
Partners in Care Wins Volunteer Vancouver Community Service Award



On April 24, 2006 the parent members of PiC were the recipients of the Volunteer Vancouver Community Service Award for their ground breaking work at BCCH.

The group was nominated by BCCH CEO Sharon Toohey with supporting letters from The BCCH Foundation and the Interprofessional Network of BC. Ms. Toohey stated in her nomination "Ultimately, the responsibility for managing a child's health and well-being lies with the family. Partners in Care is a group of parents dedicated to helping inter-professional teams make room for families to function as collaborative decision makers on their child's team rather than passive recipients of advice. This helps ALL families who use BCCH, from those who come once for a simple test, to those, like the committee members, whose children have an ongoing relationship with the hospital."

Co-chairs Donna Tack and Leona Pinsky accepted the award on behalf of the 40 plus family members of PiC. The co-chairs thanked BCCH for giving families the opportunity to partner with the hospital to promote the principles of family centered care. They acknowledged BCCH as a leader in Canada and internationally in the delivery of world class health care in an environment that honours and respects the role of the family in the healing of the child.

To quote the acceptance speech made by the co-chairs: "The lives we and our families lead were unimaginable to us before our children were born, but through the example of courage and strength we see in our children, we are inspired to work with BC Children's Hospital. The volunteer work that we do helps us to make sense of the situation in which we find ourselves and to make things better for those who come after us. We are so grateful for the care our children receive at BCCH and for the organizations support and encouragement of our work."
