

Dr. Jason Gilliland currently holds several positions at the University of Western Ontario, including being Director of the Urban Development Program and Full Professor in the Department of Geography (Faculty of Social Science), School of Health Studies (Faculty of Health Sciences), and Department of Paediatrics (Schulich School of Medicine). He is also a Scientist with the Children's Health Research Institute and the Lawson Health Research Institute, two of Canada's leading hospital-based research institutes.

Following the completion of an Honours Bachelor of Arts (Geography) from McMaster University, Gilliland completed a Master of Arts (Geography), Master of Architecture (Housing), and Doctorate (Geography) from McGill University. Upon completing his PhD, he took up a prestigious SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship in Planning at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Gilliland is an award-winning teacher and researcher known internationally for his research examining geographical influences on children's health and well-being, including studies on the role of food environments on children's dietary behaviours and obesity. In 2009, he was recognized with the prestigious Julian M. Szeicz Award from the Canadian Association of Geographers for significant research achievement by an early career scholar for his contribution to research on children in the city, and in 2012 he was honored with the ESRI Canada Award for Excellence in GIS for "innovation in the field of Geographic Information Systems" for his work on children's health. In 2012, Western awarded him the title of "Faculty Scholar" for "sustained excellence in all scholarly activities".

As part of their training in the Human Environments Analysis Laboratory (www.theheal.ca) at Western, Dr. Gilliland insists that his students regularly engage with him in community service and knowledge exchange activities with key policymakers, decision-makers, and stakeholder groups. Dr. Gilliland is also deeply committed to building links between the University and the community at large, and regularly applies his knowledge and expertise while serving on numerous boards and committees of governmental and non-profit organizations in Canada. In 2010 he won an 'Angel Award' for his ongoing community service in the Old East neighbourhood of London.