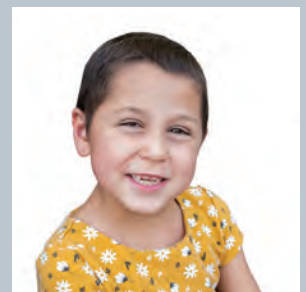


Chez nous

MCH EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER – SPECIAL EDITION – 2022



Photos: Pamela Lajeunesse, Medical Multimedia - MUHC, Ryan Blau - PBL Photography and Natacha Rousseau - NR Photo



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Awards of Excellence 2022 Winners

Hôpital de Montréal
pour enfants
Centre universitaire
de santé McGill



Montreal Children's
Hospital
McGill University
Health Centre

Celebrating excellence!

While we were all hoping to return to our pre-pandemic lives, the waves kept coming. But that didn't stop The Children's large family, which once again showed incredible resilience.

By helping each other, you demonstrated that there is no crisis you can't get through together. You redoubled your efforts, showing your young patients and their families that they could count on you. In these turbulent and challenging times, some of you stood out and your efforts did not go unnoticed.

We congratulate the award recipients of this 23rd edition of the Awards of Excellence, who were lifted and motivated by this caring and positive energy. You are role models whose exceptional work inspires others to go above and beyond, find new and different ways to provide care, and innovate. You have an impact on the lives of your patients, their families, and your colleagues. We're lucky to have you by our side.

This year also marks the return of the Nicolas W. Matossian Junior Community and of the Community Leadership & Volunteer Awards of Excellence, highlighting the contributions of two extraordinary individuals who care deeply about The Children's. Thank you for everything you do.

We pay tribute to the Hospital's personnel, whose dedication and compassion help get sick kids back on their feet, allowing them to return to their mischievous ways. We also thank our generous sponsors: ALRE Properties Inc., National Bank, the DGDM Family Foundation, the McCall MacBain Foundation, Le Groupe Maurice and Pfizer Canada. Their invaluable support helps The Children's find Unexpected Ways to Heal.

Long live our "little brats"!



Photo: Melany Bernier Photographie. Beauty care: Véronique Prud'homme

Renée Vézina

President

The Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation



Photo: Nadia Zheng

Katrin Nakashima

Chair of the Board

The Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation

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Dr. Robert D. Barnes

Recipient of the National Bank Medical Award of Excellence



Dr. Robert D. Barnes always wanted to be a pediatrician. He pursued his dream at McGill University's Faculty of Medicine and, ultimately, became a pediatric endocrinologist at The Children's. But events transpired that compelled him to also explore another path.

One such event occurred in 2015 as The Children's team prepared its historic relocation to the Glen site. In the year prior to the move, a colleague's retirement left open an important hospital leadership position that Dr. Barnes felt he could fill. He then began his new role as Associate Director of Professional Services at The Children's.

Another transformative event occurred in early 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic was declared. As the first wave hit Quebec, there was an appeal for pediatric hospitals to help care for adult COVID-19 patients. The Children's answered the call, with Dr. Barnes representing the Hospital at the MUHC's Emergency Measures Coordination Centre.

"It was moving to see so many of us go where the need was," recalls Dr. Barnes. Adult patients were then brought to The Children's while staff lent a hand at some of Quebec's hardest-hit long-term care facilities.

Photo: Pamela Lajeunesse, Medical Multimedia - MUHC



Dr. Barnes was also at the centre of efforts to shore up morale among Hospital staff. According to Alexandra Black, a senior advisor for quality improvement at The Children's, he seized every opportunity to promote wellness and resilience among his troops.

"He promoted camaraderie and teamwork with a gentle touch of humour and humanity," says Alexandra.

Congratulations to Dr. Barnes, who, upon learning that he had won the Medical Award of Excellence, saluted The Children's staff for their hard work and dedication. "I have had the honour of representing the wonderful Hospital family through all the challenges of the pandemic. So I gratefully accept this award on behalf of all of us."



A WORD FROM THE SPONSOR

As a leading financial player in Quebec and Canada, National Bank is recognizing the exceptional leadership of Dr. Robert D. Barnes, Associate Director of Professional Services at The Children's. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Barnes and the management team, The Children's became the first pediatric hospital in Canada to admit adult patients at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. His commitment throughout his career has made a positive impact on the lives of thousands of patients and their families. It's an honour to present him with the National Bank Medical Award of Excellence. Congratulations to Dr. Barnes!

Angela Burns

Recipient of Le Groupe Maurice Nursing Award of Excellence



Angela Burns doesn't remember a defining moment when she suddenly discovered her calling. There was never any doubt in her mind: "I just always knew I wanted to be a nurse."

After CEGEP, Angela spent four years as a nurse at The Children's before pursuing her bachelor's degree in nursing at the University of Ottawa. She graduated in 1992 and returned to the Hospital to work as a general medical nurse. A few years later, Angela joined the nephrology division and soon took on a new challenge as kidney transplant coordinator.

Through her work, Angela meets every new patient who comes to The Children's to undertake their complex and stressful kidney transplant journey. Angela guides the patients and their families through major surgery, and possible post-transplant complications. She does all the necessary teaching after the transplant, supporting them as they learn about the many medications they must take.

Angela also coordinates meetings with physicians, social workers and other professionals. When she goes home after work, her cellphone stays on. "There are so

Photo: Pamela Lajeunesse, Medical Multimedia - MUHC



many things that these children and their families go through. All I want to do is make things easier for them. They know they can reach me when they need me.”

Her patients and their families repay Angela with unending gratitude and love. “When I think of Angela, I think of an angel,” says the mother of one young patient. Another parent beams: “Angela is an exceptional woman: radiant, loving, and so dedicated!”

Thank you, Angela, for all you have done and continue to do. Congratulations on your Nursing Award of Excellence!



A WORD FROM THE SPONSOR

Angela Burns, kidney transplant nurse, has made her mark by going above and beyond for her young patients. By putting people at the heart of everything she does, Angela makes a real difference, reaching an exceptional level of engagement. Her core values include love and respect, which are appreciated by her patients, their families, and her Hospital colleagues alike. At Le Groupe Maurice, we share these values, and we live them every day in our residences for seniors. This is one of the reasons why we are thrilled to present Angela Burns with the Le Groupe Maurice Nursing Award of Excellence. Congratulations, Angela!

Nadia Eldaoud

Recipient of the MCHF Professional Staff Award of Excellence



Naturally positive, Nadia Eldaoud has always excelled at solving complex problems. Her motto is “Anything is possible!” With her open mind and impressive ability to adapt to change, Nadia makes a positive impact on people’s lives.

Nadia started her career in the Montreal General Hospital’s burn unit. During the 1989 Polytechnique tragedy, she helped out in the emergency, and a new passion was born.

She moved to The Children’s emergency department, where she held various management positions before transferring to ambulatory services. Nadia is now nurse-manager for pediatric day hospital services and ambulatory services, managing several teams totalling more than 90 employees.

She attributes her success to showing respect, recognizing the importance of empathy and being a good listener. “I’ve seen first-hand her perseverance, which makes her an incredibly strong leader who is always seeking excellence and improvement,” says Dr. Anne Marie Sbrocchi, director of pediatric day hospital services.

While her colleagues recognize her leadership and creative ideas, Nadia never forgets that ultimately,

Photo: Pamela Lajeunesse, Medical Multimedia - MUHC



solutions must be centred around the well-being of patients and their families.

Nadia has participated in several innovative projects at The Children's, most notably during the pandemic. The transformation of the day hospital into a hot zone was a model for the entire Hospital, designed to protect staff and patients requiring complex care services.

Together with Dr. Sara Long-Gagné and Frédéric De Civita, Nadia also helped establish the Intermediate-Complexity Coordination and Navigation (I-CCAN) Service, which offers personalized, tailored care for children with medical complexities.

This new program was the vision of Dr. Hema Patel, director of the division of general pediatrics, who wished to offer accessible, integrated, quality care and

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services. I-CCAN received an honorable mention at the prestigious 2022 *Prix d'excellence du réseau de la santé et des services sociaux* in the *Intégration des services* category. This success is a shining example of The Children's excellence in developing innovative, family and patient-centred care projects.

Thank you, Nadia, for using your exceptional skills to rally your teams and help The Children's find Unexpected Ways to Heal.

A WORD FROM THE SPONSOR

Known for her positive attitude and creative solutions, Nadia Eldaoud is the clinical manager for pediatric day hospital services, whose development she led. Nadia is also a founding member of the Intermediate-Complexity Coordination and Navigation Service (I-CCAN) for children with medical complexities who are followed by many specialists. The Children's supports these innovative ideas to help patients and their families navigate the system. We are honoured to present Nadia Eldaoud with the MCHF Professional Staff Award of Excellence. Congratulations, Nadia!

Dr. Michael Shevell

Recipient of the Pfizer Research Award of Excellence



Photo: Pamela Lajeunesse, Medical Multimedia - MUHC

Whether he sees patients, teaches aspiring doctors, or conducts medical research, Dr. Michael Shevell has one purpose: to help sick children. “No matter the medical problem they may have, kids just want to experience the joy of childhood and of growing up.” His will to help young patients know this joy has kept Dr. Shevell at The Children’s throughout his professional life.

Dr. Shevell started as a pediatric resident at The Children’s in 1984 and joined the attending staff in 1991. More than 30 years later, he still works at the Hospital as an attending pediatric neurologist. He is also a tenured professor of pediatrics and neurology-neurosurgery at McGill University. But Dr. Shevell’s global renown comes especially from his efforts in clinical research, where he studies neurodevelopmental disabilities in children, with a particular focus on cerebral palsy and global developmental delay.

“I was always curious and asking questions in the clinic,” says Dr. Shevell. “And if we ask questions in the hope of furthering children’s health, we need to do research to generate new knowledge.”

His colleagues resolved to shine a light on Dr. Shevell’s accomplishments, specifically in research and research training. Dr. Richard Gosselin, director of the neonatology



division at The Children's, notes his colleague's prodigious publication record, with close to 300 peer-reviewed papers, over 70 book chapters and invited papers, and two books. He also highlights Dr. Shevell's remarkable contribution to research training, evidenced by his supervision and co-supervision of dozens of medical students, residents, and fellows.

"For the breadth and duration of his contributions to our institution, we believe that Dr. Shevell merits serious consideration for this prestigious award," said Dr. Gosselin.



We are pleased to recognize Dr. Shevell's contribution with the Pfizer Research Award of Excellence. Congratulations!

A WORD FROM THE SPONSOR

Pfizer Canada is the Canadian operation of Pfizer Inc., one of the world's leading biopharmaceutical companies. We recognize the exceptional merit of Dr. Michael Shevell, whose research focuses on the causes, consequences, and care for children with neurodevelopmental disabilities. Former Pediatrician-in-Chief at The Children's and Chair of McGill University's Department of Pediatrics (2011-2021), Dr. Shevell is now a professor in the departments of pediatrics and neurology-neurosurgery at McGill University. With many impressive publications, he has already received multiple international awards. Pfizer is proud to present Dr. Michael Shevell with the Research Award of Excellence. Congratulations!

Lynn Hébert

Recipient of the MCHF Administrative and Clinical Support Staff Award of Excellence



When you think of a hospital, you might picture groups of masked surgeons in blue gowns around an operating table or nurses in scrubs hurrying between patients. You might not think of the people who orchestrate the action and manage the spaces where it all happens. People like administrative technician Lynn Hébert, who helps to ensure that a world-class pediatric hospital like The Children's functions optimally.

Lynn joined The Children's in 2001 and spent 10 years with the Pediatric Rheumatology division before moving to the Hospital's Multidisciplinary Services office and The Children's Council of Physicians, Dentists, and Pharmacists.

Since then, much of her work has involved collaborating with various department managers to allocate specialized workspaces for physicians and offering organizational support for critical medical services. Lynn also works closely with The Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation (MCHF), handling department requests for funding, and procedures to purchase equipment supported by donors.

Described by some colleagues as a "dynamo," Lynn is respected by everyone at The Children's and is seen as a role model. "She demonstrates boundless dedication

Photo: Pamela Lajeunesse, Medical Multimedia - MUHC



and possesses an unparalleled team spirit,” says Frédéric De Civita, Associate Director of Multidisciplinary Services and Support Programs. “Her work ensures that The Children’s can provide quality services to patients.”

Lynn gravitated toward administrative work in the health sector after studying in another field and believes she has found her purpose at The Children’s. “I don’t have direct contact with patients, but I feel that working in a pediatric institution is my way of contributing to children’s health. It is a cause that is important to me, and I am happy to participate.”

Thank you, Lynn, and congratulations on your richly deserved Award of Excellence.

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A WORD FROM THE SPONSOR

With her sharp organizational skills and endless energy, Lynn Hébert supports managers from many different services, including Hospital leadership, the Council of Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists, the Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Act Evaluation Committee, as well as The Children’s Foundation. While Lynn isn’t in direct contact with patients, her work helps the Hospital’s staff offer excellent care to them. In recognition of her exemplary skills and efficiency, The Children’s Foundation is delighted to present her with the MCHF Administrative and Clinical Support Staff Award of Excellence. Congratulations!

Le SPOT Montréal

Recipient of the ALRE Properties Inc. Teamwork Award of Excellence



Dr. Stéphanie Bélanger, Louis-Vincent Rail, Dr. Audrey Morissette, Dr. Lara Mallo, Mélanie Bazin, Linda Blanchard, Tara Vaincourt, Michelle Simoes, Meagan Murphy and Samantha Taylor. (Photo: Ryan Blau - PBL Photography)

*Not pictured: Dr. Martin Gignac, Maia Aziz, Mafalda Porporino, Dr. Brian Greenfield, Stephanie Stabile, Marie-Ève Despa and Maria Golfopoulos.

In May 2021, Dr. Martin Gignac, head of Psychiatry at The Children's, told his team: "Here are the idea, vision and mission for this project. You tell me how we'll make it happen."

Six months later, The Children's Le SPOT Montréal opened, becoming one of Canada's largest outpatient centres for teens in suicidal crisis. At the heart of this achievement is a team motivated to bring this unique initiative to life and donors determined to help it see the light of day.

"One of the project's greatest strengths was that all the key players were at the table from the start," says Mélanie Bazin, clinical coordinator. "We all wanted the same thing: making this crucial centre to help teens dealing with mental health problems a reality."

Last November, Tara Vaincourt, interim nurse-manager, joined the team working on the project. "It was important to Dr. Gignac that the centre be situated outside the Hospital, but nearby," explains Tara. "We work with youth experiencing a suicidal crisis. Being able to help



them in a welcoming environment that doesn't feel like a clinic is gratifying for everyone."

Le SPOT Montréal opened its doors in mid-March, and the feedback has been positive. "Parents feel less alone, and they've expressed gratitude for the help they receive. Workers in schools and CLSCs feel a sense of relief because Le SPOT Montréal continues to help teens following their return home," adds Tara.

The centre will help nearly 1,000 young people per year by offering the care and tools they need. "We're grateful to The Children's Foundation and its donors, who funded the entire project," says Mélanie.

Thank you to the team who completed the project in record time: Dr. Martin Gignac, Tara Vaincourt,



Maia Aziz, Dr. Audrey Morissette, Dr. Brian Greenfield, Mélanie Bazin, Mafalda Porporino, Stephanie Stabile, Dr. Stéphanie Bélanger, Samantha Taylor, Louis-Vincent Rail, Meagan Murphy, Linda Blanchard, Marie-Ève Despa, Michelle Simoes, Dr. Lara Mallo and Maria Golfinopoulos.

A WORD FROM THE SPONSOR

Having an idea, sharing it with a motivated team, and completing a large-scale project in just six months requires perfect synergy among all the players. That challenge was brilliantly executed by the team at The Children's Le SPOT Montréal, a specialized centre for adolescent mental health. The impact of this achievement is phenomenal when considering the centre will help as many as 1,000 adolescents struggling with mental health issues each year. At ALRE Properties Inc., we accomplish our projects by assembling the best teams and allowing the strengths of each member to come together to work harmoniously. Thus, we are honoured to recognize the team at Le SPOT Montréal by presenting them with the ALRE Properties Inc. Teamwork Award of Excellence. Congratulations to you all!

Mark Pathy

Recipient of the Community Leadership and Volunteer Award of Excellence



Formerly the President and CEO of Fednav International Ltd., Mark Pathy now heads Mavrik Corp., the private investment company he founded. A strong believer in the importance of philanthropy, Mark sits on the board of directors of the Pathy Family Foundation, The Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation and Dans la rue. He is also a member of The Children's Foundation Campaign Cabinet.

Mark and his wife, Jessica, recently donated generously to The Children's Foundation Unexpected Ways to Heal Campaign. Through their foundation, the Pathys are also long-time donors who have supported large-scale, innovative programs such as the Pediatric Sleep Medicine Clinic and Laboratory, the Parental Presence at Induction program, the Edwards Family Interdisciplinary Centre for Complex Pain, telehealth and more.

From 2015 to 2021, Mark was Chairman of the organizing committee of The Children's Foundation Golf Tournament, an annual event that raises funds, in part, to attract and retain talented healthcare professionals at The Children's. During his tenure, the Tournament's fundraising efforts saw outstanding results, totalling nearly \$6 million, including a record \$1,135,700 at the 25th edition, in 2021.



“Philanthropy’s ultimate objective is to use our resources as tools to create positive change and increase the impact of funding beyond its original goal.”

– Mark Pathy

In April, Mark traveled to space as a civilian astronaut on a private mission by Axiom Space, in collaboration with NASA and SpaceX. He spent 15 days on the International Space Station, where he conducted research on complex pain and sleep issues, the microbiome, and a number of other health, technology, and environmental initiatives.

The research results are an invaluable contribution to the work of two leading clinician-scientists at The

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Children’s, Dr. Pablo Ingelmo and Dr. Evelyn Constantin. The research will have a positive impact on the health and well-being of children in Quebec and around the world. Clearly, generosity always carries weight, even in zero gravity.

A WORD FROM THE SPONSOR

The McCall MacBain Foundation is proud to support this year’s Community Leadership and Volunteer Award of Excellence to recognize those who give generously to support their community and aim to make a positive impact in the lives of others. We are honoured to present this award to Mark Pathy, whose philanthropic engagement and determination to support innovative projects has significantly improved the lives of sick children and their families. Thank you, Mark, for your courage and empathy. Congratulations!

Séanne

Recipient of the DGDM Family Foundation Nicolas W. Matossian Junior Community Award of Excellence



Photo: Natacha Rousseau - NR Photo

She loves to laugh and tease. She has limitless energy and a unique first name: Séanne.

At the age of five, this little dynamo became seriously ill. The diagnosis: an embryonal hepatoblastoma – in other words, stage 4 liver cancer. The cancer had spread to her lungs, requiring immediate treatment. It was a call to arms, with doctors opting to combine radiation therapy and chemotherapy.

Despite her treatments, Séanne wasn't eligible for a liver transplant. The good news, however, was that the primary tumour had shrunk. Her doctors recommended removing 70 per cent of her liver, which is the only part of the human body that regenerates.

"As parents, we had no choice but to rely on the care team's experience," says Stephen, Séanne's dad. "Luckily for us, the doctors at The Children's work wonders."

Amidst these challenges were magical moments that made Séanne forget her little body was in pain. Particular highlights for her involved taking part in fun activities



and playing music with The Children's dedicated Child Life specialists.

One day as she returned from a treatment, Séanne started singing "This is my fight song"*; an anthem of strength, hope and courage. Each time her dad remembers that moment, he starts to cry. Those powerful words give him the energy to keep fighting at his daughter's side.

Undaunted by her hair loss, Séanne agreed to be the 2021 Children's Foundation Radiothon spokesperson and starred in videos promoting The Foundation's new ambassador, André-Philippe Gagnon, and the Little Brats Constellations campaign. And best of all, Séanne officially went into remission at the end of 2021.



"Now, Séanne runs everywhere, twirls around, and sometimes exasperates me," admits Stephen. "But I'm so happy she's here with us."

**"Fight Song", by Rachel Platten*

A WORD FROM THE SPONSOR

Thanks to the exceptional quality of care the Hospital offers, young patients are given the best chance possible to live a healthy life and reach their full potential. Séanne is now in good health and ready to challenge the world! The DGDM Family Foundation champions educational initiatives designed to enable children to more effectively acquire knowledge and develop their talents to their fullest potential - perfect harmony! We celebrate Séanne's fighting spirit and are very proud to present her with the DGDM Family Foundation Nicolas W. Matossian Junior Community Award of Excellence. Congratulations, Séanne! You are an inspiration to sick children everywhere.

Longue vie aux tannants

Parce qu'un enfant tannant
est un enfant en santé

Long live little brats

Because a bratty kid
is a healthy kid

