

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2023

DR. ERICK MCNAIR



**DEPARTMENT: PATHOLOGY AND LAB
MEDICINE AND SURGERY**

**ROLE: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, CLINICAL
PERFUSIONIST**

EDUCATION: BSC, MSC, PHD, CCP

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS: OUTSTANDING IMPACT
FOR RESEARCH & HEALTH, HIGHLIGHTS IN
SURGERY, JOURNAL'S BEST TECHNIQUE PAPER
FOR 2015**

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Dr. McNair was born in Maryland and grew up in Washington, D.C., USA. He attended Georgetown University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Howard University. Following training in the Cleveland Clinic's Cardiovascular Perfusion Program, he has worked as a clinician in 3 different countries including the USA, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Canada. As a Perfusionist for the Health Region since 2001, he completed his MSc in Clinical Chemistry and PhD in Experimental Pathology from the College of Medicine here at the University of Saskatchewan. He is currently a faculty member of both the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and the Department of Surgery.



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DR. CHRISTOPHER MPOFU



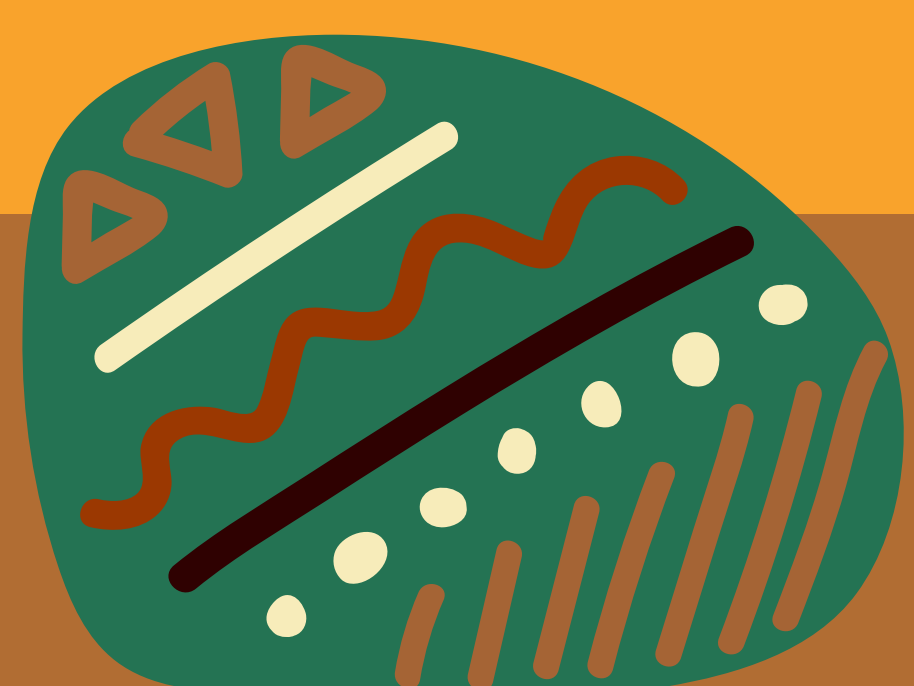
DEPARTMENT: PEDIATRICS

**ROLE: CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PEDIATRIC
ONCOLOGY**

EDUCATION: MD

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Dr Mpofo is originally from Zimbabwe, where he completed most of his high school education. He did his medical training in England, specializing in pediatrics and then pediatric oncology. Following 6 years of practice in the United Arab Emirates, he moved to Canada, where he has practiced pediatric oncology for the last 24 years. He has collaborated in research with the Canadian Pediatric Brain Tumor Consortium and was Principal Investigator for the Children's Oncology Group in Saskatoon for about 7 years. He also served as the Director of the Pediatric Oncology Program of Saskatchewan for 5 years.



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DR. ADEBOLA OBAYAN



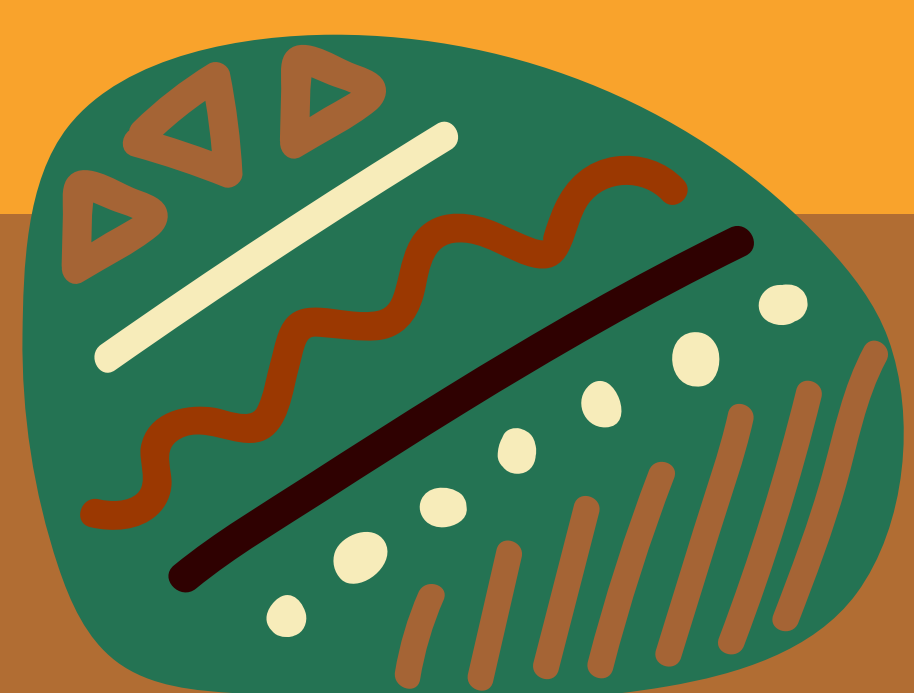
DEPARTMENT: GENERAL SURGERY

ROLE: GENERAL SURGEON

EDUCATION: MD, PHD

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: CANADA 150

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Dr. Adebola Obayan was born in Nigeria and had early education as well as University education in Nigeria, USA and UK. He moved to Saskatoon, Canada as a teaching fellow in the College of Medical Sciences at the University of Saskatchewan. He enrolled at the University in 1998 and completed a doctoral program in Surgery and then transitioned to residency in General Surgery in 2006 becoming a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeon Canada. The American Head and Neck Society awarded him a post-residency fellowship at the University of Manitoba in 2013. Prior to starting his residency program, he worked briefly as a research associate and attracted monetary grants of about \$100,000. He is an accomplished clinical and translational researcher with 3 patents in Surgery and several publications. On December 1, 2017, Dr. Obayan received his Canada 150 pin from MP Trost for his medical research career.

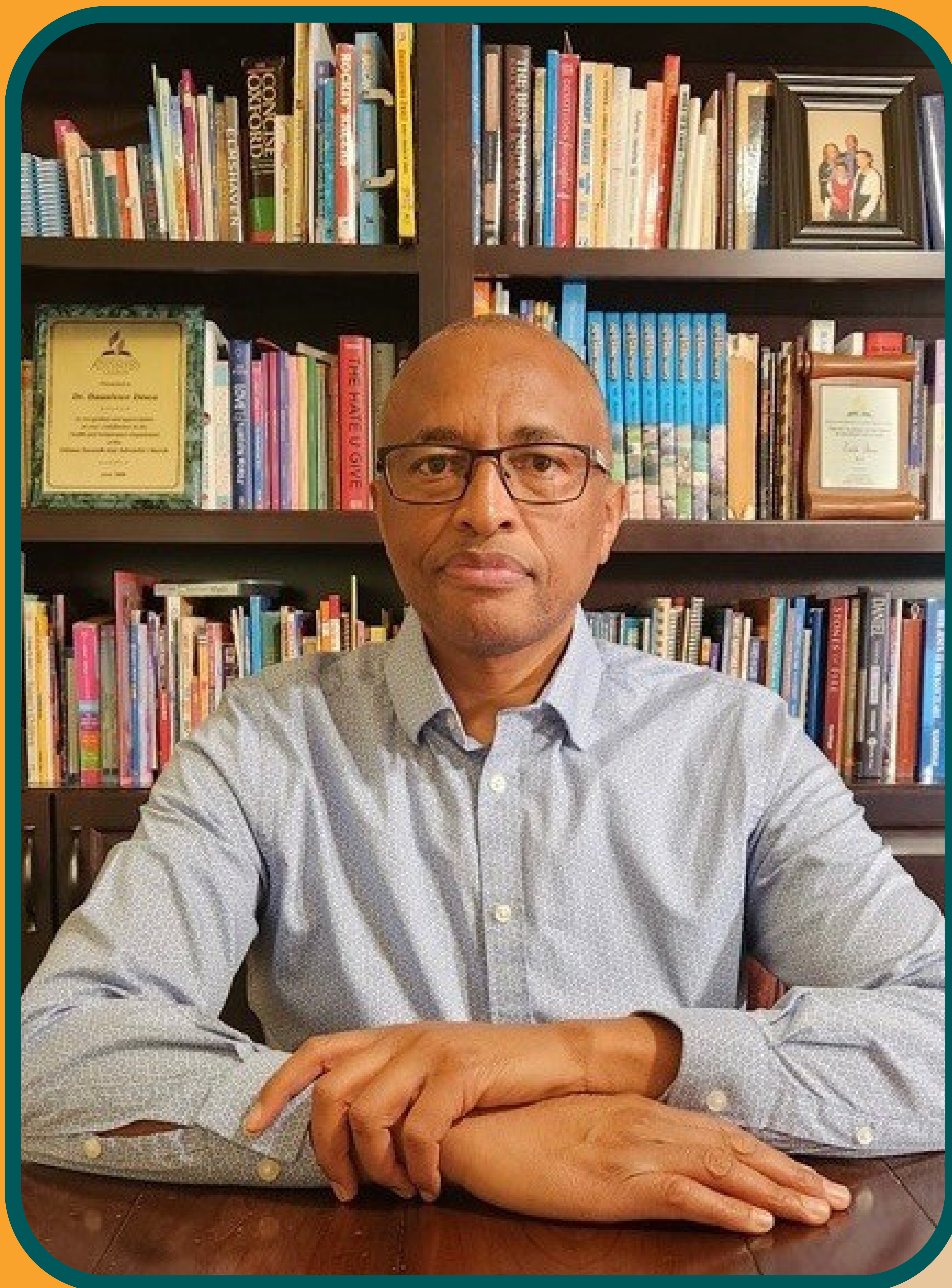
Adebola loves his wife, Dr. Aderonke Obayan, a Pediatrician and his 3 children. He is an advocate of programs for special needs in Saskatchewan. He is Passionate about his Christian heritage and served on Board of Elders and Board of Deacon of Elim church, Saskatoon.

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DR. DALISIZWE DEWA



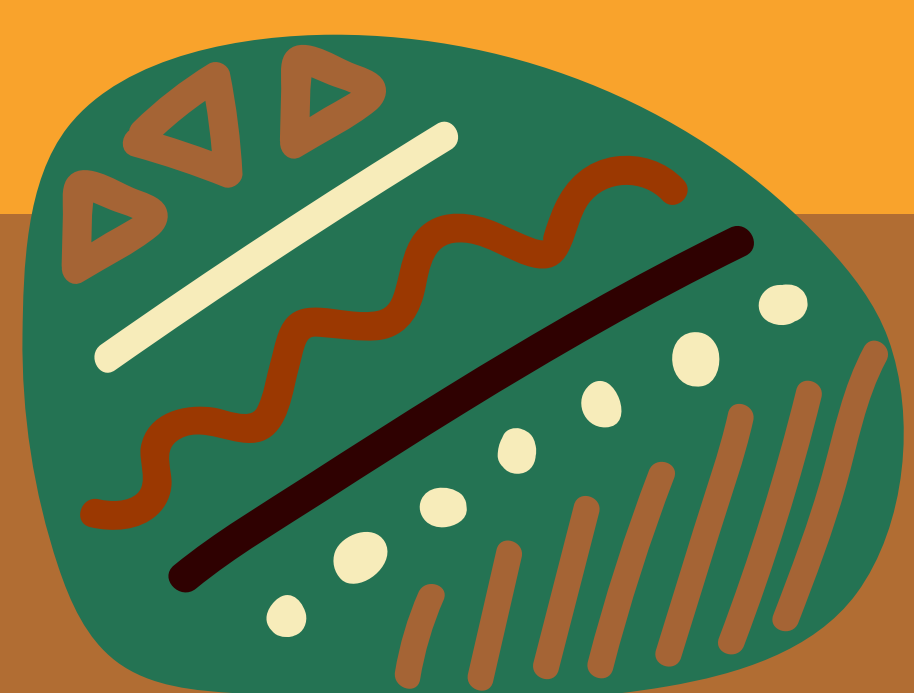
DEPARTMENT: CARDIOLOGY

ROLE: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

EDUCATION: MB-CHB, FRCPC

Dr. Dewa's medical school training was at the University of Zimbabwe. He specialized in Internal Medicine in Durban, South Africa. He also did his cardiology training in Durban, South Africa. He furthered his cardiology training at the University of Saskatchewan and did subspecialty training in echocardiology at the University of Ottawa. He is presently working as a cardiologist in the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

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DR. MALONE CHAYA

DEPARTMENT: ANESTHESIOLOGY

ROLE: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

**EDUCATION: MB.CHB. DIP.A(SA), FCA(SA).MHA
PMP FRCP**

Dr Malone Chaya is originally from Zimbabwe. He received his medical training at the University of Zimbabwe's in 1990. He went on to intern in Bulawayo and later completed his residency in Anesthesia at the University of Natal. Dr. Chaya worked as a Junior Consultant in pediatric anesthesia before joining private practice. In 2002 his family relocated to Saskatoon, where he took up a position as a Clinical Fellow in the department of Anaesthesia at the University of Saskatchewan. He is a Royal College Fellow with an interest in pediatric anesthesia and quality improvement. His interest in quality led him to pursue a master's in health care administration degree and certification as a project management professional. He was the lead physician in establishing Schwartz Rounds at the Royal University Hospital, a multidisciplinary forum promoting compassionate care. He has held several leadership positions within the department of Anesthesia and currently sits on several committees within the Saskatchewan Health Authority as well as coordinating resident education on quality improvement. As a clinician Dr Chaya enjoys the challenge and diversity of the clinical encounters faced daily and the opportunity to interact and work with the next generation of physicians. He enjoys gardening, exercising, reading, and spending time with his wife and three young adults, and his faith community.

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DR. HUMPHREY FONGE

DEPARTMENT: MEDICAL IMAGING

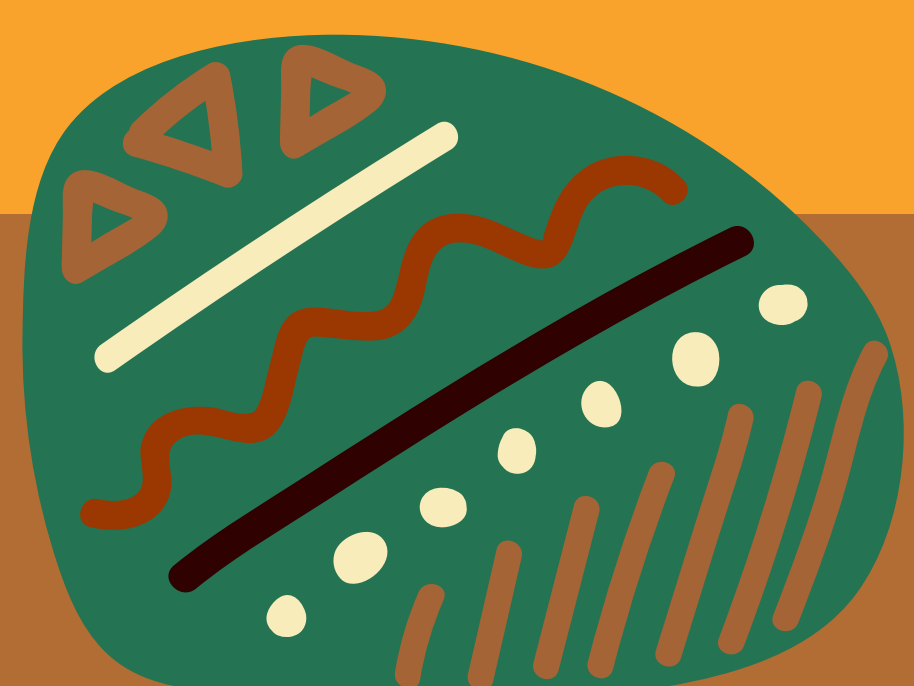
ROLE: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

EDUCATION: PHD, POSTDOC (U OF T), MBA

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: SHRF IMPACT AWARD FOR SCIENTIST WITH MOST IMPACTFUL RESEARCH, OVER \$16 MILLION IN RESEARCH FUNDING, 20 GRAD STUDENTS AND POSTDOCS TRAINED

Dr. Humphrey Fonge received M.Sc and PhD degrees in pharmaceutical sciences (specialization in radiopharmacy) in 2007 from KU Leuven, Belgium. He then completed post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Toronto in 2012 under the supervision of Drs. Christine Allen and Raymond Reilly. His postdoctoral work focused on the development of nano-delivery systems as theranostics (targeted radiotherapy and imaging/diagnostics) and on the development of radioimmunoconjugates targeting different antigens on cancer cells. Dr. Fonge also holds a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Toronto. He moved to the University of Saskatchewan in June 2013 where is currently associate professor in the College of Medicine. Dr. Fonge's research focuses on bench to bedside development of novel precision cancer theranostics under the following four main pillars; 1) Production and processing of pharmaceutical-grade diagnostic and therapeutic radioisotopes 2) Development of targeted imaging agents with focus on image-guided surgical probes (near fluorescence imaging agents), and radiolabeled probes for PET and SPECT molecular imaging 3) Development of alpha particle labeled targeted therapeutics and antibody drug conjugates 4) Translation of novel imaging probes and therapeutics in clinical trials

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DR. JACOB ALHASSAN

DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY HEALTH & EPIDEMIOLOGY

ROLE: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

EDUCATION: BSC, MSC, MSC, PHD

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: COMMONWEALTH SHARED SCHOLAR, CHEVENING SCHOLAR, TERENCE RANGER PRIZE, CH&E LEGACY AWARD

Jacob Alhassan is an assistant professor in the department of community health and epidemiology, college of medicine. He is also academic co-lead for University of Saskatchewan's global health certificate and a clinical assistant professor in the department of psychiatry. Jacob is from Ghana and is trained in health administration, public policy & global health, African studies and population health from the universities of Ghana (Ghana), Durham (UK), Oxford (UK) and Saskatchewan (Canada). He is an activist-scholar with a particular interest in the political economy of health and educational inequities. He is guided by an anti-racist and anti-colonial praxis in his teaching, research and learning and loves music, poetry and cooking. He is also the Founder and Board Chair of Ad Astra Foundation Ghana (www.adastrafoundationgh.org), a Ghana-based youth-led non-profit focused on promoting fair access to educational materials for children in rural communities.

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DR. ANULIKA NWAKAEZE

DEPARTMENT: ANESTHESIOLOGY

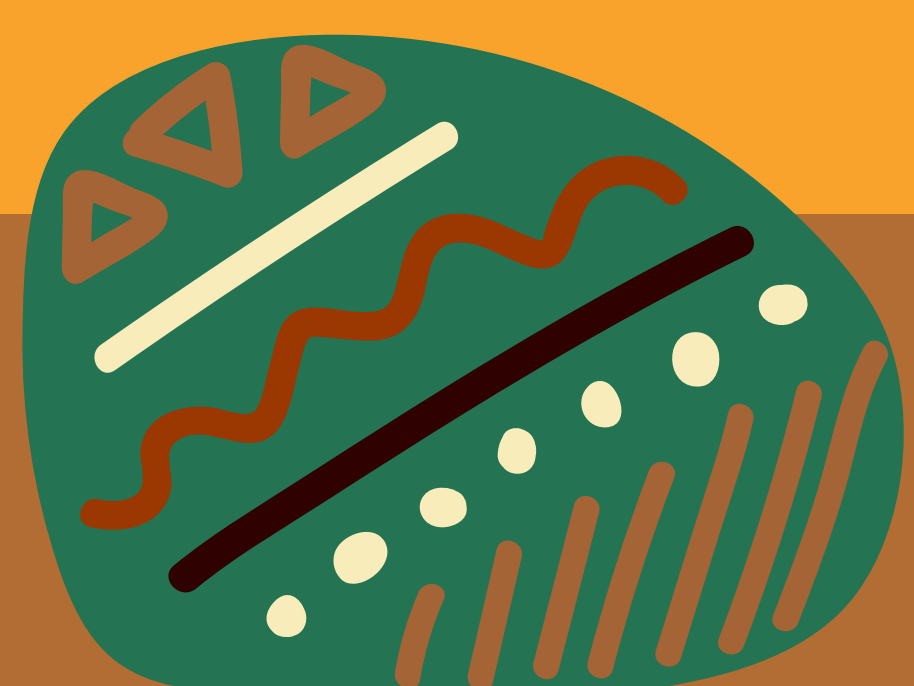
ROLE: RESIDENT PGY-1

EDUCATION: BSC, MSC, MD

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS: CANADIAN
ANESTHESIOLOGISTS' SOCIETY 1ST PLACE
MEDICAL STUDENT ESSAY AWARD**

Anulika Nwakaeze is an Albertan resident in the first year of her Anesthesiology residency training in Saskatoon. She has previously trained at the University of Alberta, University of Toronto, and McGill University. She is an avid proponent of mentorship and advancing the representation of Black people in medicine. In her downtime, Anulika is passionate about health and wellness, and incorporates daily meditation and yoga into her everyday routine. She is a lifelong singer and is learning to play the ukulele. Anulika also loves to travel, having lived in three different countries growing up and in five cities in Canada, and looks forward to more travels this summer.

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DR. IDRIS BARE

DEPARTMENT: CARDIOLOGY

ROLE: CARDIOLOGY FELLOW

EDUCATION: MD

Dr. Idris Bare is the oldest of four children, and is currently a Cardiology Fellow at the Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon. He grew up in Regina, Saskatchewan, and attended the University of Saskatchewan for both his undergrad years and medical degree. He also completed an internal medicine residency in Saskatoon where he currently lives with his wife and two young daughters. In his free time he enjoys going to the gym, playing sports, and spending time with family.

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DR. YOLANDA M. PALMER-CLARKE

**DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND
EPIDEMIOLOGY**

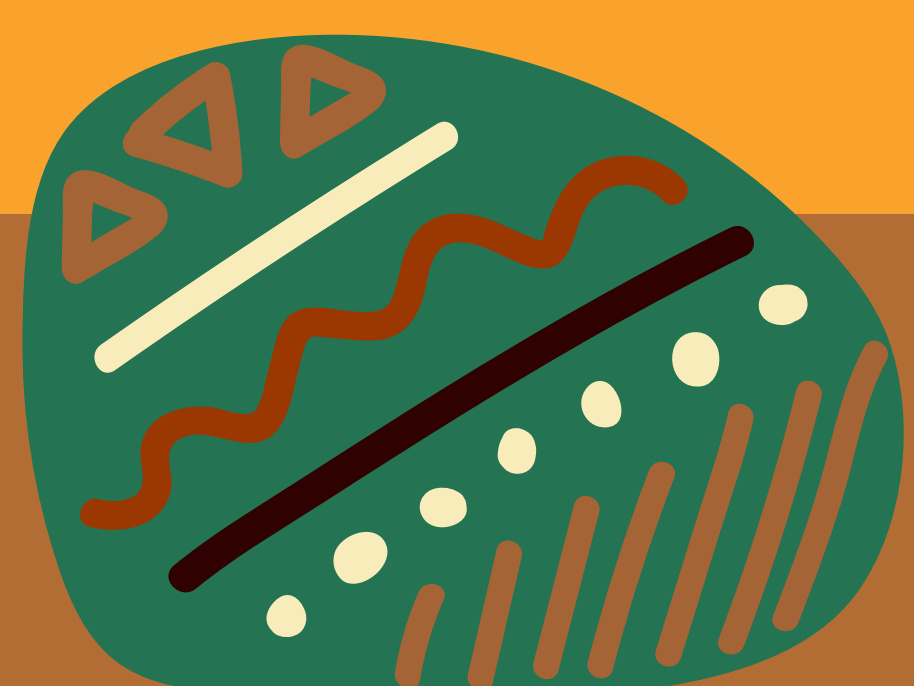
ROLE: RESEARCH OFFICER

EDUCATION: PHD., MED., BED., DIPED.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS: 2015 BEST DISSERTATION
AWARD - USASK 2018, ASPA STAFF MERIT AWARD
- USASK LANGUAGE CENTRE**

Yolanda is the Research Officer at SPHERU, where she coordinates several research projects and manages the SPHERU office and activities. She has a Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Saskatchewan. Her research interests are broad and span internationalization, racial and linguistic disparities, and inequities in resources. Yolanda is also a trained ESL professional. She has authored journal articles relating to internationalization and international student experiences. She is also the author of the book *When faith meets opportunity: Leaving, learning, and living in a foreign land*. Yolanda has also co-authored articles related to disparities in healthcare and especially among non-white populations.

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DR. OPEOLUWA OKUNOLA

DEPARTMENT: POST GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

ROLE: COORDINATOR, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

EDUCATION: PHD EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION, PMP, CBAP

Opeoluwa Okunola (Ope) (PMP, CBAP), has a PhD in educational evaluation and is currently Coordinator, Educational Programs with the PGME office. She is responsible for development and oversight of PGME educational programs such as the Resident Boot Camp, Resident Quality Improvement Program, and Quality Referral and Consult Education. Ope is also a key resource to residency programs in the development of alternate learning plans for learners.

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DR. SAMRA SAHLU

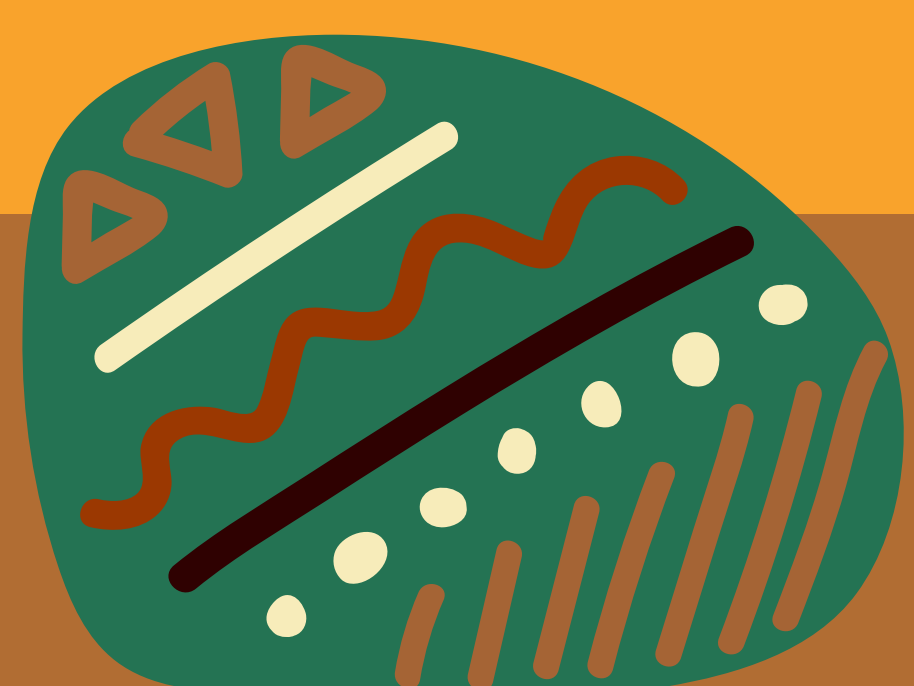
DEPARTMENT: PSYCHIATRY

ROLE: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

EDUCATION: B.SC. MD FRCPC

Dr. Sahlou is an adult psychiatrist who splits her time between Saskatchewan and Tkaronto. She was born and raised in Treaty 4 Territory and completed her undergraduate studies at the U of R, and went on to study medicine at the U of S. She completed her residency in psychiatry in Saskatchewan, and was honoured with an award for her advocacy efforts during training. She completed the Diversity Leadership Fellowship through the APA based in Washington, DC, where she served on the Council on Minority Mental Health and Health Disparities. She is currently working with a small group from the Council on a documentary about the legacy of Black psychiatrists from the 60s. They have practiced psychiatry in hospital, outpatient, ER, and corrections settings, and their professional interests include advocacy, mentorship, cultural psychiatry, transgender/ gender diverse care, community engagement, and collaboration with the arts. She was recently honoured by Black in Sask for her work in the community, and was thrilled to return to musical performance with Riva Farrell-Racette at the 2022 Regina Folk Festival.

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NATALYA MASON

DEPARTMENT: DIVISION OF SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

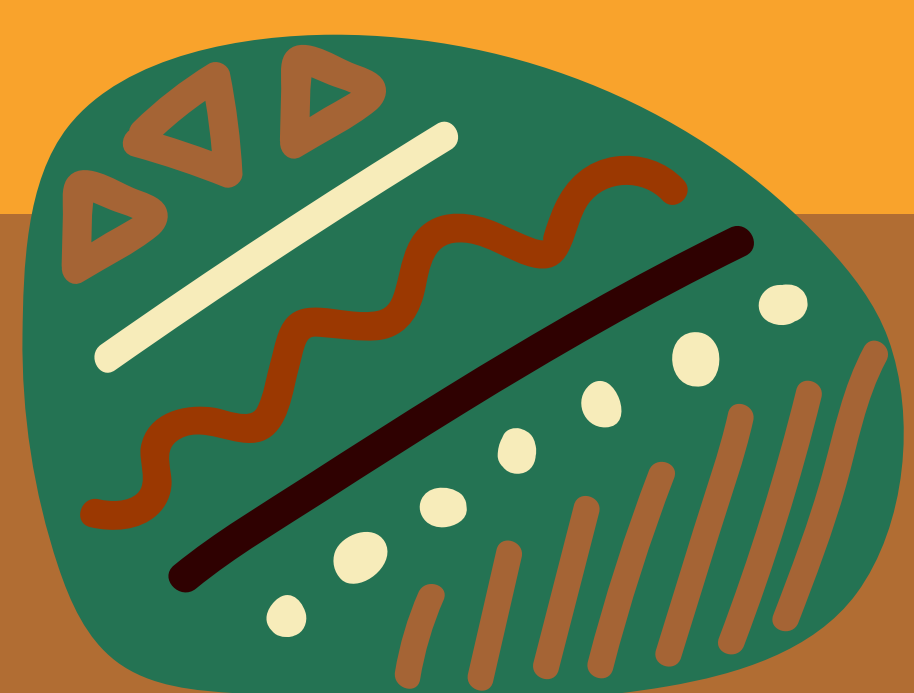
ROLE: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST

EDUCATION: PGCSH, BA, BSW, MA

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: CBC FUTURE 40, DR. NEIL KAHLRA AWARD FOR DIVERSITY & HARMONY

Natalya Mason, RSW (she/her) is a social worker who was born and raised in Saskatoon, SK. She is a Black first-generation Canadian, and a settler on Treaty Six Territory. Natalya currently works in the College of Medicine's Division of Social Accountability. She holds a B.A. in Psychology from the U of S, a BSW from the U of R, and an M.A. in Women's, Gender, and Sexualities Studies. She is a lifelong member of the Girl Guides of Canada, and is dedicated to social justice and reproductive rights for women and girls. She makes contributions to anti-racism work through The Black Physician's of Canada, Saskatoon Anti-Racism Network, and by providing anti-oppressive education in the community, co-founding the Good Trouble Anti-Racist Day Camp for Kids in 2021. She is a queer feminist living in contradiction, committed to continuous learning and unlearning.

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DR. ADEYEMI LAOSEBIKAN

DEPARTMENT: GENERAL SURGERY

ROLE: CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

EDUCATION: MB.BS(IL), FRCS(ED), FCS(SA), FRCSC

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS: CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF
GENERAL SURGEONS INAUGURAL G. WILLIAM N.
FITZGERALD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SURGERY & THE
QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLATINUM JUBILEE MEDAL FOR
EXCELLENCE IN HEALTHCARE**

Dr. Adeyemi Oladeji Laosebikan graduated from the College of Medicine, University of Ilorin, Nigeria in 1992 and completed his postgraduate surgical specialty training at the University of Kwazulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa in 2001. He worked as a Specialist Surgeon at Grey's Hospital, Pietermaritzburg, Kwazulu-Natal and as honorary lecturer in the Department of Surgery, University of Kwazulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa from 2001 to 2004. He relocated to Melfort, in rural Saskatchewan with his family in 2004 and has since practiced as a solo Community General Surgeon. He became a Clinical Associate Professor at the College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan in 2011 and supports distributed learning in rural communities. Dr Laosebikan is the Immediate Past President of the Canadian Association of Nigerian Physicians and Dentists, a Member of Royal College Regional Advisory Committee (RAC 2), Member of the RCPSC Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Group, Co-Chair of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Mentor for Canadian Association of General Surgery Rural Surgery Mentorship Program and Secretary of Kelsey Trail Medical Staff Association. Dr. Laosebikan is passionate about improving access to care in rural communities, Global Surgery and improving medical education in developing countries. He is the CEO of Virtue Health Initiative, a Not-for-profit organization and has organized many educational workshops and medical missions to Nigeria and Africa. He is also one of the founding Directors of Doc-on-call247, a telemedicine company in Nigeria. Outside of healthcare, he is actively involved in his local community and serves on the board of the Melfort Trade Alliance (Chamber of Commerce), Melfort Emmanuel Baptist Church, and WeCollaborate - Professionals Promoting Change Through Knowledge Inc.

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DR. NNAMDI NDUBUKA

DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY AND EPIDEMIOLOGY; SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

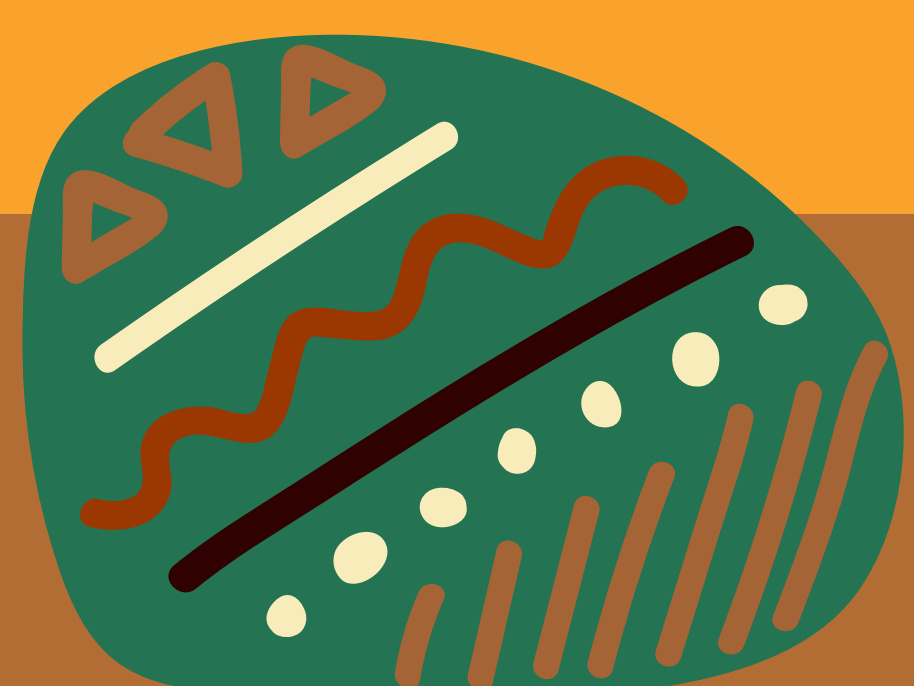
ROLE: MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER; ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR; PHYSICIAN LEAD, EDI

EDUCATION: MBBS, MPH, DHM, PHD

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PAUL HARRIS AWARD, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL CITATION AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Dr. Nnamdi Ndubuka, is a public health physician working as a Medical Health Officer with the Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority in northern Saskatchewan. He is an Associate Professor at the College of Medicine with a cross appointment at School of Public Health. He is currently the Course Director for Med & Society I. As a researcher and public health expert, Dr. Ndubuka is interested in the contribution of social determinants of health to infectious disease epidemiology including TB, HIV- and HCV-related risk behaviours and public health practices. Over the past decade, he has worked collaboratively with policy makers, academia, Indigenous communities, and people with lived experience on several community-based studies concentrating on the social construct of communicable disease-related risks. Dr. Ndubuka is an advocate of social determinants of health, anti-Black racism, quality improvement, equity, diversity and inclusivity. He is the Physician Lead, EDI with the SMA. He has a passion for leadership, good governance and research. He is the national president of the Canadian Association of Nigerian Physicians and Dentists. He pioneered the establishment of CANPAD Mentorship program aimed at fostering personal and professional development among members. He has published peer-reviewed articles and presented at conferences both locally and internationally. He has served as board member in professional and not-for-profit organizations. Dr. Ndubuka is the past president of Rotary Club of Prince Albert. He has served on the PA City Council Community Advisory Committee. As sports lover and soccer coach, he has been servicing as Board member and President of the Prince Albert Youth Soccer Association since 2018. He has played a key role in promoting soccer as a tool for positive youth development and social empowerment. He continues to promote the advancement of Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan and Canada.

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DR. KIVEN ERIQUE LUKONG

DEPARTMENT: BIOCHEMISTRY, MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

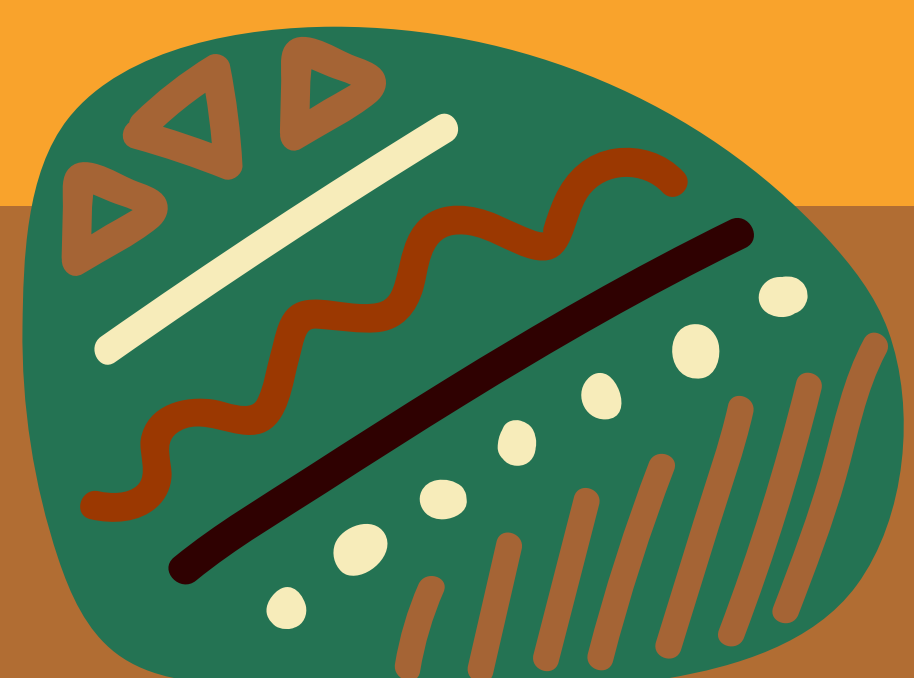
ROLE: PROFESSOR, ASSISTANT DEAN GRAD STUDIES

EDUCATION: BA/B.SC., MA, M.SC., PH.D.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS: SHRF TOP NEW INVESTIGATOR
ESTABLISHMENT GRANT- BIOMEDICAL, CIHR NEW
INVESTIGATOR SALARY AWARD**

Dr. Kiven Erique Lukong is originally from Cameroon. He completed his bachelor's (Biochemistry and French) from Keele University, UK and obtained his master's degrees (Technical translation and Biochemistry) and Ph.D. (Biochemistry) from the University of Montreal. He pursued his post-doctoral training first at Harvard Medical School and later at McGill University. He is currently Professor in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) and the Assistant Dean, Graduate Studies at USask. He is also a member of the Cancer Research Cluster at the U of S and the Director of Proteomics Research in Interactions and Structure of Macromolecules (PRISM) Centre. Dr. Lukong is a breast cancer researcher. His research broadly involves elucidating the signaling mechanisms and phosphorylation events that control growth of normal and cancer cells, and especially breast cancer cells. His lab is specifically investigating the cellular and physiological roles, and the mechanisms of action and modes of regulation of the breast tumor kinase (BRK) family of non-receptor tyrosine kinases (BRK, FRK and SRMS) in breast, prostate, and brain cancers. The Lukong lab is also characterizing the diagnostic, prognostic, and therapeutic potential of the BRK family proteins in breast cancer. More information is available at Google Scholar.

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