



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nominations open for 2018 BC Health Care Awards
Event recognizes outstanding achievements in health care delivery across the province

VANCOUVER – Nominations are now open for the 12th annual *BC Health Care Awards*. The awards celebrate successes and achievements in BC's health care system, and recognize people and teams who provide outstanding care and support. Awards are for projects that improve health care delivery, and for individuals who make a positive impact and inspire those around them.

Nominations are accepted online at BCHealthCareAwards.ca until March 16, 2018. Health care colleagues and members of the public – including patients and their families – have the opportunity to recognize and thank health care employees in their communities by submitting a nomination.

“The BC Health Care Awards are a great opportunity to highlight some of the incredible health care professionals who ensure that British Columbians receive world-class, person-centred health care services each and every day,” said Health Minister Adrian Dix. “Over the past 11 years, the awards have recognized more than 210 individuals and project teams who have made our province a leader in patient care, medical research and innovation.”

Dianna Mah-Jones, an occupational therapist at GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre, was named Provincial Health Care Hero at the 2017 awards gala. Mah-Jones was tragically killed, along with her husband Richard Jones, just three months after receiving the award. This year, a new award has been named in her honour – the Dianna Mah-Jones Award of Excellence in Person-Centred Care. The award recognizes teams or projects that make use of leading practices to improve care for patients, residents or clients by focusing on the needs of the person rather than the needs of the system or service. Successful nominations will show how health care providers partner with patients, clients or residents to co-design and deliver health care that is respectful of the needs, values and preferences of individuals.

Visit BCHealthCareAwards.ca and follow the awards on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) for updates. To learn more about previous award recipients, visit the *BC Health Care Awards* [YouTube channel](#). This year's award recipients will be announced at a luncheon in Vancouver on June 25, 2018.

The 2018 *BC Health Care Awards* are generously supported by Great-West Life, Healthcare Benefit Trust and Pacific Blue Cross.

The Health Employers Association of British Columbia (HEABC) is the accredited bargaining agent for most publicly funded health employers in the province, representing denominational, proprietary and affiliate health employers, as well as the province's six health authorities. HEABC coordinates the labour relations interests of 250 publicly funded health care employers and negotiates five major provincial agreements covering more than 110,000 unionized health care employees.

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Media contact

Roy Thorpe-Dorward
HEABC Director, Communications
604.714.2283 or Roy.Thorpe-Dorward@heabc.bc.ca