference in the health of people living in the Maritimes, we want to hear from you.

**Learn more and
apply**

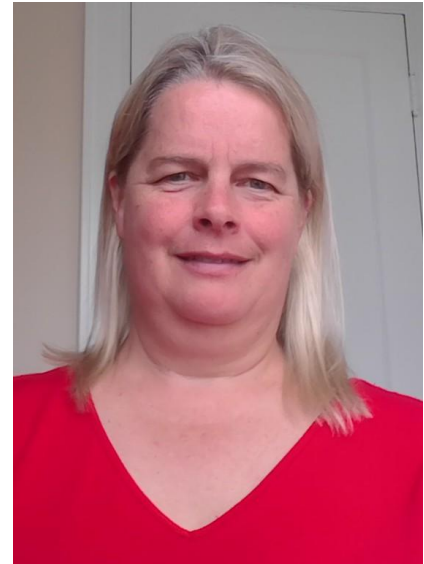
MSSU SCIENTIST SPOTLIGHT

Ruth Harvie: From clinician to patient-oriented

research champion

When Ruth Harvie applied for a grant last year, she never expected it would shift the trajectory of her research. In this interview, Ruth shares how patient-oriented research resonates with her values as a clinician, how it's shaping her current work to improve celiac care in Nova Scotia and how, as an MSSU associate scientist, she is helping champion this approach within her field and among her peers.

**Read the full
interview**



RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

CONNECT Project: New Brunswick researchers use video game to help debunk autism stereotypes

What began as a groundbreaking patient-oriented research initiative—bringing autistic adults into the research process as equal partners—has grown into a movement that is influencing policy, community programming, and now, the world of digital gaming. Dr. Caroline Jose, a researcher at [Vitalité Health Network](#) and mother of an autistic son, is passionate about improving the lives of autistic adults through research and advocacy. Read more about how she is giving a voice to autistic adults through the continuation of the MSSU CONNECT project.



**Learn
more**

Hospital-to-Home Pharmacy Project

New Brunswick patients aged 65+ often face medication challenges after hospital discharge. The Hospital-to-Home Pharmacy Project, presented by Selena Oakes, shows how pharmacist-led care can improve safety, satisfaction and medication understanding during this critical transition. This project examined the impacts of a hospital pharmacist-led Transitions of Care (TOC) program on patients' perceived medication knowledge, adherence barriers,

healthcare utilization, and satisfaction, and community pharmacists' perception of care provision.

**Watch the presentation on
YouTube**



Presentation:

The Hospital-to-Home
Pharmacy Project:
Improving Medication
Management after
Discharge

 **UNB**
UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

 **NB-IRDT**
New Brunswick Institute for
Research, Data and Training

 **Presenter:**
Selena Oakes

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES



PATIENT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Bringing lived experience
to health research



Visit www.mssu.ca

**Opportunities are available for the those with the following
lived or living experience:**

- [Patient or caregiver of a child with cancer](#)
- [Mental health/substance use challenges](#)
- [Patient or family member with experience in an ICU](#)
- [Breast or ovarian cancer, multiple sclerosis or a related autoimmune disorder, or breast or vaginal mesh/pelvic floor implants](#)
- [Living with diabetes or a caregiver for someone with diabetes](#)
- [Received home care and are a fracture risk](#)
- [Youth or caregivers engaged in the IWK health system](#)

Are you on the list?

Every time a new engagement opportunity is posted on our [MSSU website](#) subscribers will receive an email notification with a direct link to view the opportunity. This process is designed to make it easier for patients and the public to stay connected and engaged with projects that could benefit from their valuable input. You can sign up at the bottom of our Patient Engagement Opportunities webpage.

Sign up for our patient engagement opportunities

[mssu.ca/submit-an-opportunity](#)

Have a Patient Engagement opportunity to share?

Submit online.

Opportunities

Explore specific opportunities to get involved in patient-oriented research. Engagement opportunities listed on this page can be pursued in English.

Location: Category: Clear

Engagement Practices with Persons with Lived Experience

Submit now

Call for participation in Health Canada project examining engagement practices with persons with lived experience.

Location: Online
Deadline: January 29, 2022 10:00 am

Health Canada
Email

Call for Patient/Public Partner: Fair & Transparent Selection Process Working Group

Submit now

Location: Online
Deadline: December 7, 2022 10:00 am

Lauren Phillips
Email

Help decide how to measure anesthesia quality

Submit now

Call for participation for study on making anesthesia safety care better for Canadians.

Location: Part-time
Deadline: December 1, 2022 10:00 am

Dr. Jeremy He
Email

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EVENTS AND TRAINING

Patient-Oriented Research Practicum

May 29, 2025 | 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. AT
Online | [ENGLISH](#)

The Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit offers a 2.5-hour Patient-Oriented Research training practicum for individuals who have completed the four modules of the CIHR-IMHA's e-learning [How-to-Guide to Patient Engagement in Research](#). This hands-on practicum focuses on patient engagement in the Maritimes and provides practical advice, resources, and opportunities for networking and discussion.

Register now

Patient Partnership in Research Workshop

June 10, 2025 | 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. AT

Prince Edward Island | Charlottetown Public Library, Rotary Auditorium, 97 Queen Street

In this in-person event, learn about best practices for patient partnership in health research with a focus on genetics. Hear from patients and academic researchers about how working together make health care research better, learn how patient partners can get started in research and meet the members of the patient community in PEI and academic researchers from across Canada. Hosted by CIHR Institute of Genetics, UPEI Centre for Health and Community Research and MSSU.

[Register now](#)

In case you missed it:



Learning Loops: Policy-driven evidence and evidence-driven policy

In this webinar you will learn more about the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacist's data-driven approach to their work and how it supports a culture of learning within the organization.

[Watch on YouTube](#)

NEWS & EVENTS | OUR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITY

2025-2026 Kausattumi Grants Program

The Atlantic Indigenous Mentorship Network has launched their annual scholarship call. This year's support program includes calls for those who are conducting a community-based wellbeing research project who are enrolled in a master's program or doctoral program.

[Learn more](#)

BRIC NS Primary Care Learning Series May 29, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. | Zoom | Free

This seminar features two members of the Department of Family Medicine: Dr. Kevin Pottie and Divine Budzi. They will be co-presenting: ***Evidence-Based Guidelines for All: Advancing Knowledge Translation and Health Equity in Primary Care of Diabetes and Obesity (2025-2030)***

[Learn more and register](#)

PUBLICATIONS

If we've supported your patient-oriented research and/or you've published your findings, let us

know by emailing communications@mssu.ca to include in our next newsletter.



FIND US ON LINKEDIN

MARITIME SPOR SUPPORT UNIT

LinkedIn is our exclusive social media platform to connect researchers, patients and all our partners interested in advancing patient-oriented research.

 Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit



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