



Association of General Hospital Psychiatric Services

## The Association of General Hospital Psychiatric Services (AGHPS)

### Jane Chamberlin Award 2021 Selection

**Hospital:** Health Sciences North

**Candidate's Name:** Ms. Maureen McLelland

**Position:** Vice-President Cancer Care and Social Accountability

**Email address:** [mmclelland@hsnsudbury.ca](mailto:mmclelland@hsnsudbury.ca)

Maureen McLelland has been a strong voice & champion for the mental health and addictions sector for the duration of her 30+ years working in health care. Maureen is currently the Vice-President for Cancer Care and Social Accountability at Health Sciences North (HSN), overseeing mental health and addiction programs and services. As a Special Advisor to HSN's strategic plan, Maureen established social accountability as 1 of 5 strategic goals.

HSN is nominating Maureen for the 2021 Jane Chamberlin Award for so many reasons, most notably for her relentless commitment to ensure that people with mental health and addictions and the most marginalized have access to the care they require. While the Pandemic seemed to deteriorate access to health care and to foundational services for those that need it most, Maureen worked hard to ensure that this would not be the reality in our community. She demonstrated this in so many ways over the last year – being involved in provincial, regional and local planning efforts during a time where demand for mental health and addiction services became more important than ever.

A single paragraph can't do justice to describing the career-long impact that Maureen has had in our community & in the mental health and addictions sector. Nor can it do justice to describing how it feels to be supported by such a strong and compassionate leader that always has the best interest of our community and team at heart. The Pandemic challenged our sector more than ever, and during this time Maureen championed so many impactful responses amidst the most turbulent of times. Below are a few notable achievements that occurred over the last year.

- She championed a collaborative approach to a covid-19 isolation response for the local mental health and addictions population. Ensuring that individuals who required isolation were able to receive mental health and addiction services, regardless of the circumstances. This required innovative strategies and the ability to mobilize and work closely with many partners to provide a coordinated response
- She inspired the innovative development of a specialized Assertive Community Treatment Team aiming to tackle worsening conditions of homelessness and substance use in our

community. This partnership with the City of Greater Sudbury, will provide housing opportunities for people who are homeless all while providing intensive community-based mental health and addiction outreach support.

- She actioned the urgent implementation of an Addiction Medicine Unit at Health Sciences North in response to the increasing number of opioid poisonings and deaths in our communities. This service is now saving lives every single day.
- She led the development of the first hospital-wide harm reduction strategy, an approach that is truly transforming the way care is delivered across the organization.

We are so thankful for Maureen's leadership during such a difficult time. She is a source of inspiration, strength and hope for so many of us and has truly helped our team remain strong during a time that we could have fallen apart. We are better leaders and better people because of Maureen. We want her to know that we appreciate her and that she is not only a great leader, but a great person in every single way.

**Submitted by**

**Dr. Natalie Aubin, Admin Director Mental Health & Addictions**

**Dr. Rayudu Koka, Medical Director Mental Health & Addictions**

**Mark Hartman, Senior Vice-President, Patient Experience and Digital Transformation**

**And all members of the Mental Health & Addictions Program Council**