

# Kathryn Teresa Morrison

## Abbreviated curriculum vitae

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## Current position

**PhD Candidate, Epidemiology**, McGill University  
Surveillance Lab, Clinical and Health Informatics Research Group

Expected completion  
January 2017

## Education

**Master of Science**, University of Victoria  
Geographic Information Science

2009 - 2011

**Bachelor of Science**, University of Victoria  
Quantitative Geography (Major), Statistics (Minor)

2007 - 2009

**Associate of Science Degree**, Camosun College  
General Science

2004 - 2006

## Technical Skills

### Software & Programming

**Proficient** R, JAGS, OpenBUGS, INLA, ggplot2,  $\LaTeX$ , QGIS  
**Competent** R markdown, knitr/sweave, git/github, PostgreSQL, postGIS  
**Familiar** Python, Stan, MATLAB/Octave, Stata, SPSS, HTML/CSS

### Analysis & Theory

- Exploratory analysis, data visualization and GIS mapping, sampling theory, database manipulation
- Linear and generalized linear models, hierarchical models, bootstrapping, Bayesian inference
- Time series, spatial, and spatio-temporal analysis; hierarchical and Bayesian approaches
- Epidemiological study design and theory, causal inference theory
- Prediction and forecasting, cross-validation, regularization; machine learning and non-parametric approaches

## Research Work Experience

**Surveillance Lab**, Clinical & Health Informatics, McGill University

Sep 2011 - present

- Explored dispersion patterns of Zika spread during recent epidemic (in progress).
- Developed and published R package **outbreakvelocity** for estimating front-wave velocity of epidemics (published on github: <https://github.com/kathryntmorrison/outbreakvelocity>)
- Estimated rate of Ebola spread during 2015 epidemic (published in *Lancet ID*, 2<sup>nd</sup> author).
- Investigated rurality and H1N1 in First Nations persons during 2009 pandemic (published in *Health and Place*, 1<sup>st</sup> author).
- Explored a framework for classifying outbreaks of waterborne gastrointestinal disease (abstract in *Online Journal of Public Health Informatics*).
- Provide statistical consultation for research projects as needed.

- BC Centre for Disease Control**, Provincial Health Services Authority Aug 2013 - Jul 2014
- Literature review of evidence for health surveillance of wildfire smoke events (published as a technical report by the *BCCDC, Environmental Health Services Division*).
- Spatial Pattern Analysis & Research Lab**, University of Victoria Sep 2009 - Jun 2011
- Designed lecture slides for undergraduate GIS classes.
  - Consulted on various projects involving spatial regression and spatial statistics.
  - Analyzed cortisol (stress hormone) data on grizzly bears (*Ursus arctos*) in Alberta to describe the spatial distribution of the data and compare the stress levels of tagged and untagged bears in an Alberta region for the *Foothills Research Institute Grizzly Bear Program*.
- Population Health Research Lab**, University of Victoria May 2007 - Aug 2012
- Data analysis, mapping, manuscript writing
  - Constructed databases using publicly available agricultural and nutrition data.
  - Analyzed databases to describe agricultural capacity in BC (published in *Environments*, 2<sup>nd</sup> author).
  - Supervised other research assistants on related projects.

## Teaching Experience

### Guest Instructor

- EPIB 615 (McGill): Infectious Disease Epidemiology Once per term 2013 - 2015
- GEO 473 (UVic): Environment and Health Once per term 2009 - 2011
- GEO 101 (UVic): Introductory Demography (250 students) February 22, 2010

### Sessional Co-Instructor

- PHSP 502 (UVic): Epidemiology and Biostatistics II Winter 2012 term
- Co-designed and co-delivered an online class to a distance-based Masters of Public Health program. Content included basic biostatistics, inference, and regression.

### Temporary Lecturer

- GEO 328 (UVic): Advanced Geographic Information Systems Mar 2011
- While the instructor was on leave, lectured in this class for one month on relational databases, spatial interpolation, multi-criteria modelling, and an introduction to spatial statistics.

### Teaching Assistant / Lab Instructor

- GEO 226 (UVic): Applied Introductory Statistics Each term 2009 - 2011
- GEO 524 (UVic): Advanced Quantitative Methods Fall term 2010

## Selected Publications

Doll MK, **Morrison KT**, Buckeridge DL, Quach C. 2016. Two birds with one stone: estimating population vaccination coverage from a test-negative vaccine effectiveness case-control study. *Clinical Infectious Diseases* (in press, DOI: 10.1093/cid/ciw397).

**Morrison KT**, Shaddick G, Henderson SB, Buckeridge DL. 2015. A latent process model for forecasting multiple time series in environmental public health surveillance. *Statistics in Medicine*, 35(18): 3085-3100.

Doll M, Buckeridge D, **Morrison KT**, Gagneur A, Tapiero B, Charest H, Quach C. 2015. Effectiveness of monovalent rotavirus vaccine in a high-income setting with its predominant use. *Vaccine*, 33(51): 7307-7314.

Zinszer K, **Morrison KT**, Anema A, Majumder M, Brownstein J. 2015. The velocity of Ebola spread in parts of west Africa. *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*, 15(9): 1005-1007.

**Morrison KT**, Buckeridge D, Xiao Y, Moghadas S. 2014. The impact of geographic location of residence on disease outcomes among Canadian First Nations populations during the 2009 influenza A (H1N1) pandemic. *Health and Place*. 26: 53-59.

**Morrison KT**, Nelson T, Nathoo F, Ostry A. 2012. Application of Bayesian spatial smoothing models to assess agricultural self-sufficiency. *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 26(7): 1213-1229.

Frisch, LE, **Morrison KT**. 2012. Commentary on: Propagation of uncertainty in Bayesian diagnostic test interpretation. *Southern Medical Journal* 105(9): 460-461.

## Selected Conference Presentations

**Morrison KT**, Shaddick G, Henderson SB, Buckeridge DL. *Department of Mathematical Sciences, Environmental Statistics Workshop*. June 3, 2016. Bath, UK. 'A latent process model for forecasting multiple time series in environmental public health surveillance.'

**Morrison KT**, Buckeridge D, Xiao Y, Moghadas S. *International Society for Disease Surveillance Annual Meeting*. December 3-5, 2012. San Diego, California. 'Rurality and the 2009 influenza H1N1 pandemic: a case study of Canadian First Nations.'

**Morrison KT**, Nelson T, Nathoo F, Ostry A. *Canadian Public Health Association Conference*. June 19-22, 2011. Montreal, Quebec. 'Estimating theoretical agricultural self-sufficiency in British Columbia.'

## Research Fellowships

Frederick Banting & Charles Best CGS CIHR Doctoral Research Award \$105,000	2012
McGill University Doctoral Entrance Fellowship \$18,000	2011
University of British Columbia BRIDGE Program Doctoral Fellowship \$63,000 (Declined)	2011
Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Master's Scholarships \$17,500	2010

## Professional Development

### Technical Workshops

- **Spatio-temporal Analysis**. Gavin Shaddick, Jim Zidek. May 23, 2014. Statistical Society of Canada.
- **Mathematical Modelling of Infectious Disease**. July 8-19, 2013. Utrecht University, Netherlands.
- **Public Health and Modelling**. April 29-30, 2013. The Fields Institute, Toronto.
- **Data Mining**. April 5-6, 2013. Statistical Horizons, Philadelphia.
- **Software Carpentry Bootcamp**. January 12-13, 2013. McGill University.
- **Bayesian Disease Mapping**, Andrew Lawson. July 29-30, 2010. University of British Columbia.
- **Summer Program in Data Analysis: Multilevel Modelling**. June 2-10, 2010. York University.

### Peer Reviewer

*Preventative Medicine Reports*

*International Journal of Geographical Information Science*

*Drug and Alcohol Review*

*Applied Geography*

*PLOS ONE*

## Administration

**Vice President (Finance)**, Epidemiology & Biostatistics Student Society Jan 2013 - Oct 2015

- Sat on the executive board and maintained the financial records.
- Fundraised for the society each year.
- Assisted in organizing the annual Research Day student conference.

**Session Organizer & Chair**, American Association of Geographers Annual Meetings 2009 - 2011

- Organized multiple sessions on analysis of food systems and agricultural capacity.

## References

**Dr. David L. Buckeridge, MD, PhD**

Associate Professor, McGill University  
CIHR Chair of Applied Public Health  
Clinical and Health Informatics Research Group  
Surveillance Laboratory

**Dr. Trisalyn Nelson, PhD**

Lansdowne Research Chair of Spatial Sciences  
Professor, University of Victoria  
Spatial Pattern Analysis & Research Laboratory

**Dr. Sarah B. Henderson, PhD**

Associate Professor, University of British Columbia  
School of Population and Public Health  
Senior Scientist, Environmental Health Services Division  
British Columbia Centre for Disease Control

**Dr. Gavin Shaddick, PhD**

Reader, University of Bath, United Kingdom  
Department of Mathematical Sciences

Contact information available upon request.