The Impact of Conflict on Health:
A Family Physician’s Report From Bosnia and Afghanistan
a discussion with Geoff Hodgetts MD
Queen's University School of Medicine

October 26, 2018 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
Dampeer Room, 2nd Floor of Kelvin Smith Library

War zones are not healthy for children or other living things. That may seem obvious, but it is really a challenge: what can be done to protect potential victims? Tragedies created by wars, whether international or civil, may become most visible to outsiders when refugees stream across borders. But internal displacement is more common, and dangers for people caught up in these conflicts extend beyond the threats of direct attack – awful as that is. Medical services are interrupted; infrastructure necessary for everyday living and public health destroyed; moments of peace reveal backlogs of pain and need; stress causes some people to snap. At the worst, health grievances feed back into and exacerbate the conflict. At the best, shared interest in health can support stabilization and peace-building.

Dr. Geoff Hodgetts has worked against the dangers in some of the world’s most dangerous places, from Sarajevo during the siege to Kandahar province of Afghanistan. He served as Health Advisor to the Canadian International Development Agency in Kosovo, as Director of the Queen's University Family Medicine Development Program in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and as Senior Health Advisor to the Afghanistan-Pakistan Task Force of the Canadian government. Please join us as he speaks about his experiences.

The Friday Public Affairs Discussion Lunch is an opportunity for students, faculty, staff, emeriti and other members of our communities to learn and question each other about public policy issues at the international, national, and local levels. Faculty and other speakers share their research and experience to get beyond the headlines and repetition in the mass media, and the wild rumors of the internet. Lunch is brown bag, but cookies and some beverages are provided by the Center for Policy Studies of the College of Arts and Sciences.
http://fridaylunch.case.edu/