

Proudly Announces the Physician, Midwife or Nurse Practitioner of the Month for February 2022



Dr. Ching Yu

Psychiatrist

The VJHPS is pleased to announce **Dr. Ching Yu as February's 2022 Physician of the Month**. We salute Dr. Yu for exemplifying the qualities of an excellent physician, and we are pleased to have him as a respected member of our medical staff since Fall 2019.

Background and Training

Undergrad: University of Toronto in Anthropology, Biology and Astronomy

Master's Degree: Biotechnology, Columbia University

Medical school: Case Western Reserve School of Medicine - Cleveland Ohio

Psychiatry Residency: McGill University

Fellowship: Geriatric Psychiatry, Columbia University School of Medicine

Nominator's Comments (Dr. Meena McKenna):

It is my privilege to nominate Dr Ching Yu as physician of the month. Dr Yu is sociable, friendly and always willing to help when he can. He brings a fun casual vibe to work and is always a pleasure to be around.

Ching grew up in Toronto as an only child. After high school, he went to the University of Toronto to study anthropology—he's always had an interest in what makes us human, our stories and cultures.

After graduating, he moved to New York City for fun. There as a young 20 year old adult, he obtained a masters degree in Biotechnology, while working as a photographer for a side job. It was during an internship in Public Relations at the United Nations that he developed a passion for medicine. There he had an opportunity to help organize a cancer care conference and met inspiring physicians from all over the world. He thought to himself, I can see myself doing this, and decided to pursue a medical degree.

Initially he was interested in cardiology, however his passion for understanding people and listening to their stories is what led him to psychiatry.

During his residency at McGill university with a focus on psychotherapy; Ching became fascinated with geriatric psychiatry—specifically because this population of people has many interesting stories to tell and are medically complex.

After spending much of his training on the east coast, Ching felt he needed to explore the west coast. Particularly his love of hiking, skiing and being outdoors is what led him to this part of the world. He was able to work in Community psych in Richmond for a year and his love for the west coast was cemented. He looked at small communities in BC to set up his geri psych practice. It turns out, Dr Kader, here in Vernon was retiring so Ching took over his practice and signed on to Vernon hospital.

Ching likes to paint with acrylics, and alpine ski in his spare time. He is also an avid piano and bass guitar player, with punk and garage rock music being his vibe. Sleater-Kinney and the Kills are his inspiration and his favorite bands.

Ching enjoys historical fiction, one of his favorite authors is Nancy Huston. He also enjoys movies and when asked to choose his favorite, the original Blade Runner was his pick.

If Ching could have a super power it would be teleportation, to be able to go anywhere in the world at any time would be pretty magnificent; want a pizza from Italy for dinner, done!

If he hadn't pursued medicine Ching would have been an architect and when asked what his greatest quality is he states " my casualness" and I have to agree. Ching's ability to disarm a situation and his friendly approachable demeanour is what has made him a favorite among the hospital staff and patients.

Ching's favorite food is sushi; he also loves to cook and enjoys hosting and going to dinner parties. He looks forward to the days when this can be done again with no restrictions!

When asked who he simply could not perform his job without, Ching replies, Dr Layne Harvey, the dept head of psychiatry. When asked why, he simply says " he makes sure I do not get into too much trouble and keeps me in check." Thank you Dr Harvey, hope it's working!

Congratulations Ching and thank you for your valuable contribution!
