This week’s departmental acknowledgement goes to a relatively new member of the Department of Pediatrics, Dr. Claire LeBlanc. Claire joined the division of Pediatric Rheumatology in September 2011. She trained at Dalhousie for both medical school and Pediatrics, and completed her Pediatric training at CHEO in Ottawa. After several years in practice, Claire went back to train in Pediatric rheumatology at Sick Kids, in Toronto. Since then she has been on the staff of CHEO and the Stollery Alberta Children’s Hospital before joining us at MCH. Besides her work as a rheumatologist, Claire is board certified in Sports Medicine and plays an extremely important role in the North America community in her advocacy for safety in sports, and in the area of Healthy Active Living. She is chair of the Canadian Paediatric Society’s Healthy Active Living and Sports Medicine Committees, and represents the CPS at the Canadian Academy of Sport Medicine and the American Academy of Pediatrics. Dr. LeBlanc was also involved in the development of Canada’s Physical Activity Guides for Children and Youth. Anyone who was at either of her Ground Rounds presentations this year could sense her tremendous passion and enthusiasm for these issues. In recognition of these activities, Claire has been chosen to receive The CPS Member Recognition Award for 2012. This extremely prestigious honor is awarded to members who have gone above and beyond what is expected from a volunteer in the past year. She was nominated as the outgoing chair of the Healthy Active Living Committee and for her tireless promotion of healthy active living and obesity prevention.

On behalf of the Department of Pediatrics, we congratulate Claire and look forward to many more tremendous achievements in the future.