

# Media Release

June 25, 2012

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### 2012 Excellence in BC Health Care Awards winners announced

VANCOUVER – The Health Employers Association of BC (HEABC) is pleased to announce the winners of the 6<sup>th</sup> 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 2012 awards were presented June 25 at a luncheon in Vancouver. Twelve Gold Apple winners and eight Award of Merit recipients were honoured. "These awards share the untold stories of employees that work tirelessly towards improving the quality of our health care system," says HEABC Board Chair Betsy Gibbons. "It is an opportunity to thank and reward deserving individuals who provide outstanding care to the people of British Columbia."

The 2012 Gold Apple winners are:

#### **Health Care Hero – Affiliate**

Junine Toy - Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, HIV (St. Paul's Hospital)

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

Barbara McLeod - Clinical Nurse Specialist, End of Life Program

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

Laurie Skene - Clinical Practice Standards Coordinator, Surgical Services & Medical Device Reprocessing

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

Karen Skarpnes – Physiotherapist (Prince Rupert Regional Hospital)

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

Sarah Robertson – Manager, Multi-Media & Telehealth Services (BC Cancer Agency)

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

Dr. Paul Sugar – Palliative Care Physician (Lions Gate Hospital/North Shore Hospice)

#### **Health Care Hero – Vancouver Island Health Authority**

Dr. Sean Spina – Clinical Pharmacotherapeutics Specialist & Pharmacy Clinical Coordinator (Royal Jubilee Hospital)

#### **Top Innovation – Affiliate**

Louis Brier Home & Hospital – Support Surface Replacement & Wound Management Project

#### **Top Innovation – Health Authority**

BC Children's Hospital & Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children – Escalation of Patient Care Process

#### **Workplace Health Innovation**

Vancouver Island Health Authority – Safety Profile Project

#### **Collaborative Solutions**

BC Provincial Renal Agency – Innovative Protocolization of Anemia Therapy in Patients with Kidney Disease

The luncheon concluded with the naming of the 2012 Provincial Health Care Hero – Dr. Paul Sugar, a palliative care physician at Lions Gate Hospital and the North Shore Hospice. Dr. Sugar's personal approach to palliative care was reflected in the more than 70 letters of support that his nomination received.

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**

- Providence Health Care – Renal End-of-Life Initiative
- St. Joseph's General Hospital – Transitional Care Unit Project

**Top Innovation – Health Authority**

- Fraser Health – Surgical Website & Soonest Surgery Tool
- Kelowna Mental Health & Substance Use Centre – Comprehensive Dialectical Behaviour Therapy Program Demonstration Project

**Workplace Health Innovation**

- BC Cancer Agency/Children's & Women's Health Centre of BC – Ergonomic Syringe Adapter for Chemotherapy Delivery
- Heritage Village (Fraser Health) – Health Care Safety Dance Project

**Collaborative Solutions**

- BC Mental Health & Addiction Services – Provincial Expansion of mindcheck.ca
- Vancouver General Hospital – Clostridium difficile Infection Quality Assurance Initiative

Visit [www.BCHealthCareAwards.ca](http://www.BCHealthCareAwards.ca) 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 270 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.*

- 30 -

**For more information, please contact:**

Jodie Warren  
Director, Communications  
**HEABC**  
Direct: 604.714.2285/Cell: 604.764.9813  
Email: [JodieW@heabc.bc.ca](mailto:JodieW@heabc.bc.ca)