

December 16th, 2022

Like most of you, I don't hear often about our colleagues at Gatineau Hospital and Campus Outaouais. Many may even be unaware that there are members of our department who practice in Gatineau and supervise trainees through McGill's Campus Outaouais. I recently received a message from Dr. Jeremy Saban, one of the 12 pediatricians at the Gatineau Hospital, requesting that his colleague and Chief of the Dept. of Pediatrics at the Gatineau Hospital, Dr. Dorothée Leduc, be recognized with a Departmental Acknowledgement. Dr. Leduc is the only infectious diseases specialist in their region, and like many ID specialists, has been particularly busy in the past few years. During the COVID pandemic, she handled all the new protocol rollouts for both adult and pediatric care for Outaouais hospitals. Dr. Leduc's commitment to ensuring safe and accessible pediatric care in Outaouais has been particularly notable. She has served on numerous committees to represent the needs of pediatric patients. She has also worked throughout the network to represent pediatricians in western Quebec – an area especially lacking in specialized pediatric care. Dr. Leduc created a working group to ensure high quality pediatric care in emergency departments in Outaouais as well as safe and efficient transfers of sick children to pediatric units and to tertiary centres.

This viral surge has been very hard on our teams in our tertiary centre. But at least we have a large group of colleagues surrounding us for help and support. For those working in secondary care, outside academic centres, it can be even more challenging to meet constantly changing needs and high volumes and high levels of acuity. They often do not have the benefit of the expert pediatric nursing, RT, and other allied health support that we have. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Leduc on her success in meeting the challenges, and in thanking her for her exceptional efforts.

Have a good, snowy weekend.

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