



## **Pharmacists Celebrated for Career Achievements, Contributions to Healthcare**

**September 13, 2016 (St. John's)** PANL's annual Awards Gala took place this past weekend during Conference 2016 *Innovation: Embracing Change for Better Healthcare*. Many pharmacists were recognized for years of service, career achievements and significant contributions to advance the profession. Awards include Community Pharmacist of the Year and Hospital Pharmacist of the year, which can be nominated by the public, the James C. Quick Award for innovation in pharmacy, and the PANL Student Spirit Award, among others.

"The Awards Gala is a wonderful opportunity to recognize and celebrate the many significant contributions our members make in caring for the patients of our province and providing quality healthcare services," said Steve Gillingham, President of the Pharmacists' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador. "We have much to be proud of as a profession and I congratulate all award recipients for their service and contributions."

The Pharmacist of the Year Awards can be nominated by members of the public or peers/colleagues of the pharmacist, with criteria including positive impact on the patient, his/her family and/or the community. Nancy Clarke, owner of a pharmacy and medical clinic in Upper Island Cove, is Community Pharmacist of the Year. Hospital Pharmacist of the Year is Renu Gill, Pharmacist at the Janeway Children's Hospital and Rehabilitation Center.

Dr. Linda Hensman, former Dean of Memorial's School of Pharmacy, was awarded Honorary Life Membership, which is bestowed only to those pharmacists who have demonstrated an exceptional career in pharmacy, making significant contributions for the betterment of pharmacists and the profession as a whole.

The James C. Quick award is presented to a pharmacist who has introduced innovative methods or services in pharmacy care or who has, by his/her initiative, broadened the scope of practice of pharmacy in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. The recipient this year is Dr. Carla Dillon, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies at the School of Pharmacy.

The Bowl of Hygeia is awarded annually to a pharmacist who has compiled an outstanding record of community service through the profession of pharmacy. This award has been presented in all ten Canadian provinces since 1967, and is currently

sponsored by Pfizer. This year's recipient is Barbara O'Reilly, who practices in Bay Bulls.

70 pharmacists were recognized this year for milestone years of service, with two pharmacists receiving 50 year-service pins and awards: Herman Walters and Ralph Winsor received standing ovations for reaching this career milestone.

Six students of the School of Pharmacy were recognized with awards and student bursaries for their leadership and commitment to the profession: Jeremy MacDonald, Ralph J. Harris Future of Pharmacy Award; Alexa Bull, the PANL Student Spirit Award; and the Canadian Pharmacist Benefits Association/PANL Awards went to Alexa Bull, Kyia Hynes, Jillian McInnis and Sydney Saunders.

Pictures of Conference 2016 and the Awards Gala can be viewed here:

<https://steadrock.smugmug.com/2016-PANL-Conference-The-Delta/>

PANL is the voice of pharmacists, with membership including 740 pharmacists, over 160 pharmacy students and 150 pharmacies. PANL advocates for pharmacists as health care team members integral to the effective and efficient delivery of health services in Newfoundland and Labrador.

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