

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding citizens and home care leaders across Canada

November 12, 2012 (Mississauga) - Dedicated individuals and leaders in home and community care were recently recognized with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal. This commemorative medal, created to mark the 60th anniversary of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, provides a tangible way to recognize those Canadians who, like Her Majesty, have dedicated themselves in service to family, community and country.

The medals were jointly awarded by the Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA) and the Canadian Caregiver Coalition (CCC) to recognize and honour the contributions of the recipients to their communities in supporting vulnerable populations both across Canada and abroad.

Medal recipients included individuals involved in supporting family caregivers, undertaking research and knowledge dissemination, stimulating innovation in home and community care and championing supporting programs for vulnerable individuals in Canada and internationally.

“Given the significance of the Diamond Jubilee medal as a reflection of the Queen’s lifelong commitment to service, I can think of no better way to recognize the dedication and commitment that each of the recipients have shown to the betterment of communities and quality of life in Canada,” stated Nadine Henningsen, Executive Director CHCA and President CCC. “Through the engagement and involvement of leaders, such as these, we will be able to achieve a vision of integrated health and wellness that provides accessible, responsive services that enable people to safely stay in their homes with dignity, independence and quality of life.”

The Diamond Jubilee Medal, which is a national honour, recognizes citizens of all ages and walks of life who have made significant contributions to their communities. Further information about the Diamond Jubilee can be obtained by visiting the Governor General’s website at www.gg.ca.

About the Canadian Home Care Association

The Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA) is a not-for-profit membership association dedicated to ensuring the availability of accessible, responsive home care and community supports to enable people to stay in their homes with safety, dignity and quality of life. www.cdnhomecare.ca.

About the Canadian Caregiver Coalition

The Canadian Caregiver Coalition is a diverse group of over 35 national and provincial organizations from across Canada that works collaboratively to represent and promote the needs and interests of family caregivers with all levels of government, and the community. www.ccc-ccan.ca.

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Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal Recipients

Ms. Carol Annett, President and CEO, VHA Home Health

Ms. Annett championed “The Heart of Home Care Award”; recognizing caregivers for the crucial support and devotion they provide to family members, the community and greater society and a way to draw attention to the need for greater support.

Ms. Lucy Barylak,

Chef de programme administratif Centres de Jour Henri Bradet et St. Margaret, Centre de soutien aux proches aidant, CSSS Cavendish

Ms. Barylak lead the creation of a global community that works together to protect the human rights of family carers/caregivers and that advocates on their behalf.

Ms. Sharon Baxter, Executive Director, Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association

Ms. Baxter has embraced a leadership role in championing hospice palliative care and influencing End-of-Life care issues on health policy and support for family caregivers.

Ms. Vickie Cammack, President & CEO, Tyze Personal Networks

Ms. Cammack is a recognized Canadian source of inspiration and demonstrable solutions related to social networks, social innovation, citizenship and disability.

Ms. Queenie Choo, Chief Executive Officer, S.U.C.C.E.S.S.

In addition to her advocacy and work in bringing caregiver programs to Alberta Health, Edmonton Area, Ms Choo was instrumental in supporting the Edmonton Chinatown Care Centre.

Ms. Connie Clerici, President & CEO, Closing the Gap Healthcare Group

Ms. Clerici is the passionate founder of a group of award-winning Canadian healthcare companies that supports those most in need in society – children, frail elderly and other vulnerable populations.

Ms. Shelly Cory, Executive Director, Canadian Virtual Hospice

Ms. Cory’s energy and commitment was critical to setting the foundation and launching an online palliative care resource for all family caregivers.

Mr. Stuart J. Cottrelle, President, Bayshore Home Health

Mr. Cottrelle’s vision and leadership were catalysts for the establishment of a caregiver social media campaign to increase public awareness for the need to develop and sustain programs and policies to support family caregivers.

Ms. Julie Donaldson, Owner, Home Instead Senior Care – Winnipeg and President, Manitoba Caregivers Coalition

Ms. Donaldson was instrumental in the establishment of the Manitoba Caregiver Coalition, a group of individuals and organizations that join with caregivers, service providers, policy makers and other stakeholders to identify and respond to the needs of caregivers in Manitoba.

Ms. Donna Dill, Director Monitoring & Evaluation, Nova Scotia Dept of Health and Wellness, Continuing Care Branch
With three decades of experience in Continuing Care and as past President of the Canadian Home Care Association, Ms. Dill has lead major initiatives to support caregivers and clients in home care, long-term care and adult protection services.

Mr. Don Fenn, Co-Founder, Family Caregiver Newsmagazine

As co-founder of Caregiver Omnimedia, which includes the Family Caregiver Newsmagazine, Mr. Fenn's creative vision — a result of years of caregiving for his mother with Alzheimer's and his father with cancer — was realized as he launched a user-friendly source to help connect caregivers with much needed information on caregiving,

Dr. John Hirdes, Professor and Ontario Home Care Research and Knowledge Exchange Chair, Department of Health Studies and Gerontology, University of Waterloo & Scientific Director, Homewood Research Institute

As senior Canadian Fellow and a Board Member of interRAI, an international consortium of researchers from 29 countries, Dr. Hirdes led the interRAI efforts to create the standardize assessment tool for family caregivers in addition to the Method for Assigning Priority Levels in home care, and Home Care Quality Indicators.

Dr. Janice M. Keefe, Professor and Director, Nova Scotia Centre on Aging Lena Isabel Jodrey Chair in Gerontology
Professor and Canada Research Chair in Aging & Caregiving Policy

Dr. Keefe has been involved in and supported research on family/friend caregiving, Alzheimer disease and related dementia, seniors housing and continuing care policy.

Ms. Barbara Korabek, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Health Authorities, BC Ministry of Health

Ms. Korabek's vision, executive leadership and strategic oversight has resulted in the implementation of a range of integrated community and acute care programs designed to improve health system capacity and foster a population health focus to help sustain care and services.

Mr. Paul Lepage, Senior Vice President, TELUS Health Solutions

Mr. Lepage spearheaded, TELUS CareShare™ – Health in the Cloud, a virtual care coordination and patient monitoring system that supports coordinated patient home care process and enables family caregivers and patients to stay in touch with their healthcare providers.

Ms. Lisa Levin, VP, Communications and Development, Circle of Care

Ms. Levin is a champion and key organizer in the formation of the Ontario Caregiver Coalition, a multi-sectorial group whose focus is to advance the interests of caregivers in Ontario, raise the profile of caregivers, and promote advancement in public policy.

Ms. Lori Lord, President and CEO, Spectrum Health Care

Partnering with Choice Humanitarian and Tides Canada Foundation, Ms. Lord has been instrumental in raising support for the people of Xalibe, a village in the remote Cloud Forest District of Guatemala.

Dr. Penny MacCourt, Research Affiliate, Centre on Aging, University Victoria and Past President and member of the board of the British Columbia Psychogeriatric Association

Dr. MacCourt has facilitated programs and policy development that support family/friend caregivers through the creation of informational resources for service providers, program planners, advocacy organizations and educators concerned with the needs of caregivers of older adults.

Dr. Murray Nixon

Dr. Nixon has been a long time advocate for the seniors and family caregivers, through his involvement in the development of screening and assessment tools for family caregivers, as well as his leadership in the Canadian Home Care Association.

Ms. Sharon Reashore, Executive Director, Caregivers Nova Scotia

Ms. Reashore is passionately involved in community development and making sure Caregivers Nova Scotia plays an important role in the provincial caregiving community.

Mr. Matthew Rotenberg, Chief Executive Officer, Calea Canada

Mr. Rotenberg, has provided visionary leadership to a team committed to working closely with patients, family caregivers and their healthcare team throughout all stages of a patient's intravenous therapy experience.

Mr. John Schram, President and CEO, We Care Home Health

Mr. Schram and his team recognized the value of caregivers by declaring the week of May 23, 2011 Family Caregiver Appreciation Week, and implementing a program that will acknowledge the tireless efforts of some of our most deserving family caregivers.

Ms. Bonnie Schroeder, Executive Director, (Eastern Ontario & Québec) & Director, Caregiving, VON Canada

Ms. Schroeder was instrumental in the development of the Canadian Caregiver Coalition in addition to the launch of Caregiver Connect and other caregiving projects related to policy, practice and research.

Ms. Shirlee Sharkey, President and CEO, Saint Elizabeth Health Care

Ms. Sharkey has been a catalyst to accelerate change through the creation of an online community to support family caregivers, patients and health professionals to stimulate sharing of information and experiences about providing care.

Ms. Nora Spinks, CEO, The Vanier Institute of the Family

Over the past 25 years, Ms. Spinks has provided leadership to governments, labour and community groups on work-life issues by focusing on creating supportive work environments, strengthening families and building healthy communities.

Ms. Sherri Torjman, Vice-President of Social Policy, Caledon Institute

Ms. Torjman is actively involved in moving the caregiver advocacy agenda specifically in the area of minimizing excessive financial burden often experienced by family caregivers.

Ms. Anne Whelan, Executive Director, CareGivers Inc.

As President and Executive Director of CareGivers which provides a range of health and community services in Newfoundland, Ms. Whelan has partnered with Cornell University to research and implement best practices in residential childcare.

Mr. John Whitehead, Vice President & General Manager, Carelink Advantage

Mr. Whitehead is the creator of CareLink Advantage, a wireless video-monitoring system placed directly into a senior's home so family caregivers can "check-in" unobtrusively on their ailing parent or sibling to make sure everything is okay.

Ms. Antoinette Zloty, Consultant, Manitoba Health

Ms. Zloty is a strong promoter of youths' and seniors' involvement in cultural diversity and women's equality. She is the first President and founding member of the Barbados Association of Winnipeg Inc and is currently the President of the Congress of Black Women of Manitoba Inc.