Exceptional U of T nursing professors and alumnae honoured with Canadian Nursing Association’s Centennial Award - Nursing grad from 1939 included among awardees

(Toronto) Thirteen exceptional University of Toronto nursing professors and alumnae, including a graduate from Class of 3T9, received the Canadian Nursing Association’s Centennial Award, in tribute to their outstanding and significant contributions to the profession.

Alumna Dr. Verna Splane (Vancouver), 93, was Canada’s first principal nursing officer and is an internationally renowned nursing scholar. Splane, who received an honorary degree from the Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing in 2007, pioneered the advancement of global nursing.

Professors include Dr. Gail Donner, a former dean, Dr. Diane Doran, patient safety expert, Sue Matthews, vice-president Ontario, Victoria Order of Nurses (VON) and assistant professor (status), Dr. Lynn Nagle, informatics scholar and Dr. Judith Shamian, president and CEO, VON, health policy advocate and professor (status).

Alumnae include:
- Gillian Brunier (North York), specialty practitioner in nephrology;
- Bloorview Kids Rehab hospital chief nurse executive, Sandi Cox (Toronto);
- Kathryn Kozell (London), regional cancer program coordinator at the London Health Sciences Centre;
- Karen Ann MacKinnon (Victoria), assistant professor at the University of Victoria’s School of Nursing;
- Dr. Kathleen MacMillan (Toronto), dean of the School of Health Sciences at the Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning;
- Barbara Mildon (Surrey), chief nurse executive and vice-president, professional practice and integration for the Fraser Health Authority;
- Margaret Risk (Haliburton), a former executive director of the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO) for 17 years
- “I am thrilled the Canadian Nurses Association has recognized our outstanding nursing professors and graduates with its celebratory Centennial Award,” says Dr. Sioban Nelson, dean and professor, Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing. “These extraordinary nurses have helped to shape the discipline of nursing nationally and internationally, through innovative clinical practice and new knowledge creation, making our health-care system better for everyone.”

“The are nurses who represent all regions of this country and all areas of nursing, from educators to administrators to practitioners to researchers to policy leaders,” says CNA president Kaaren Neufeld. “Although they may work in a variety of settings, they share one thing in common: they have made a difference. Their passion and dedication is truly inspiring.”

The Canadian Nurses Association celebrates its 100th anniversary this year, and has created a one-time award for 100 nurses in celebration of its centennial. Today’s ceremonial event was part of the association’s year-long program of activities created to mark its 100th anniversary.

To learn more about the recipients, view: http://www.cna-nurses.ca/centennial/eng/awards-program-centennial-awards.aspx

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