

Institute of Practical Philosophy

2013-14 Report

DIRECTOR AND RESEARCHER: *Dr. Robert Pepper-Smith*

PROMOTIONS CO-ORDINATOR: *Dr. Carolyn Swanson*

ASSOCIATED RESEARCH SCHOLAR: *Dr. Janice Porteous*

HONORARY RESEARCH ASSOCIATE: *Bob Lane*

STUDENT RESEARCHER: *Syed Raza*

Founded by Bob Lane, the Institute promotes innovative ways of exploring contemporary social and political problems. The Institute has, for example, hosted a conference on B.C.'s new health care consent and representation agreement legislation, offered an upper level course in health care ethics at NRGH, developed a clinical case consultation workshop, and hosted several symposia on such topics as genetically modified foods, environmental ethics, and social and political issues in Latin America. The Institute also publishes a chapbook series on a number of topics including health care ethics and effective social responses to crime.

In 2013-14 the Institute developed a website, [Canada Pension Alert](#), tracking the growing social demand for pension plans to invest ethically. The Institute also continued to publish its newsletter entitled [Canada Pension Alert: What Are Your Pension Funds Up To?](#)

In March 2014, the Institute hosted a talk by **Dr. Gary Bauslaugh** entitled *Justice and the Law: A Talk on Jury Nullification*. Also in March, the Institute, along with community partners, helped to organize two reconciliation dialogue workshops whose purpose was to share awareness of the many aspects of residential school experiences and to foster an environment that supports survivors, their families and our community in a journey of healing. Due to the overwhelming success of the first two workshops (the first for high school students, the second for adults), a third workshop is to be offered at the end of May. The Institute has also continued its publishing programme and will issue a 4th edition of Cases in Health Care Ethics in the fall of 2014.

Spring 2014