

Awards



The **Dr. Parminder Singh Award of Distinction** recognizes the vital relationship between community and hospital-based pediatricians and sub-specialists that plays a significant role in the health outcomes of BC children and youth. This award is offered by the BC Pediatric Society (BCPS) in co-operation with the BC Children's Hospital Foundation (BCCHF).



The **Dr. Judith Hall Award** recognizes excellence in research, policy development, community involvement and improving the status of or empowering pediatricians.

Please look below for information about the awardees in each year.

2021

Congratulations to Dr. John Mawson, winner of the 2021 Dr. Parminder Singh Award



Here's what Dr. Mawson's nominators said about him:

We are very pleased to nominate Dr. John Mawson for the 2021 Dr. Parminder Singh Award. This award recognizes the valuable contribution of a BC Children's Hospital- based specialist in providing consultation and support to community pediatricians. Dr. John Mawson embodies the spirit of this award. He has been a resource to BC pediatricians for many years. When community pediatricians reach out for his invaluable expert opinion, he is thoughtful and thorough and his manner is collegial and kind. Not only is Dr. Mawson's clinical acumen top notch but he regularly picks up the phone to call the pediatricians who have requested radiologic review in order to discuss the cases. This direct communication gives community pediatricians a feeling of connection to, and support from, the BC Children's Hospital Department of Radiology. In turn, this makes Dr. Mawson a valuable contributor to the well-being of the province's community pediatricians.

In terms of his support for pediatric subspecialty services, his role in supporting the child maltreatment pediatricians of BC has been significant. He has been instrumental in establishing a system of high imaging standards for cases of possible child maltreatment, and he perseveres in his quest for consistency in radiologic standards for these complex and anxiety-provoking cases. He meets regularly with the BC Children's Hospital Child

Protection Service clinicians for child maltreatment radiology rounds, and now has welcomed pediatricians from around BC to join these sessions virtually. He has been and continues to be a supportive and patient instructor for pediatric residents. One example of his support for residents is in his having volunteered to participate in delivering the academic half day teaching session about child maltreatment and provided valuable teaching about the radiologic findings of abuse. Dr. Mawson's excitement about his work is apparent and his enthusiasm is infectious. His support for both community and subspecialty pediatricians, as well as pediatricians in training, has certainly improved health outcomes for children and youth in BC.

Congratulations to Dr. Dzung Vo, winner of the 2021 Dr. Judith Hall Award



Here's what Dr. Vo's nominators said about him:

Dzung has been key to moving forward several initiatives that have become increasingly important in Pediatrics. He has grown the Division of Adolescent Medicine; successfully implemented a Mind-Body approach to helping youth and children address mental health and physical health issues; been at the forefront of the Social Pediatrics initiative both improving the health of children from disadvantages communities and bringing awareness of these issues to the Department. These initiatives began long before the pandemic, but the stresses on youth and disadvantaged children made them all the more relevant. He has also introduced Mindfulness meditation to professionals throughout BC, as means of addressing wellness.

2020

Congratulations to Dr. Laura Sauvé, winner of the 2020 Dr. Parminder Singh Award



Dr. Laura Sauvé was nominated several times. It's no surprise given how much she has stepped up and made a significant difference during the COVID-19 Pandemic, along with her endless pursuit for the care of children affected by HIV and children affected by the social determinants of health / global health.

Congratulations to Dr. Jennifer Kouwenberg & Dr. Francine Ling, winners of the 2020 Dr. Judith Hall Award



Dr. Jennifer Kouwenberg & Dr. Francine Ling - both practicing in Nanaimo, were acknowledged for their research and establishment of a multidisciplinary Eating Disorders Clinic for youth, as well as their work in Indigenous communities. Their chosen charity is

the Nakujali Education Partnership, and they have directed their award to Deus Deogratus Kullaya, a medical student in Tanzania.

2019

Congratulations to Dr. Geoffrey Blair, winner of the 2019 Dr. Parminder Singh Award



Dr. Blair was always an accessible approachable consultant. He was the kind of guy who knew rural docs well enough to call them by their first name. He taught often at conferences. As he approaches retirement, he will be missed!

Congratulations to Dr. Aven Poynter, winner of the 2019 Dr. Judith Hall Award



Each year the BC Pediatric Society presents the **Dr. Judith Hall Award**, which recognizes excellence in research, policy development, community involvement and improving the status of or empowering pediatricians.

Here's what Dr. Poynter's nominator said about her:

Aven has done so much to empower the pediatricians of BC and involve all the pediatricians in the community, as well as at the hospital. She has been involved in policy development and encouraged all kinds of research. She has really done a remarkable job as the leader of BCPS.

2018

Congratulations to Dr. Margaret Colbourne, winner of the 2018 Dr. Parminder Singh Award



Here's what Dr. Colbourne's nominators said about her:

As members in good standing of the BC Pediatric Society, we are very pleased to nominate Dr. Margaret Colbourne for the 2018 Dr. Singh Award. This award recognizes the valuable contribution of a BC Children's Hospital- based pediatrician with specialty expertise in providing consultation and support to community pediatricians. Dr. Colbourne embodies the spirit of this award. She has been an invaluable resource to pediatricians across the province through her work in the field of child maltreatment over the past 20 + years. As the medical director of the BC Children's Hospital Child Protection Service Unit (CPSU) for the past 5 years, she has played a crucial role in educating trainees, supporting general and specialist pediatricians, mentoring and training physicians who work in this field and in providing much needed advice and guidance at all times of day and night when on call for the CPSU. She has been a role model and mentor for those of us who work in child maltreatment throughout the province.

As many physicians feel uncomfortable when dealing with cases of possible child abuse, a confident and reassuring expert, such as Dr. Colbourne, on the other end of the phone is priceless. She walks the physician needing guidance through the investigations that are necessary and provides advice about communication with family members, police and the justice system. Not only that, but her guidance about preparation for court testimony and interactions with the legal system is invaluable. She has also played a pivotal role in the development and inclusion of the topic of child abuse in the new revised UBC medical school curriculum, and is a dedicated teacher.

Child abuse cases often involve complex medical assessments necessitating close working relationships with community family physicians and pediatricians, as well as with pediatric subspecialists in many different medical and surgical areas. As part of her clinic work and on-call commitment to the Child Protection Services Unit, Dr. Colbourne provides advice to community physicians and facilitates assessments for children as needed. She further consults with pediatric subspecialists to help form a clear picture of whether child abuse has occurred or not. Dr. Colbourne has fostered strong relationships with our most commonly consulted subspecialty services at BC Children's Hospital and has organized a series of joint rounds to discuss cases and to review relevant updates in the child abuse literature. These rounds provide an opportunity for us to learn from each other and to provide the best care for our shared patients. Dr. Colbourne has also been instrumental in setting up a peer review system for child abuse pediatricians around the province so that we can support each other when managing challenging cases in their home communities.

In addition to her contribution to child abuse pediatrics locally, Dr. Colbourne has also been a key contributor to the development of the standards of practice in this field in BC and in Canada. She developed the BC Children's Hospital guideline on the management of acute sexual abuse in the pediatric patient and she is a key contributor to the development of provincial guidelines for the medical response to sexual assault. In 2015, she was also the guest editor of two issues of the BC Medical Journal dedicated to child maltreatment. On a national level, she has published a practice point for the Canadian Pediatric Society on the medical assessment of fractures in suspected abuse and has authored chapters on child maltreatment for textbooks of Pediatric emergency medicine and of Adolescent medicine.

The field of child maltreatment is a new one in North America and Dr. Colbourne has played a critical role in molding and developing the training, practice and education in the field at a national level. Her passion for her clinical work is apparent, her communication with colleagues around the province is exceptional and her enthusiasm for teaching is infectious. Her support for both community and subspecialty pediatricians with her knowledge, mentoring, and expertise has undoubtedly resulted in improved health outcomes for children and youth in BC. She is a great role model for all physicians and we strongly recommend her as an ideal recipient for the Dr. Parminder Singh Award.

Congratulations again Dr. Colbourne!

Congratulations to Dr. Allison Eddy, winner of the 2018 Dr. Judith Hall Award.



Dr. Judy Hall Award Winner Dr. Allison Eddy and BC Pediatric Society President Dr. Aven Poynter

Each year the BC Pediatric Society presents the **Dr. Judith Hall Award**, which recognizes excellence in research, policy development, community involvement and improving the status of or empowering pediatricians.

Here's what Dr. Eddy's nominator said about her:

Allison has done a terrific job during a difficult time. She hired new faculty, dealt with hospital policy, encouraged community pediatricians, and worked nationally and internationally to empower pediatricians. I greatly admire her contributions to the pediatricians of BC.