



# Media Release

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## 2019 BC Health Care Awards recipients revealed

VANCOUVER – Recipients of the 13<sup>th</sup> annual BC Health Care Awards were announced today at a gala luncheon in Vancouver. Eleven Gold Apple and four Award of Merit recipients were honoured.

Presented by the Health Employers Association of British Columbia (HEABC), the BC Health Care Awards recognize British Columbians who are providing outstanding care and support. Awards are given in 11 categories to projects improving health care delivery through innovative and collaborative approaches and to people making a positive impact and inspiring those around them.



### 2019 Gold Apple winners

#### Health Care Heroes

##### **Provincial Health Care Hero & Health Care Hero – Provincial Health Services Authority**

Denise Bradshaw, Director, Provincial Health Initiatives, BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre

Denise Bradshaw is committed to improving health care services for vulnerable populations, especially women who use substances. One of her major accomplishments was the development and establishment of the Heartwood Centre for Women, a residential treatment centre for women with substance dependence.

##### **Health Care Hero – Island Health**

Pauline Bernard – Director, Campbell River, Comox Valley & Area Integrated Health Services

##### **Health Care Hero – Affiliate**

Janet Silver – Leader, Patient Relations, Patient Care Quality Office, Providence Health Care

##### **Health Care Hero – Fraser Health**

Dr. Curt Smecher - Physician, QI Advisor, Abbotsford Regional Hospital

##### **Health Care Hero – Interior Health**

Donna Gibbons – Nurse Practitioner, Slocan Medical Centre

##### **Health Care Hero – Northern Health**

Lexie Gordon – Quality Improvement Lead

##### **Health Care Hero – Vancouver Coastal Health**

Dr. Todd Sakaibara - Primary Care Physician, Three Bridges Community Health Centre

## **Dianna Mah-Jones Award of Excellence in Person-Centred Care**

### **iPACE (Integrating a Palliative Approach by Having Conversations Early)**

Regional End of Life, Vancouver Coastal Health

iPACE seeks to improve the quality of end-of-life care by supporting caregivers to align care plans with the wishes and values of people, and ensure those wishes are communicated with family members and care teams. The iPACE team provides on-site education coaching and mentoring to health care staff across disciplines and care settings who have not traditionally been trained in a palliative, or end-of-life, approach to care. Since its launch in 2017, the iPACE team has delivered 835 education sessions to 3,486 staff across VCH and has provided additional support and training to 314 champions across community and acute care settings.

## **Top Innovation**

### **BC's Mobile Medical Unit: Applied Disaster Medicine Course**

Provincial Health Services Authority

All BC hospitals have Code Orange response protocols that aim to coordinate a safe and effective response to external disasters that may result in increased demand on hospital resources. However, less than 15 per cent of Canadian-trained physicians report receiving any form of disaster response training. One of the challenges has been the lack of a framework or guideline outlining the expected roles of health care professionals and administrators during a disaster. The solution: The Applied Disaster Medicine Course. The first of its kind in Canada, the standardized curriculum developed by BC's Mobile Medical Unit uses the latest literature in disaster medicine practices and can be adapted and tailored to meet the needs of regional health authorities and even individual hospitals.

## **Workplace Health Innovation**

### **Keeping the Light Shining**

Providence Health Care Residential Care Interdisciplinary Research Team

The death of a resident in a long-term care home can be hard on the health care professionals who often develop close, personal relationships with residents. Responding to this, Providence Health Care's Residential Care Interdisciplinary Research Team introduced the research project "Keeping the light shining," which aims to improve the health and well-being of health care providers at PHC's long-term care sites. Since the project has launched, staff have reported feeling acknowledged, informed, connected, empowered and inspired to take steps to maintain their own resilience to care for dying residents in long-term care homes. This in turn has enabled them to provide the best possible end-of-life care to residents.

## **Collaborative Solutions**

### **Harbour Supervised Consumption Service**

BC Emergency Health Services, Island Health, SOLID Outreach and Lookout Housing and Health Society

The opioid overdose epidemic has created a major strain on both public health and emergency response resources, and is beyond the capacity or scope for one agency or organization to effectively respond on its own. In response, BC Emergency Health Services, Island Health, SOLID Outreach and Lookout Housing and Health Society joined forces to develop an innovative model for a safe consumption site for the Greater Victoria area that integrates primary care, mental health substance use services, and supervised injection services all under one roof. The Harbour Community Health and Wellness Centre is the first supervised consumption service on Vancouver Island, and the first in Canada to fully integrate paramedics as part of a cohesive care team that includes harm reduction workers, nurses, persons with lived experience, and social program officers.

This year's Awards of Merit recipients are:

**Dianna Mah-Jones Award of Excellence in Person-Centred Care**

- Mobility: Back to Basics - 100 Mile District General Hospital, Interior Health

**Top Innovation**

- Northern Health Trauma Dashboard, Northern Health

**Workplace Health Innovation**

- An Innovative, Caring, Health-Focused Approach to Supporting Employee Attendance - Vancouver Coastal Health

**Collaborative Solutions**

- Transplant First Initiative - BC Transplant, BC Renal Agency, Kidney Foundation of BC, Providence Health Care, BC health authorities

The 2019 BC Health Care Awards are generously supported by our Gold Apple sponsors: Great-West Life, Healthcare Benefit Trust, Pacific Blue Cross, SafeCare BC and Worksafe BC.

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*The Health Employers Association of British Columbia (HEABC) is the accredited bargaining agent for most publicly funded health employers in the province, representing denominational, proprietary and affiliate health employers, as well as the province's six health authorities. HEABC coordinates the labour relations interests of more than 200 publicly funded health care employers and negotiates six major provincial agreements covering more than 138,000 unionized health care employees.*

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