

Arlene King, MD, MHSc, FRCPC

Dr. King is the Director General of the Centre for Immunization and Respiratory Infectious Diseases, Public Health Agency of Canada.

She received her medical degree from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario in 1981, certification in Family Medicine from the University of Calgary, Alberta in 1984 and was a family physician in northern Alberta from 1985 to 1989. In 1990, she received a Master's Degree in Health Sciences from the University of British Columbia, and in 1992, became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in Community Medicine. She served as a Medical Officer of Health in British Columbia, held various positions in communicable disease control at the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control in Vancouver and joined Health Canada/the Public Health Agency of Canada in Ottawa in 1999. Since this time, she has held several positions, including Coordinator, Communicable Disease Surveillance, Director, Immunization and Respiratory Infections Division and most recently, Director General for Pandemic Preparedness. She is an adjunct professor in the School of Population and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

She has been a consultant to the World Health Organization on polio, SARS and influenza, to the World Bank and CIDA on Emerging Infectious Diseases and served on the Board of the Global Alliance on Immunization (GAVI) from 2004-2006. She is a member of the World Health Organization Africa Region Polio Eradication Certification Commission; WHO Advisory Group on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness: Sharing of Influenza Viruses and Access to Vaccines and Other Benefits; and, WHO Advisory Committee on a Global Action Plan on the Development of Pandemic Vaccine. In 2003, as the technical lead during the SARS response, she received Health Canada's Deputy Minister's Award of Merit for her contribution to Canada's National SARS Response and in 2006, the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada's Medal for establishing the Pandemic Preparedness Secretariat as Canada's focal point for health sector pandemic planning.