



**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY HUMANITIES HEALS
PROGRAM PRESENTS:
TJ MURRAY VISITING SCHOLAR
Dr. Shane Neilson**



Time: 5-6PM

Date: November 16, 2026

Where: Theatre A

**Tupper Link, University Avenue
Dalhousie University or Virtual**

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Also:

Video Conferenced to:

DMNB102 and CBMC 106

**What has Poetry Got to do with Medicine?
A Literature Search**

Shane Neilson (mad; autistic) is a poet, physician, and critic from New Brunswick. In 2025, *What to feel, how to feel*, his book on neurofatherhood (a neologism for autistically parenting an intellectually disabled son) was a finalist for the Governor-General's Award for Nonfiction. Mostly, he does a too-rare thing: he teaches poetry to medical students. In this presentation, he will take us back to

1999 when Dr. Murray hosted Glen Downie, the first poet in residence at a Canadian Medical School. He will begin with an article Downie published titled "The Benefits of Vitamin P" then explore the medical benefits and practical uses of Vitamin P (Poetry). He will read a few poems from his books, each of them having a particular indication - a particular P - that he will explain.