

October 29, 2021

One of the many, many negative aspects of the pandemic has been our inability to gather to celebrate the successes of our colleagues. Last week, the Montreal Children's Hospital Awards of Excellence were presented to outstanding individuals in our midst. But rather than the large ceremony in the atrium which many will remember from the 'before times', this Oct. 27 is yet another virtual event. I want to highlight one special recipient here. This year's Medical Award of Excellence went to **Dr. Margaret Berry**.

As many of you know, Dr. Berry began her career at the MCH as a neonatologist, but made a significant career change some years ago. This award recognizes all of her contributions (in NICU, ED, MDH, and in Ambulatory Clinics), but focuses in particular on her devoted service to vulnerable children and their families living in Quebec's far North.



Dr. Berry is the ultimate general pediatrician, undertaking procedures as diverse as allergy testing, developmental assessments and lumbar punctures. She is **beloved** by the patients and families she visited regularly in their own communities in Salluit, Ivujivik, Akulivik, Purvirnituk, Inukjuak and Umiujiaq, allowing them to avoid costly and disruptive trips to Montreal for care, and working tirelessly to coordinate care in Montreal when the trip was necessary.

Dr. Berry's deep commitment to her Inuit patients is reflected not only in her efforts to provide the very best care possible, but also in her efforts to learn Inuktitut to allow culturally safe and comforting care to this population.

Dr. Berry's quiet, focused, and collaborative approach is deeply appreciated by her patients and colleagues alike. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Berry on this award and on her impressive achievements.

Have a wonderful weekend.

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