

Media Release

June 24, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2013 Excellence in BC Health Care Awards winners announced

VANCOUVER – The Health Employers Association of BC (HEABC) is pleased to announce the winners of the 7th annual *Excellence in BC Health Care Awards* which recognize outstanding health care employees and reward innovation and best practices within BC's publicly funded health care providers. The awards shine a spotlight on health employees who are improving the provincial health care system and delivering outstanding care to the people of British Columbia.

The 2013 awards were presented at a luncheon on June 24 in Vancouver. Eleven Gold Apple winners and seven Award of Merit recipients were honoured. "This year's winners are an admirable group of health employees who are dedicated to providing outstanding care to the people of British Columbia," says HEABC President & CEO Michael Marchbank. "The awards provide an opportunity to bring attention to some of the incredible work happening every day in health care in BC and say thank you to the people responsible for these successes."

The 2013 Gold Apple winners are:

Health Care Hero – Affiliate

Lourdes Bolinas – Care Aide & Senior Mental Health Worker (The Bloom Group Community Service Society)

Health Care Hero – Fraser Health

Dr. Robert McCormack – Orthopedic Surgeon (Royal Columbian Hospital & Eagle Ridge Hospital)

Health Care Hero – Interior Health

Tracey Third – Home Health Nurse (Barriere Health Centre)

Health Care Hero – Northern Health

Dr. Bill Clifford – Chief Medical Information Officer

Health Care Hero – Provincial Health Services Authority

Cheryl Ward – Provincial Lead, Indigenous Cultural Competency Training Program

Health Care Hero – Vancouver Island Health Authority

Allison Cutler – Executive Director, Population & Community Health

Top Innovation – Affiliate

Canadian Mental Health Association, BC Division – For My Health! Program

Top Innovation – Health Authority

Fraser Health – Psychosis Treatment Optimization Team

Workplace Health Innovation

The Fair Haven United Church Homes – Building a Safety Culture - Violence Prevention Program

Collaborative Solutions

Northern Health – STOP HIV/AIDS Pilot Project Campaign

The luncheon concluded with the naming of the 2013 Provincial Health Care Hero – Dr. Bill Clifford, Northern Health’s Chief Medical Information Office. Dr. Clifford’s vision for better health care through the use of electronic medical records (EMR) has put Northern Health at the forefront of the electronic medical records movement with nearly 95 per cent of their physicians using them, compared to the national average of around 50 per cent.

Awards of Merit were also presented in each of the four project-oriented award categories. This year’s Awards of Merit recipients are:

Top Innovation – Affiliate

- Beacon Community Services – Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee

Top Innovation – Health Authority

- BC Children’s & Women’s Hospitals – Site Redevelopment Project - Integrated Facility Design
- Northern Health – Men’s Health Program

Workplace Health Innovation

- Tabor Village – Quality of Worklife Program
- Vancouver Island Health Authority – Violence Prevention Task Force

Collaborative Solutions

- Penticton Integrated Health Centre (Interior Health) – Contract Pharmacy Integration into a Chronic Kidney Disease Clinic
- BC Women’s Hospital & Health Centre (Provincial Health Services Authority) – Cesarean Task Force

Visit BCHealthCareAwards.ca or our social media channels (twitter.com/BCHealthAwards & facebook.com/BCHealthCareAwards) to learn more about the award winning projects and the achievements of the inspiring Health Care Hero Award winners.

The Health Employers Association of BC (HEABC) coordinates the human resource and labour relations interests of more than 260 publicly funded health care employers in British Columbia and represents denominational, proprietary and affiliate health employers, as well as the province’s six health authorities.

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For more information, please contact:

Jodie Warren
Director, Communications
HEABC
Direct: 604.714.2285/Cell: 604.764.9813
Email: JodieW@heabc.bc.ca