

To whom it may concern

May 20 2013

Re Dr. Sarah Laurie

It is a pleasure to write a letter on behalf of Sarah Laurie. I have known Dr. Laurie since October of 2010 when we met in person at a conference. We have been in regular communication since that time exchanging information, references and perspectives.

Dr. Laurie is a highly intelligent and insightful person who I would place in the top 3-5 percent of her profession in terms of her knowledge base, critical appraisal skills and ability to integrate new information and synthesize an understanding.

I have never known her to conduct any research on human subjects as the anonymous complaint to NHMRC has alleged. Dr. Laurie's only power is that of speech and her superior ability to reason and synthesize. To my knowledge is based on nearly 3 years of communications Sarah has conversed with many people and empathized but not ventured into diagnosis and/or treatment instead referring people to their own family physician. I also know of Dr. Laurie through the perspective of others who hold her in the highest regard.

Overall I have been impressed with her being an honourable exceptionally talented and trustworthy person of the highest moral integrity.

I write this today in the knowledge of the NHMRC letter of concern. I bring the following particular credentials to bear while also enclosing my brief CV. (The full CV can be provided if desired.) I was on the Medical Research Council of Canada (MRC) from 1996 until its transition to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in 2000. I also served on the Executive Committee of the MRC which led the transition for MRC as well as the Transition Advisory Committee for the formation of CIHR. Simultaneous with the formation of the CIHR I was the first Cameron Visiting Chair of Health Canada (1999) and subsequently the founding Assistant Deputy Minister of the Population and Public Health Branch (2000) of Health Canada. I was appointed to the Board of the Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis at its founding as an institute of CIHR.

I was also Dean of Medicine at the (then) University of Western Ontario Faculty of Medicine and then Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry 1992 -1999. [Note the name of the university has changed to Western University and Schulich School of Medicine and Schulich School of Dentistry.]

In 2011 I was awarded the Order of Canada (Member) which is Canada's highest civilian honour and with the following citation;

Professor Emeritus at the University of Western Ontario, Robert McMurtry has been instrumental in strengthening healthcare delivery in Canada. An orthopedic surgeon,

he created Canada's first trauma unit at Sunnybrook Hospital. Later as a health policy advisor, notably to the Romanow Commission, he has contributed to the long-term sustainability of Canada's healthcare system.

For the past two years I have been on the Investigation, Complaint and Review Committee of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. I also sit on the Board of the Physicians' Services Incorporated (PSI) research foundation in Toronto

I raise these particular points as they may be helpful to the review committee to understand the perspective I bring to bear on the matter. I presume a committee or sub-committee of NHMRC has been formed to evaluate the complaint as identified to the NHMRC.

Allow me to close by stating Dr. Sarah Laurie enjoys my full confidence as a person and as a physician as being of superior ability and integrity.

Sincerely

R Y McMurtry CM, MD, FRCSC, FACS

CURRICULUM VITAE

ROBERT Y. McMURTRY, M.D., F.R.C.S.(C), F.A.C.S.

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Present Position:

- *Member of The Order of Canada*
- *Visiting Orthopedic Consultant, Prince Edward Family Health Team, Picton, ON*
- *Professor of Surgery (Emeritus), University of Western Ontario*
- *Member of the Board of The Canadian Index of Wellbeing Centre, University of Waterloo*
- *Member of the Board of Directors PSI Foundation, Finance and Governance Committees*
- *College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, Member of the Inquiries, Complaints and Reviews Committee*

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

2006 – present	Professor Emeritus University of Western Ontario
July 1992 – July 1999	Dean, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry University of Western Ontario
1988 – September 1992	Professor & Head, Department of Surgery Faculty of Medicine University of Calgary Foothills Hospital, Calgary, Alberta
1984 – 1988	Associate Professor Faculty of Medicine, Department of Surgery University of Toronto Toronto, Ontario

Curriculum Vitae

Robert Y. McMurtry 2.

1973 – 1975

Lecturer

Faculty of Medicine, Department of Surgery
University of Toronto
Toronto, Ontario

APPOINTMENTS – FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER:

2008 – 2009

Physicians Services Incorporated Foundation
Chair, Review Committee

August 2005 – October 2006

Women's College Hospital, Sunnybrook Women's
College
Hospital Steering Committee and Women's Health Institute
Project
-Chair of the Medical Issues Committee
-Member of the Joint Steering Committee

December 2003 – September 2007

Health Council of Canada
Chair of the Wait Times and Accessibility Work Group
(January 2004 – January 2006)
Member of the Framework and Monitoring Progress
Committee
Member of the Strategic Plan Task Force

May – November 2003

Expert Review Group of the Program Review
Canadian Paediatric Surveillance Program

June 2003 – present

Chair—Ad Hoc Committee (Atkinson Charitable Foundation)
For development of the institution for the
Canadian Index of Well-Being

June 2003 – December 2003

National Steering Committee on Climate Change and
Health Assessment.

October – December 2003

Appointment to Transition Advisory Board
Government of Ontario (Appointment by Office of The
Premier)

December 2002 – August 2003

Special Advisor to the Deputy Minister of Nunavut

February 2002 – January 2003

Special Advisor to the Commissioner
Romanow Commission on the Future of Health Care in
Canada

March 2001 – August 2004

Advisory Board Member
Institute for Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis

Curriculum Vitae

Robert Y. McMurtry 3.

December 2000 – February 2002

Assistant Deputy Minister
Population and Public Health Branch
Health Canada

July 2000 – December 2000

Visiting Assistant Deputy Minister
(Founding—New Branch)
Population and Public Health, Health Canada

July 1999 – January 2001

G. D. W. Cameron Visiting Chair
Health Canada

1999 – 2000

Interim Governing Council
Canadian Institute of Health Research

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS:

2011 June

Appointed Member of The Order of Canada for leadership and vision in helping strengthen health care delivery in Canada

2010 May

Ontario Medical Association Career Service Award from the Emergency Section of the Ontario Medical Association

2008 December

James H. Graham Award from The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada recognizing significant career achievements.

2008 March

University Students' Council Teaching Honour Roll Certificate for the 2006-7 Academic Year

2007 January

University Students' Council Teaching Honour Roll Certificate for the 2005-6 Academic Year

2003 June

Presidential Award of Excellence
Canadian Orthopedic Association

2001 – 2002

- 1) Prime Minister of Canada: formal letter of commendation
- 2) Employee Commendation Award by the employees of The Population and Public Health Branch of Health Canada 2002
- 3) Certificate of Commendation, Health Canada 2001

1998

Invited & funded participant UNESCO Conference, Royaumont, Abbey, France: "Transdisciplinarity".

Curriculum Vitae
Robert Y. McMurtry 4.

1992 – 1995	Regent, American College of Surgeons
1996 – present America	International Who’s Who in the World, Science, North
1992	Lloyd-McLean Visiting Professorship, McGill University
1992	Invited R. I. Harris Memorial Lecture Combined Meeting of the English Speaking Orthopedic Associations
1991	Best Research Paper Manus Canada Meeting, Calgary, AB
1987 – present	Canada’s Who’s Who
1989 – 1992	President, Canadian Association of Surgical Chairmen
1984 – 1985	President, Trauma Association of Canada
1984	Best Paper – Eastern Canada, Trauma American College of Surgeons
1983 – 1988	Chairman, Advanced Trauma Life Support Courses for the Province of Ontario & American College of Surgeons
1983 – 1988	Chairman, Provincial Committee on Trauma for Ontario
1983	Named Lectureship –“Friday at Four” Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S.
1981	ABC Traveling Fellow, American, British & Canadian Orthopedic Associations

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Memberships 7

VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS:

1978 – present 55

INVITED LECTURES:

1976 – present 450

PUBLIC/COMMUNITY SERVICE LECTURES:

1994 – present 45

Curriculum Vitae
Robert Y. McMurtry 5.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS:

1977 – present 81

TEXTBOOKS AND CHAPTERS:

1974 – present 20

Updated: 2012 March 31