

TANYA PHILIPPSSEN, MPH

Department of Mathematics & Statistics | University of Victoria

EDUCATION

Master of Science, Applied Mathematics Jan 2021 – ongoing

University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia

- Supervisors: Dr. Junling Ma & Dr. Pauline van den Driessche
- Key Courses:
 - *Nonlinear Dynamical Systems & Chaos; Applied Stochastic Models; Differential & Integral Equations; Mathematical and Statistical Methods in Epidemiology; Mathematics for Public Health; Mathematical Biology (UBC)*

Master of Public Health Sept 2013 – Aug 2015

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario

- Key Courses:
 - *Public Health Surveillance; Social, Cultural, Behavioural Aspects of Public Health; Principles of Epidemiology; Health and Risk Communication in Public Health; Health Economics; Health Policy*
- Key Projects:
 - *MPH CAPSTONE: Developed a strategic communication plan and associated policy recommendations for Health Canada to address the risks associated with e-cigarette use in the youth population*
 - *Completed a case study that examined the social, cultural, and behavioural aspects that impact the decline of vaccination rates and the resurgence of vaccine-preventable diseases in Canada*
 - *Completed a policy analysis along with associated implementation and evaluation plans to address the challenge of antibiotic resistance in Canada*

Bachelor of Science, Microbiology Sept 2005 – Apr 2008

University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia

AWARDS AND HONOURS

- JJEM Graduate Award in Mathematics & Statistics 2022-2023
- Charles S. Humphrey Graduate Student Award 2022-2023
- University of Victoria Graduate Award 2022-2023
- University of Victoria Graduate Award 2021-2022

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant Jan 2021 – present

University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia

- Contributing to the development, extension, and analysis of a mathematical model for contact tracing of COVID-19 in British Columbia (MSFHR funded) and contribute to manuscript preparation for publication
- Collaborating on publications related to early warning systems for emerging diseases

Teaching Assistant Sept 2021 – Apr 2022

University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia

- Marked exams and homework assignments for Math 109, Math 120, and Math 101

Independent Contractor – Data Analyst**Apr 2020 – present**

Metabiota, San Francisco, California

- Reviewing and cleaning near real-time open-source surveillance data related to COVID-19 and other priority epidemic events for inclusion in Metabiota’s epidemic risk analysis and modeling platform

Epidemic Data Analyst**Aug 2016 – Nov 2019**

Metabiota, San Francisco, California

- Collected, coded, reviewed and cleaned historic and near real-time open-source disease outbreak surveillance data in accordance with epidemiologic principles and data methodology for inclusion in Metabiota’s epidemic risk analysis and modeling platform
- Led the ongoing development and initial evaluation of an automated near real-time outbreak event detection system
- Developed R software coding skills to effectively clean, extract and analyze relevant data from large quantitative and unstructured text-based data sets
- Supported the data science and modeling team with literature searches and data collection
- Created ad-hoc analyses, reports, and presentations and collected relevant data as required in response to external client requests and to support ongoing product development, risk modeling, and marketing strategies

Summer Intern, PREDICT**July 2016 – Sept 2016**

Metabiota, Nanaimo, British Columbia

- Completed a literature review on emerging respiratory pathogens

Independent Research Contractor**July 2015 – Aug 2015**

Rural and Remote Division of Family Practice, British Columbia

- Researched and wrote a comprehensive literature review to provide evidence and best practices based on identified program requirements related to implementing adult day services in rural and remote communities

MPH Practicum Student, Integrated Primary and Community Care**Jan 2015 – Apr 2015**

Island Health, Courtenay, British Columbia

- Researched and wrote a comprehensive literature review to inform the implementation of a culturally safe and patient-centred health service delivery model in the Mount Waddington region on Northern Vancouver Island
 - Areas of focus included: social determinants of health in rural and remote contexts; determinants of Indigenous peoples’ health; racism in the health system; trauma-informed practice; cultural safety; patient-centred care; and, transforming culture in health care
- Presented key findings and co-facilitated a discussion with working group members to reach a common understanding about key concepts in the review and to identify next steps

Program Coordinator, Special Initiatives & Infrastructure

Sep 2011 – Jul 2013

Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research, Vancouver, British Columbia

- Coordinated health research funding competitions and associated peer review processes
- Liaised with peer review committee members, award applicants and award recipients, host institutions and other funding agencies
- Monitored active awards for progress of research, financial integrity and adherence to the conditions of award
- Developed and edited correspondence, reports, funding competition guidelines and RFPs
- Carried out testing of a new grant management system to identify technical issues
- Wrote detailed training SOPs related to departmental processes as well as for the implementation and utilization of a new grant management system

Volunteer Coordinator/Grant Writer

May 2008 – May 2010

Watoto Canada, Victoria, British Columbia

- Acted as the communication liaison between Ugandan staff and Canadian volunteers
- Managed all administrative, travel and financial details for Canadian volunteers
- Collaborated with Ugandan project staff to develop and write a grant proposal to obtain funding for the implementation of a maternal health and education project in Uganda
- Coordinated and led a team of Canadian volunteers to Uganda and successfully completed a construction project

PUBLICATIONS

- Bednarski S, Cowen LLE, Ma J, **Philippsen T**, van den Driessche, P & Wang M. (2022). A Network SIR Contact Tracing Model for Randomly Mixed Populations. *Journal of Biological Dynamics*, 16(1), 859-879. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17513758.2022.2153938>
- Badker R, Miller K, Pardee C, Oppenheim B, Stephenson N, Ash B, **Philippsen T**, Ngoon C, Savage P, Lam C & Madhav N. (2021). Challenges in reported COVID-19 data: best practices and recommendations for future epidemics. *BMJ Global Health*, 6(5), e005542. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2021-005542>
- (*Conference abstract*): Badker R, Miller K, Pardee C, Ash B, **Philippsen T**, Ngoon C, Savage P & Madhav N. (2020). A new digital surveillance methodology to overcome challenges in reported epidemic data. *International Journal of Infectious Diseases*, 101(Suppl 1), 380. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijid.2020.09.999>

PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

Computational and Mathematical Population Dynamics 6 (CMPD6)

May 24, 2023

University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB

- Talk Title: “A retrospective modelling analysis of the effect of control measures on the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in Canada”

Applied Math Seminar

November 8, 2022

University of Victoria, Victoria, BC

- Talk Title: “A Contact Tracing SIR Model for Randomly Mixed Populations”
 - Co-presenter: Manting Wang

MfPHest (Mathematics for Public Health Fest) – Poster Session **October 26, 2022**
Fields Institute, Toronto, ON

- Poster Title: “A multi-group multi-patch SEIR model with control measures and health behaviours”

Workshop on Mathematical Ecology – Poster Session **Aug 10, 2022**
Queen’s University, Kingston, ON

- Poster Title: “A Network SIR Model for Contact Tracing in a Randomly Mixed Population”

CIHR COVID-19 Task Force Showcase **Apr 7, 2022**
The Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences (Online)

- Talk Title: “A Network SIR Model for Contact Tracing in a Randomly Mixed Population”
 - Co-presenter: Manting Wang

CONTINUING EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Workshop on Early Warning Systems for Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases **January 2023**
Fields Institute, Toronto, ON

MfPHest (Mathematics for Public Health Fest) **October 2022**
Fields Institute, Toronto, ON

Workshop on Mathematical Ecology **Aug 2022**
Queen’s University, Kingston, ON

Summer School in Nonlinear Dynamics for the Life Sciences **May-June 2022**
The Centre for Applied Mathematics in Bioscience and Medicine (CAMBAM)

PIMS Western Canada Math Biology Spring Workshop **May 2022**
Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences/UBC-Okanagan

Summer Institutes in Statistics and Modeling in Infectious Diseases **July 2019/July 2021**
University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

- *Short Courses:*
 - *Simulation Based Inference for Epidemiological Dynamics*
 - *Contact Network Epidemiology*
 - *Statistics and Modeling with Novel Data Streams*
 - *Mathematical Models of Infectious Diseases*
 - *Stochastic Epidemic Models with Inference*
 - *Spatial Statistics in Epidemiology and Public Health*

Mathematical and Statistical Foundation Courses **2019-2020**
Athabasca University, Athabasca, Alberta

- *Linear Algebra 2*

University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia

- *Calculus II-IV*
- *Applied Regression Analysis*
- *Matrix Algebra*

Thompson Rivers University – Open Learning, Kamloops, British Columbia

- *Calculus I*

Workshop: Relational Practice for Cultural Safety **Mar 2015**
Vancouver Island Health Authority, Port Hardy/Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw, British Columbia

Indigenous Cultural Competency Training (online) **Jan 2015 – Feb 2015**
Provincial Health Services Authority, British Columbia

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- RStudio
- LaTeX Syntax, Overleaf
- MS Office

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Women in Science Peer Mentorship Program (Mentor) **Sep 2022 – ongoing**
University of Victoria, Victoria, BC

Strathcona Food Security Project **Feb 2016 – July 2016**
Greenways Land Trust, Campbell River, British Columbia

- Provided research support for the initial planning and development phases of a community kitchen program in the region of Strathcona on Vancouver Island

MEMBERSHIPS

Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics **As of: Jun 2022**
• Student Member

The Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences **As of: Mar 2022**
• Mathematics for Public Health (MfPH) Next Generation Member