

Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed

Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed is the inaugural Associate Dean of Serving and Engaging Society for Dalhousie University's Faculty of Medicine and Interim Division Head for the newly created Division of Public Health and Preventative Medicine. She is also Chair of the Board of Engage Nova Scotia. She is a public health specialist physician with over 20 years experience who, prior to leaving public health practice for Dalhousie, served as the former Medical Officer of Health for the Halifax area and Deputy Chief Medical Officer of Health for Nova Scotia.



Dr. Watson-Creed grew up in PEI and received chemistry degrees from UPEI and University of Guelph before attending Dalhousie University for her MD. From there, she attended McMaster University where she received board certifications in both Family Medicine and Public Health and Preventive Medicine. She sits as chair or member of several population health councils and boards nationally, and served on the Public Health and Preventive Medicine Examination Board for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. She is a member of the Board of Community Food Centres of Canada, co-chair of the Advisory Council to the National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health and a former member of the CIHI Advisory Council on Population Health. Dr. Watson-Creed sat on the One Nova Scotia Coalition, and received the William Grigor award for achievement in medicine from Doctors Nova Scotia in 2017. In 2018 she was awarded the President's award from Public Health Physicians of Canada for her advocacy regarding public health systems and services in Canada. In 2019 she was named one of the Top 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada by the Women's Executive Network in recognition of the direction and support she has provided to so many initiatives. Dr. Watson-Creed was named to the federal Task Force on Women in the Economy, co-chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland and Minister Mona Fortier, which completed its work in 2023. She recently served as a member of the Province of Nova Scotia's Environmental Racism Panel, which was created by the provincial government in 2023. Also in 2023, Dr. Watson-Creed was appointed to the Advisory Board for the Institute of Population and Public Health of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. That same year she served as an external reviewer for Public Health Ontario's strategic plan. In 2024 she was named to the External Expert Review Committee on the Canadian Task Force for Preventive Health Care. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Social Innovation at University of Cambridge.

She was awarded the title Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, by Acadia University in 2021 in recognition of her many contributions to Nova Scotia and to Canada over her career, and also received an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Prince Edward Island in 2023.