

## Appointments

### Lifetime Achievement Award



The Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology (CANO/ACIO) presented its Lifetime Achievement Award to **Esther Green** in late October 2009.

Green is currently the provincial head, nursing and psychosocial oncology at Cancer

Care Ontario. She has spent the past 18 years of her career working in oncology. She currently sits on the board of directors of the International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care and the Canadian Association of Psycho-Social Oncology.

Some of her other accomplishments include:

- serving as president of CANO/ACIO from 2001 to 2003
- serving as the provincial head, nursing and psychosocial oncology, chief nursing officer at Cancer Care Ontario
- pioneering the development of two Ontario Communities of Practice focused on oncology nursing: the Advanced Practice Nurse COP and the Oncology Nursing Research COP
- co-chairing Canadian Association of Provincial Cancer Agencies—Oncology Nursing Policy Advisory Committee

### CARNA Executive Director Appointed to Advisory Committee on Health

Alberta Health and Wellness recently announced that **Mary-Anne Robinson**, executive director of the College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta (CARNA), has been appointed to the Advisory Committee on Health of the Minister of Health and Wellness.

CARNA is the professional and regulatory body for Alberta's more than 32,000 RNs, including nurses in direct care, education, research and administration. Its mandate is to protect the public by ensuring that Albertans receive effective, safe and ethical care by registered nurses.

### Respected, Accomplished RN to Lead the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association

The Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association (SRNA) recently welcomed **Karen Eisler**, RN, PhD into the position of executive director. Eisler is the successor to Donna

Brunskill, RN who served as executive director from 2000 until 2009.

Eisler brings 30 years of nursing experience to her new role. She began her career as a front-line nurse, holding various positions in clinical care, administration, education and research until joining the SRNA in 2001. Eisler joined the SRNA as the quality workplace coordinator before being promoted to director of nursing practice in 2006. She also has previous experience serving on the SRNA Council as a member-at-large between 1998 and 2000. She brings to the executive director's role a solid understanding of the SRNA, strong relationships with its stakeholders and an enthusiasm for moving the nursing profession forward.

Eisler obtained her diploma and baccalaureate in nursing in Saskatchewan, a master's degree in nursing science from the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, and most recently a doctorate from the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto, where she focused her research on nursing leadership.

### Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) Receives International Nursing Award

Canadian nursing, education and healthcare organizations were recognized for their contribution to nursing excellence at the Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) biennial conference in Indianapolis, IN. The inaugural award recognizes the significance and value of collaborative efforts between nursing practice and academia to improve the health of people internationally.

The **Practice/Academe Innovation Collaboration Award** was presented to representatives of the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO), the joint RNAO/University of Ottawa Nursing Best Practice Research Unit (NBPRU) and 21 healthcare organizations known as Best Practice Spotlight Organizations (BPSOs).

To date, this partnership has resulted in the development of 42 guidelines in clinical care and healthy work environments, with others currently in development. These guidelines are available at no cost on the RNAO website. Many have been translated into French and other languages. Other implementation strategies include a network of over 3,500 nurses from over 600 healthcare organizations who champion best practice guidelines. The website also contains numerous toolkits, e-learning modules and PDA versions of the guidelines, which are accessible and available to nurses around the world.

The 21 Best Practice Spotlight Organizations are located in Ontario and Quebec and include

Cambridge Memorial Hospital, Chatham–Kent Health Alliance, Community Care Access Centre HNHB, Extencicare York, Hamilton Health Sciences, Hôpital Charles LeMoynes, Hôpital régional de Sudbury Regional Hospital, Hôtel-Dieu Grace Hospital, London Health Sciences Centre, McGill University Health Centre, Niagara Health System, Niagara Region Public Health Department, Royal Victoria Hospital (Barrie), Saint Elizabeth Health Care, St. Joseph's Health Care (Hamilton), St. Joseph's Health Care (London), The Hospital for Sick Children, The Ottawa Hospital, University Health Network, VON Canada and West Park Healthcare Centre. These BPSOs continue as active members of the RNAO/BPSO/University of Ottawa collaborative. Please visit [www.rnao.org/bestpractices](http://www.rnao.org/bestpractices).

### Ontario Long-Term Care Association Unveils Nursing Leadership Award Winners

As part of its 50th anniversary initiative, the Ontario Long-Term Care Association (OLTCA) announced four recipients of the first-ever **Ontario Long-Term Care Association Nursing Leadership Awards**. The winners were announced and recognized at a special presentation and reception sponsored by 3M Healthcare at the Association's Fall Symposium held in Markham, ON.

The Nursing Leadership Awards recognize two registered nurses (RNs) and two registered practical nurses (RPNs) who are nominated by their OLTCA Member Homes across the province for demonstrating and exemplifying the qualities of nursing leadership.

The winners are:

- **Sandra Kuchmak**, RN and director of care, The Wynfield, Oshawa, ON is a coach who instills accountability and nurtures staff to be better at placing the resident at the centre of care, and a mentor and leader who advocated for early adoption of the Minimum Data Set and volunteered for Council of Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities coordinator during its pilot phase.
- **Diane Muma**, RPN, Bella Senior Care Residence, Niagara Falls, ON is a mentor for all new registered staff and students and is a strong advocate mindful of residents who do not have family members close by. She is a key member of the palliative care team, ensuring that residents are pain-free and comfortable and never die alone.
- **Jeanette O'Leary**, RN and care innovation coach, Shalom Village, Hamilton, ON has

worked to create a sense of belonging for those with cognitive impairment, and to translate best practice into everyday practice by helping to create usable concepts for ethical decision-making by all team members.

- **Diane Stroop**, RPN and charge nurse, Avalon Retirement Centre, Orangeville, co-founded the Avalon Watch to promote health and safety and the Volunteer Auxiliary to fund-raise and provide meaningful activities for residents. She considers herself patriotic, wearing red every Friday to honour the veterans as a way of thanking them for the rights and freedoms they defended.

### ONA Front-Line Nurses Choose President: Linda Haslam-Stroud, RN to Serve Fourth Term

Long-time political activist, nursing advocate and St. Joseph's Healthcare (Hamilton) renal transplant nurse **Linda Haslam-Stroud**, RN has been acclaimed as president of the Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA) and will serve a fourth two-year term.

Haslam-Stroud has been an active member of ONA since 1980, leading hospital-sector provincial bargaining and serving on a wide array of internal and external committees.

### First Vice-President, ONA Also Acclaimed

Also acclaimed – to serve her third term as first vice-president of ONA – is **Vicki McKenna**, RN, a nurse from London, ON. In this position, McKenna holds the board portfolio for political action and professional issues, bringing with her decades of ONA experience, including hospital-sector provincial bargaining, and serving on many internal and external committees. In her nursing practice, McKenna has worked with both adults and pediatric patients at the Day Surgery Unit, London Health Sciences Centre.

### CHIMA Board of Directors Announces New Directors

The Canadian Health Information Management Association (CHIMA) is pleased to announce three new board directors: Bonnie Adamson, Adalsteinn Brown and André Lalonde. These new directors bring a wealth of experience from different facets of the Canadian healthcare sector and will provide unique perspectives as CHIMA refines the health information management profession in the evolving electronic health record (EHR) environment.

- **Bonnie Adamson**, RN, BScN, MScN (Admin), CHE, FCCHE, FACHE has been president and chief executive officer of North York General Hospital, a multi-site community teaching hospital in North Toronto, since August 2002. During her tenure, she has achieved fiscal stability in the organization and has led a successfully strategy-driven cultural/leadership transformation at the hospital. Prior to this appointment, Adamson was president and CEO of the Huron Perth Hospitals Partnership, an eight-hospital network in southwestern Ontario.



- **Adalsteinn (Steini) D. Brown**, DPhil, was appointed assistant deputy minister, Health System Strategy Division, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) in March 2006 with the goal to establish overall strategic directions and provincial priorities for the health system. He is an assistant professor in the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, Faculty of Medicine, at the University of Toronto. Brown received his doctoral degree from the University of Oxford and was a Rhodes Scholar. He was named one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40 in 2003.



- **André Lalonde** is executive director, corporate planning and quality management at the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). He is currently responsible for integrating the strategic, operational and tactical planning of the organization, and providing secretariat support to the CIHI Board of Directors. In addition to these functions, he is responsible for providing an overall direction and oversight to CIHI's corporate data quality program, as well as activities carried



out in the Classifications, Case Mix and Methodology departments.

### Bill Tholl Appointed Executive Director of CHLNet

The Canadian Health Leadership Network (CHLNet) Board of Directors is very pleased to announce the appointment of Bill Tholl as the inaugural executive director of CHLNet. The network was founded in 2007 with the objective of uniting organizations and individuals committed to doing a better job of identifying, developing, supporting and celebrating excellence in health leadership in Canada.

Tholl participated in the creation of CHLNet and has extensive experience as a senior leader in Canada's health system. Most recently, he served as secretary general of the Canadian Medical Association (2001–2008) and as national executive director of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (1995–2001).

### New OAHPP Appointments

The Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP) is pleased to announce the names of new experts joining the agency. Drs. Colin Lee, Shelley Deeks and Jean Longtin will be providing expert advice to OAHPP staff, Ontario ministries, public health units, health-care facilities and front-line healthcare providers in their respective areas of speciality.

- **Dr. Colin Lee** joined the Infectious Diseases Prevention and Control group on a part-time basis, where he contributes to program development, research and education activities in the area of infectious disease prevention and control. He also engages in the development and management of infectious diseases surveillance projects. Dr. Lee comes to OAHPP from Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, where he continues part-time as associate medical officer of health and medical lead in communicable diseases infection prevention and control and sexual health.
- **Dr. Shelley Deeks** has returned from Australia to join the Surveillance and Epidemiology group as a physician specializing in vaccine-preventable diseases. She is working with Dr. Natasha Crowcroft's team in providing expert advice in the area of vaccine-preventable diseases and control, which involves managing outbreaks and responding to queries from health units. During her time in Sydney, Dr. Deeks was deputy director of surveillance at the National Centre for

Immunization Research and Surveillance.

- **Dr. Jean Longtin** joined OAHPP as associate medical microbiologist. He will be involved primarily in the Division of Serodiagnostics at the OAHPP laboratory in Toronto, participating in quality assurance programs and providing advice regarding the interpretation of diagnostic test results, interpretation of results of testing for healthcare providers and supervision of virus isolation in regional laboratories.

### New Chair of Ontario Hospital Association Board



**Dr. Kevin Smith**, president and CEO of St. Joseph's Health System, has been named chair of the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) Board of Directors. Dr. Smith has been a member of the OHA Board of Directors since 2002. He has

also had a lengthy and successful career in the Ontario health system, which has included his role as president and CEO of St. Joseph's Healthcare (Hamilton), and his work on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as a hospital supervisor, investigator and coach. He currently is co-chair of the ministry's Emergency Room – Alternate Levels of Care Expert Panel. Earlier this year, Dr. Smith was named president and CEO of the St. Joseph's Health System, the first fully integrated continuum of care in Canada. St. Joseph's Health System includes St. Joseph's Healthcare (Hamilton), St. Joseph's Home Care in Hamilton, St. Mary's General Hospital in Kitchener, St. Joseph's Hospital in Guelph, St. Joseph's Villa in Dundas and St. Joseph's Lifecare Centre in Brantford.

### Sudbury Regional Hospital Appoints New CEO



**Dr. Denis-Richard Roy** has been selected as the new president and CEO of Sudbury Regional Hospital (HRSRH). He will begin his new duties on January 11, 2010.

A physician with a specialty in nephrology, Dr. Roy was CEO

of the Centre hospitalier de l'Université de

Montréal (CHUM) from 2002 to 2008. Over the past 20 years, he has held numerous leadership positions with McGill University Health Centre, Royal Victoria Hospital, the Montreal Thoracic Institute and the Centre hospitalier régional de l'Outaouais. He is currently consulting manager at CHUM. Dr. Roy holds a master's degree in business administration and his post-doctoral education includes an MRC research fellowship in renal physiology from Stanford University in the United States.

### Dr. Marc Ouellette Appointed Scientific Director of CIHR's Institute of Infection and Immunity



**Dr. Marc Ouellette** has been appointed scientific director of CIHR's Institute of Infection and Immunity. This appointment takes effect on January 1, 2010, when Dr. Ouellette will replace Dr. Bhagirath Singh, the institute's found-

ing scientific director. Dr. Ouellette is currently a full professor in the Faculty of Medicine at Université Laval and a researcher at the Infectious Disease Research Centre of the Centre hospitalier de l'Université Laval (CHUL) in Quebec City, QC. He holds a Canada Research Chair in antimicrobial resistance.

## Awards

### Government of Canada Pays Tribute to the Country's Top Health Researchers

A pioneering biochemist, a renowned child health specialist and a brilliant young cancer researcher are among those being honoured with Canada's most prestigious health and pharmaceutical research awards. The **Canadian Health Research Awards** are presented annually by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The following scientists are being recognized this year.

- **Dr. Nahum Sonenberg**, James McGill Professor in biochemistry at McGill University in Montreal, QC was awarded Researcher of the Year for Biomedical and Clinical Research for his pioneering study and analysis of translation control mechanisms, the process by which the genetic information stored in our deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) is turned into proteins. His research has opened the door to

new treatments for diseases such as cancer and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS).

- **Dr. Michael Boyle**, who holds a Canada research chair in the social determinants of child health at McMaster University in Hamilton, ON was awarded Researcher of the Year for Health Services and Systems and Population Health Research for his tireless efforts to untangle the complex relationship between children's health and their environment, and for his work to improve research techniques and methodology in this area.
- **Dr. Lynne-Marie Postovit**, assistant professor in cell biology at the University of Western Ontario, in London, ON receives Canada's Premier Young Researcher Award for her remarkable research into how oxygen levels and other micro-environmental signals influence the behaviour and development of normal and cancer stem cells. Her work has yielded over 20 publications to date, and she has been invited to give several lectures at international conferences.
- **Dr. Donald Weaver**, holder of a Canada research chair in clinical neuroscience at Dalhousie University, in Halifax, NS is receiving the Prix Galien Research Award for his efforts to design novel drug therapies to treat chronic neurological disorders such as epilepsy and Alzheimer's disease.
- **Dr. Adolfo de Bold**, of the University of Ottawa Heart Institute, for the revolutionary discovery of hormone secretion by the human heart; this knowledge now allows physicians to control water and salt levels in the body, reducing hypertension and helping the heart recover after heart attacks.
- **Drs. Geoffrey Fong, Mary Thompson and David Hammond**, of the University of Waterloo, for their outstanding work with the International Tobacco Control Policy Evaluation Project in assessing the effectiveness of various programs to reduce smoking around the world.
- **Dr. Bob Litchfield**, of the University of Western Ontario, for a ground-breaking study of patients with arthritic knees, proving that knee surgery provides no extra value over physiotherapy and patient education.
- **Dr. Michel LeMay**, of the University of Ottawa Heart Institute, who developed a new way to handle heart attacks that empowers paramedics to read electrocardiograms and identify patients with blocked heart arteries who need to be fast-tracked for angioplasty surgery—reducing mortality by 50%.
- **Dr. Nizar Mahomed**, of the University Health Network in Toronto, who led a team involving some 35 hospitals that introduced new procedures for hip and knee surgery; these procedures reduced wait times, cut rehabilitation stays and dramatically improved patient outcomes.
- **Dr. Stephen Moses**, of the University of Manitoba, who demonstrated the effectiveness of male circumcision in reducing the transmission of HIV in Africa.
- **Dr. Fred Possmayer**, of the University of Western Ontario, who developed a technique to purify and sterilize lung surfactant – a substance that allows lungs to expand and breathe – so that it can be used in premature babies to greatly improve their chances of survival.

### CIHR–CMAJ Top Canadian Achievements in Health Research Awards Recipients

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the *Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ)* honoured eight outstanding Canadian individuals and teams with the first-ever CIHR–CMAJ Top Canadian Achievements in Health Research Awards, which recognize and celebrate Canadian health research and innovation excellence. The winners were selected by a peer-review panel of Canadian and international experts, who looked for the discoveries and innovations that had the biggest impact on the health of people in this country and around the world. Here are the winners:

- **Drs. Paul Armstrong, Robert Welsh and Padmaja Kaul**, of the University of Alberta, who trained ambulance crews to liaise with doctors and begin treatment of heart attack victims about one hour earlier, on average, dramatically improving chances of a full recovery.



ALTERNATIVE THINKING ABOUT HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT:

## Connect People, Not Just Systems.

Alternative thinking is looking at the entire healthcare ecosystem to drive change and achieve critical outcomes, such as improved care, greater efficiency and lower costs. (Getting people, processes and technology all working together.)

It's turning data into the knowledge that links patients, doctors, long-term care, clinics, government agencies and hospitals, helping them achieve the best care possible at the lowest cost. (A virtual group hug.)

It's meeting patient expectations for responsive, collaborative healthcare—without abandoning their security and privacy needs. (More care, less red tape.)

It's working with HP, the world's Number One provider of health and life sciences IT services. We bring innovative ideas, vast industry knowledge, and an unmatched portfolio of services to help connect your organization to healthier results.

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