



Canadian Women's Heart Health Alliance

Knowledge Translation and Mobilization Working Group | Member Profile



Karen E. Jacques, BA, JD

Patient Advocate Co-Chair, Knowledge Translation and
Mobilization Working Group

Past Co-Chair, Patient Advisory Committee

Woman with Lived Experience

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Alliance member since 2018

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Biography

For 30+ years, Karen Jacques' career has primarily concentrated on health, safety and disability issues, in both legal and non-legal contexts. Previously, as Lead Counsel of Jacques Law, her law practice focused on litigation, dispute resolution, Insurance Law, Employment Law and General Counsel guidance. She has also worked as Manager - Disability Management & Accommodation for the world's largest operating nuclear power plant. Her early career days focused on training and program management in health, emergency response, safety and recreation focused organizations.

Currently, Ms. Jacques is a Vice-Chair (administrative law judge) with the Workplace Safety and Insurance Appeals Tribunal (WSIAT) in Ontario, where she presides over, adjudicates, and renders decisions on appeals from final decisions of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB). Ms. Jacques also does publications counsel work to facilitate research accessibility of Tribunal case law.

Ms. Jacques holds a B.A. from Wilfrid Laurier University in Kinesiology, Physical Education & Psychology, and a J.D. from the University of Windsor.

In 2018, Ms. Jacques began a personal journey with heart health, experiencing first-hand the inequities and inadequacies in women's heart health care, particularly those associated with the diagnosis and treatment of Myocardial Infarction with Non-Obstructive Arteries (MINOCA), Coronary Artery Spasms (CAS), and Kounis Syndrome. She is committed to creating a new reality for women's heart health.