

# Megan Carter, PhD

## Research Associate



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### EXPERTISE

- ♦ epidemiological methods – surveillance and population health assessment
- ♦ program evaluation methods
- ♦ survey design and analysis
- ♦ critical appraisal and systematic reviews
- ♦ population health and health equity
- ♦ intervention research

### SKILLS

- ♦ quantitative analysis (SAS, Stata, R, SQL)
- ♦ qualitative analysis (NVivo)
- ♦ grant, report, manuscript preparation
- ♦ health administrative databases (DAD, NACRS)
- ♦ MS Office Suite
- ♦ working proficiency in French

### MEMBERSHIPS

- ♦ Ontario Public Health Evaluators Network
- ♦ Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario

Megan is passionate about measuring and improving public health. She strives to support evidence-based decision-making, and efficient and effective public health practice that considers health equity, quality improvement, and complex systems. Megan has extensive skills and expertise in epidemiology, research, and evaluation. She works with a diversity of stakeholders and employs lateral and servant leadership styles. Recent examples of Megan's work include a collaborative regional health inequity assessment involving four public health and healthcare agencies, a situational assessment of policy development and advocacy activities at the agency level, an evaluation of a local program to improve access to fresh produce for local residents in need, and formative and outcome evaluations of a smoking cessation social marketing campaign. Megan's research interest is in applying a place-based lens to health issues—this includes the examination of local physical and social environments and policies in relation to a wide variety of health outcomes. Away from the office, Megan is a member of the Cataraqui Valley Toastmasters Club and the Mountain Bike Kingston Club.

### EDUCATION

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- 2013** **Doctorate, Population Health**  
University of Ottawa, Ottawa ON  
**Thesis:** Do childhood excess weight and family food insecurity share common risk factors in the local environment? An examination using a Québec birth cohort.
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- 2008** **Master of Science, Epidemiology**  
University of Ottawa, Ottawa ON  
**Thesis:** Obesity and academic performance of Canadian school children: a prospective study using the first five waves of the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth.
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- 2004** **Bachelor of Applied Science, Human Nutrition**  
University of Guelph, Guelph ON
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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2013-Present** **Adjunct Assistant Professor**, Department of Public Health Sciences, Queen's University, Kingston ON  
Megan co-teaches the Master of Public Health core course Leading Evidence Informed Action (EPID 805). In this role, Megan also acts as a preceptor for MPH students and co-supervises MSc and PhD students (Epidemiology).
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- 2012** **Part-Time Professor**, Department of Epidemiology & Community Medicine, University of Ottawa, Ottawa ON  
Megan taught the graduate course Approaches to Community/Public Health Program Evaluation. This involved leading one 3-hour interactive lecture per week, marking, and assisting students with development of an evaluation project conducted with a community health organization.
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## Selected PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### Research Manager

2012

Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transitions Houses, Ottawa ON

Megan was involved in various research activities such as literature reviews, writing (factsheets, background documents, manuscripts and grants), study development (design, process and outcome indicators, and statistical analysis), and project management activities.

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### Research Associate

2008-2011

Institute of Population Health, Ottawa ON

Megan worked with Dr. Lise Dubois conducting various research activities in the field of nutritional epidemiology, including statistical analysis using SAS and a large population-based cohort of children, manuscript writing, and mentoring colleagues in epidemiological design and statistical analysis.

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## Selected PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS and PRESENTATIONS

Dupuis N, Slifierz M, **Carter M**, et al. Children Count: Assessing Child and Youth Surveillance Gaps for Ontario Public Health Units. Windsor, ON: Windsor-Essex County Health Unit; 2017.

**Carter M**. Wind Turbine Noise and Potential Health Effects: A Rapid Review. Kingston: KFL&A Public Health; 2016

Maier A, Cole D, Dickson H, Wowk C, **Carter M**, Belanger P. Continuous monitoring of a parenting Facebook Page. The Ontario Public Health Convention (TOPHC), April 4-6 2016, Toronto ON. Oral Presentation.

Knowledge Management Division of Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health. KFL&A Public Health Short Report: An Overview of the Canadian Index of Wellbeing, 2013. Kingston: KFL&A PH; 2014

**Carter MA**, Dubois L, Tremblay MS. Place and food insecurity: a critical review and synthesis of the literature. Public Health Nutrition 2013; 17(1), 94-112.

**Carter MA**, Dubois L, Tremblay MS, Taljaard M. The influence of place on weight gain during early childhood: a population-based, longitudinal study. Journal of Urban Health 2013; 90(2):224-239

**Carter MA**, Dubois L, Tremblay MS, Taljaard M. Local social environmental factors are associated with household food insecurity in a longitudinal study of children. BMC Public Health 2012; 12 (1), 1038.

**Carter MA**, Dubois L, Tremblay MS, Taljaard M, Jones BL. Trajectories of Childhood Weight Gain: The Relative Importance of Local Environment versus Individual Social and Early Life Factors. PLoS ONE 2012; 7(10): e47065.

Dubois L, **Carter MA**, Farmer A, et al. Higher intakes of energy and grain products at 4 years of age are associated with being overweight at 6 years of age. Journal of Nutrition 2011; 141: 2024-2029.

Kaczorowski J, Chambers LW, et al (**Carter M**). Improving cardiovascular health at the population level: 39 community cluster randomised trial of Cardiovascular Health Awareness Program (CHAP). BMJ. 2011; 342:d442.

**Carter MA**, Dubois L, Tremblay MS, Taljaard M. Contextual circumstances and patterns of childhood weight change. August 7-11, 2011. World Congress of Epidemiology. Edinburgh, Scotland. Poster.

**Carter MA**, Dubois L, Tremblay MS, Taljaard M. The influence of place on the development of excess weight during childhood: a longitudinal study of young children living in Québec, Canada. April 28 - May 2, 2011. 2nd National Obesity Summit, Montreal, Canada. Oral Presentation.

**Carter MA**, Dubois L, Ramsay T. Examining the relationship between obesity and math performance among Canadian school children: A prospective analysis. International Journal of Pediatric Obesity 2010; 5(5):412-9.

**Carter MA**, Dubois L. Neighbourhoods and child adiposity: a critical appraisal of the literature. Health & Place 2010; 16: 616-28.

**Carter MA**, Dubois L. Neighbourhoods and child adiposity: a critical appraisal of the literature. 11th International Congress on Obesity, Stockholm, Sweden, July 11-15. Poster Presentation.

**Carter MA**, Karwalajtys T, Chambers L, et al, CHAP Working Group. Implementing a standardized community-based cardiovascular risk assessment program in 20 Ontario communities. Health Promotion Int. 2009; 24(4):325-33.

Kaczorowski J, Chambers LW et al (**Carter M**). Cardiovascular Health Awareness Program (CHAP): A community cluster randomised trial among elderly Canadians. Preventive Medicine 2008; 46(6): 537-544.