

## **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2013 Provincial Recipient**

**Anita Hanrahan** is the 2013 Dr. John Waters Memorial Award recipient. Although she has worked in acute care and long term care, the primary focus of Anita's career is public health, particularly in the control of communicable diseases. Currently, Anita is the Director of Communicable Disease Control for Alberta Health Services (AHS), providing oversight to the Province-wide Immunization Program, Notifiable Diseases, STI Services, Tuberculosis Services and Travellers' Health programs. Anita was the Nursing Science member of the National Advisory Committee on Immunization, which makes recommendations for the use of vaccines currently or newly approved for use in humans in Canada from 2005 to 2012. She is an Associate Faculty Member in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta, and member of the Graduate Studies Admissions Committee in the Faculty. In February 2013, Anita was a presenter for the Canadian Nurses Association webinar series: Influenza Immunization – Issues for Nurses. Anita is a long-term member of the Canadian Public Health Association and the Alberta Public Health Association.

## **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2012 National Lecture**

**Dr. Susan Tamblyn** presented the 2012 Dr. John Waters Memorial lectureship at the Canadian Immunization Conference, focusing on excellence in the delivery of immunization programs. Dr. Tamblyn is the former Medical Officer of Health for the Perth District Health Unit in Stratford ON, and former Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of Western Ontario, positions she held for 30 years. During her career Dr. Tamblyn developed strong expertise in immunization and communicable disease and served on many expert committees at provincial, national and international levels, often with Dr. Waters whom she knew well. Her leadership included four years as chair of the Canadian National Advisory Committee on Immunization and three years as chair of the Ontario Advisory Committee on Communicable Disease. Dr. Tamblyn is a strong proponent of life-long learning and enjoyed teaching students and training residents. During her career she helped plan many successful immunization and communicable disease meetings, including a series of international influenza conferences. Dr. Tamblyn has been involved in influenza studies and pandemic planning for over thirty years and is a strong advocate for influenza vaccine. Since her "retirement" in 2004 she has continued to consult on influenza and pandemic planning for all levels of government, primarily providing assistance to the Public Health Agency of Canada.

## **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2011 Provincial Recipient**

**Dr. Singh**, is an infectious diseases expert committed to public health efforts to reduce sexually transmitted and blood borne infections. Since the start of her career, she has been a passionate advocate for marginalized populations. Dr. Singh is described by her colleagues as an enthusiastic and energetic leader who has made significant contributions to public health locally, provincially, nationally and internationally. Dr. Singh studied medicine in the UK, received her

postgraduate medical training at the University of Alberta, and a Master of Science in Epidemiology from Harvard University. Locally, Dr. Singh has worked with harm reduction agencies to reach street involved pregnant women during a syphilis outbreak and she received the HIV Edmonton Bob Mills Community Leadership Award in 2010. Provincially and nationally, Dr. Singh has contributed to the development of a wide range of guidelines, programs, and policies for HIV, sexually transmitted infections (STI) and viral hepatitis, and she has published extensively in these areas. Internationally Dr. Singh has worked with the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization, and recently developed a national strategy for STI in Guyana. In 2006, she climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro to raise funds for the Canadian Foundation for Infectious Diseases. Dr. Singh is currently a Clinical Professor in Infectious Diseases at the University of Alberta and Medical Director of Edmonton's STI Clinic.

### **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2010 National Lecture**

**Dr. Scott A. Halperin**, Professor of Pediatrics and Microbiology and Immunology at Dalhousie University and the Head of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the IWK Health Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada presented the 2010 Dr. John Waters Memorial lectureship at the Canadian Immunization Conference. Dr. Halperin was educated in the United States, completing his undergraduate degree in Biology at Stanford University and his medical degree at Cornell University. His postgraduate residency training was in pediatrics at the University of Virginia and his fellowship in pediatric infectious diseases at the University of Virginia and the University of Minnesota. He has lived in Halifax since 1985 where he is the Director of the Canadian Center for Vaccinology. He recently held one of two Canadian Institutes of Health Research/Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Clinical Research Chairs in Vaccines. His research focuses on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of pertussis and other vaccine-preventable diseases.

### **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2009 Provincial Recipient**

**Gerri Renz**, Regional Manager, Public Health Nursing, Alberta Health Services in the Medicine Hat area is the 2009 Dr. John Waters Memorial Award recipient. She has been employed in public health for the past 33 years; a generalist public health nurse until 1995 when she became the program manager. She is described by her colleagues as a leader, mentor, and friend who demonstrates excellence in public health through partner collaboration. Gerri's key accomplishments include: implementation of high quality immunization programs, leadership in regional Pandemic Influenza Planning and the West Nile outbreak response, implementation of a travelers' health software program and the Books for Babies Program, and development of a Newcomer Health Coordinating Committee. Gerri provides exemplary leadership for the various communicable disease units including general communicable diseases, tuberculosis, sexually transmissible infections, and travelers' health. She is a strong advocate for the health of infants and children by actively promoting and participating in groups such as the Home Visitation Network and the Early Childhood Development Partnership. Gerri received the Premier's Award of Excellence for her contribution to the 2000 -2001 province wide meningococcal immunization campaign.

## **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2008 National Lecture**

**Dr. David Scheifele**, Director of the Vaccine Evaluation Center at the British Columbia Children's Hospital and a professor of Pediatrics at the University of British Columbia (UBC) presented the 2008 Dr. John Waters Memorial lectureship at the Canadian Immunization Conference. Dr. Scheifele holds the Canadian Institutes of Health Research/Wyeth Chair in clinical vaccine research at UBC and chairs the Canadian Association for Immunization Research and Evaluation (CAIRE). He is a past chair of the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) and was co-founder of the Immunization Monitoring Program ACTive (IMPACT). Dr. Scheifele has published extensively and served on the *Paediatrics and Child Health* editorial board. As a paediatrician and professor of Paediatrics and paediatric infectious disease, Dr. Scheifele has made outstanding contributions to the care of children and youth, in particular the development and implementation of vaccines for which in 2007 he was named the recipient of the Ross Award, the highest recognition by the Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS). Dr Scheifele's lifetime of dedicated work has impacted clinical practice and shaped policy directions in vaccine development and research. His passion for translating new vaccine products into optimal vaccine programs for children and adults is consistently demonstrated through his professional practice, teaching and applied vaccinology research. In his opening remarks, Dr Scheifele mentioned that he and Dr Waters served together on the CPS Infectious Diseases committee, NACI and others, in the course of which they became close friends. Dr Scheifele described Dr Waters as a true pioneer of Canadian immunization programs and a wonderful role model for advisory committee members.

## **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2007 Provincial Recipient**

**Agnes Honish**, Nursing consultant and most recently Senior Manager with the Disease Control and Prevention Branch of Alberta Health and Wellness is the 2007 Dr. John Waters Memorial award recipient. Agnes has a long and distinguished career in public health spanning over a thirty-year period. Her colleagues regard her as a “champion of public and children's health”. She has been a leader nationally, provincially and regionally by influencing public policy, public health practice, nursing research and evaluation in the areas of immunization and communicable disease control. She was a national leader in the movement to recognize the broader community, outside of hospitals, in infection prevention and control. Agnes served on the National Immunization Advisory Committee (2003 – 2006) and implemented many recent additions to the *Alberta Immunization Program*. Agnes was instrumental in the implementation of the 1997-1998 provincial mass measles immunization of all Alberta school children and the 2000 - 2002 mass meningococcal immunization of all Albertan's age 2 months to 24 years. Her notable achievements include her work in developing the *Alberta Public Health Notifiable Disease Guidelines*; leadership in sections of Alberta pandemic influenza and SARS plans; formation of a regional Needlestick Response Team and the establishment of an infection prevention and control department within Alberta Health and Wellness.

## **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2006 National Lecture**

**Dr Joanne Embree**, Professor and Head of the Department of Medical Microbiology and Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Child Health at the University of Manitoba presented the 2006 Dr. John Waters Memorial lectureship at the Canadian Immunization Conference. Dr. Embree is also the head of the section of infectious diseases in the Department of Pediatrics and Child Health. She has long been recognized as an advocate for children with a specialization and primary research interest in the prevention of infectious diseases in children. Dr. Embree received her medical training at Dalhousie University where she also completed her core training in Pediatrics after her internship at the University of Ottawa. She completed her Pediatric Fellowship training in infectious diseases at the University of Manitoba and The University of Washington in Seattle as well as a research fellowship at the University of Nairobi, Kenya. Dr. Embree is currently Vice President of the Canadian Pediatric Society. She has served on numerous committees including the National Advisory Committee on Immunization.

### **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2005 provincial Recipient**

**Janice Blair**, Vice President of Community Health for Palliser Health Region is the 2005 Dr. John Waters Memorial award recipient. Janice has long been an outspoken and vigorous promoter of public health. Janice began her career in public health in 1979 as CEO of the former Big Country Health Unit, a position she held until regionalization in 1995 when she was appointed to her current position. Janice has provided outstanding leadership in the development and delivery of a wide array of community health services in her portfolio which includes public health nursing, communicable disease control, genetics outreach services, sexual health, dental health, health promotion, community nutrition, Smoke Free Program, Injury Control program, Children's Health and Developmental Services, Chronic Disease Prevention and Management Program (including diabetes and cardiac rehabilitation), school health, environmental health, speech, Language and Hearing Services, Clinical Nutrition and Food Services, Volunteer Services and Alfred Egan Home. Janice has been a continuing advocate of research and evidence based public health practice providing strong support to the Palliser regional research committee. In addition she has advanced public health at a provincial level through participation on the Southern Alberta Child and Youth Network and in a co- chair role on the Alberta Coordinating Council for Cancer Control.

### **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2004 national Lecture**

**Dr. Luis Barreto**, Vice President of Public Affairs, Director of International Public Health Affairs and Corporate Public Policy with Aventis Pasteur Ltd. is the 2004 Dr. John Waters Memorial award recipient honoured to present the Dr. John Waters Memorial lecture at the Canadian National Immunization Conference. Dr. Barreto holds degrees in medicine, community medicine and epidemiology from India and Canada respectively. He has carried out clinical trials in Canada, Europe and internationally with Haemophilus, polio and acellular pertussis vaccines as well as various combination vaccines and has published many articles on these topics. He is actively involved in the development and global introduction of combination vaccines. He was responsible for the introduction of acellular pertussis vaccines in many countries and the acellular pertussis combination pentavalent vaccine in Canada. Dr. Barreto is a member of

various committees of the World Health Organization, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, the Children's Vaccine Program, the Canadian SARS Consortium, BIOTECanada's Health Policy and Government Relations Committee.

**Dr. Noni MacDonald**, former Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Professor of Paediatrics and Microbiology at Dalhousie University is the 2004 Dr. John Waters Memorial award recipient honoured to present the Dr. John Waters Memorial lecture at the Canadian National Immunization Conference. Dr. MacDonald has long been recognized nationally as an advocate for children and a leader in paediatric infectious disease, with major research interests in the microbiology of cystic fibrosis, stress management in medical faculties, sexually transmitted diseases in adolescents and vaccine development for infectious diseases in children. She has published more than 170 papers, been on the editorial board of several major publications, and is founding editor of Paediatrics & Child Health, a journal of the Canadian Paediatric Society. Dr. MacDonald has been an active participant in many national and international societies and organizations as well as federal government committees. She has received numerous awards and honours, including the Canadian Infectious Disease Society Distinguished Service award, the University of Ottawa Award of Excellence and a visiting scholarship to the University of Oxford Institute of Molecular Medicine. She serves on the World Health Organization's Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety.

### **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2003 provincial Recipient**

**Jackie Petruk**, Director of KIDSAFE Connection and an exemplary leader and mentor to the KIDSAFE connection team, is the 2003 recipient of the Dr. John Waters Memorial award. Jackie has been a tireless injury prevention champion within regional and provincial health networks. She is a compassionate and passionate leader in bringing injury control, especially in children's safety, to the forefront of public awareness and initiating change through public health policy and legislation. Jackie is involved in numerous projects relating to community health, traffic safety and bicycle legislation, including ten years of developing strategies and lobbying for mandatory bicycle helmet legislation in Alberta which came to fruition in 2002. She has been committed to the integration of injury prevention into the routine activities of Community Health nurses in Alberta, through the development of the Million Messages program. Jackie was a key initiator of the initial child focused educational passenger restraint enforcement program "Think..Think Again" (TTA) pilot project which has since been taken up province wide and subsequently expanded into a comprehensive Alberta Occupant Restraint Program. Jackie's many years of advocacy efforts continue to shape and advance injury control strategies in Alberta.

### **Dr. John Waters Memorial Fund 2002 national Lecture**

**Dr. Richard Goldbloom**, Professor of Paediatrics at Dalhousie University and member of the active medical staff of the Izaak Walton Killam Health Centre in Halifax is the 2002 award recipient and honoured to present the inaugural Dr. John Waters Memorial lecture at the Canadian National Immunization Conference. Dr. Goldbloom has authored over 120 original

papers in medical literature and numerous textbook chapters as well as serving as editor and on editorial boards for various paediatric medical publications. He has to his credit countless visiting professorships and distinguished lectureships throughout the world. He achieved international recognition as a pioneer of family participation in care of hospitalized children having initiated one of the first care-by-parent units in Canada. In 1987 he was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada in recognition of his contributions to regional health care for children. In 1997 he was named recipient of the Ross Award, the highest recognition of the Canadian Paediatric Society and in 1999 the F.N.G. Starr Award, the Canadian Medical Association's highest award for outstanding Achievement. In addition to a variety of honorary degrees he was appointed Chancellor of Dalhousie University in 2001.