

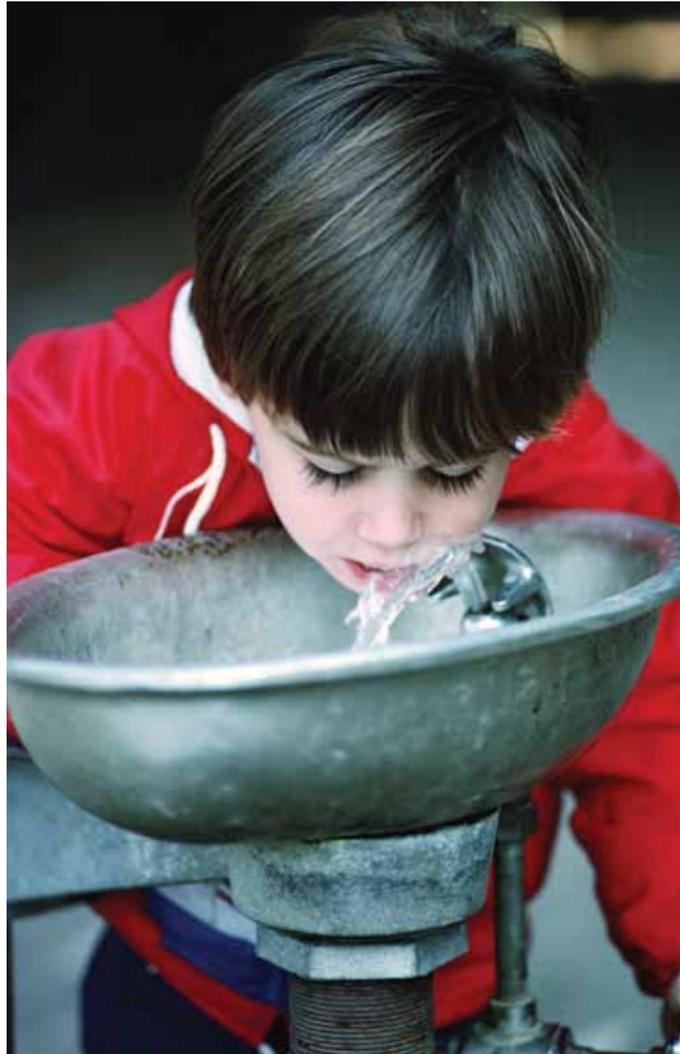
# WHO WE ARE

## School of Occupational and Public Health

www.ryerson.ca/sophe

“ A demonstrated *leader* in injury and disease prevention education. ”

The OH & S program is the only degree-level program of its type offered in Canada.



PH focuses on health protection and disease prevention for the entire population.

OH & S focuses on injury and disease prevention in all types of workplaces.

### WHO WE ARE

Innovative and highly respected, the School of Occupational and Public Health (SOPHe) offers bachelor of applied science degree programs in Public Health and Safety (PH), and Occupational Health and Safety (OH & S).

PH focuses on health protection and disease prevention for the entire population. The program is approved by Canada's Board of Certification for Public Health Inspectors, and many graduates enter public health agencies at the municipal, provincial and federal levels. Some graduates prefer private-sector careers in food safety, quality assurance, water quality and infection control, while others undertake graduate studies to pursue specialist careers in epidemiology, international health, health administration, or health promotion and education.

OH & S focuses on injury and disease prevention in all types of workplaces. This work includes assessing human factors and ergonomic issues associated with injury and accidents, and assessing harmful exposures to chemicals, radiation and physical agents. Graduates of this option are often employed as in-house OH & S co-ordinators in a variety of sectors, including oil and gas, construction, retail and government. Many graduates also pursue advanced studies and training, allowing them to specialize in fields such as ergonomics or industrial hygiene.

### FAST FACTS

- SOPHe offers both a four-year undergraduate program, and a two-year fast-track program for students who have already completed an undergraduate degree.
- The PH program was the original, and remains the longest-running, program of its type in Canada (established in 1960).
- The PH program meets the educational requirements for certification as a public health inspector (environmental health practitioner) in Canada.
- The OH & S program is the only degree-level program of its type offered in Canada.
- The OH & S program is recognized by the Board of Canadian Registered Safety Professionals, which grants the Canadian Registered Safety Professionals designation.
- Academically qualified students in the four-year programs may participate in a paid, co-operative option that consists of five four-month work terms. Integrated into the study semesters, the co-op option adds approximately one year to the length of the program, and provides students with “real-world” experience.
- Faculty members are well-connected and active within their respective fields. They hold research grants and maintain strong links with public agencies, research organizations, professional networks and industry associations.

## Faculty Spotlight



Kathryn Woodcock is a Fellow of the Association of Canadian Ergonomists and director of the THRILL (Tools for Holistic Ride Inspection Learning and Leadership) lab, which studies applications of human factors engineering to amusement rides, and teaches and consults to the industry and regulatory authorities, nationally and internationally. She is a registered professional engineer, and in 2009 received the highest national level of certification in ergonomics, Canadian Certified Professional Ergonomist.



Eric Liberda is an environmental health scientist who is currently studying inhalation exposures from mines in remote, fly-in First Nations communities of Northern Ontario. In addition, he is leading several other ongoing studies throughout Northern Ontario and Quebec. They include an investigation of hunting-related inhalation exposure due to lead shot (small balls of lead), as well as dietary exposure to persistent, organic pollutant contaminants from traditional wild meats that are hunted and trapped.

## Alumni Achievements



Jordan Tustin, OPH '04 went on to earn a master of health science degree in epidemiology from the University of Toronto, and is presently pursuing a PhD in epidemiology, also from U of T. Tustin is currently an epidemiologist with the Public Health Agency of Canada's (PHAC) training unit in field service training and response, and is also a former PHAC field epidemiologist. The latter role enabled her to participate in several field investigations, including a STOP (Stop Transmission of Polio) mission in Cameroon, Africa, a cancer cluster in Alberta, and H1N1 investigations in Mexico City and Nunavut. Prior to epidemiology, Tustin was a public health inspector at Toronto Public Health and Niagara Region Public Health. She will be joining Ryerson as an assistant professor in the School of Occupational and Public Health in December 2012.



Anne Christina Petersen, OPH '09, works for Imperial Oil in the Upstream division as a safety advisor, supporting conventional oil and gas operations as well as office-based work groups. During her time with Imperial Oil, she has been exposed to the corporate and field aspects of the organization, and has produced corporate products and safety tools for front-line workers. Petersen has also had the opportunity to help manage safety systems.

