

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### RESEARCHER NICOLE DUBUC AWARDED PRIX FLORENCE 2016

Sherbrooke, May 5, 2016 - The Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux de l'Estrie – Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke (CIUSSE – CHUS) congratulates Researcher Nicole Dubuc, the scientific director of the Research Centre on Aging (CdRV), for being among the recipients of the prestigious Prix Florence 2016 and for her contributions to nursing research.

The Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec (OIIQ) has been awarding the Prix Florence over the past 14 years to nurses who have made an outstanding contribution to their profession. This year, nine nurses received the award named after Florence Nightingale, a nineteenth-century British woman who pioneered and ushered nursing into the modern era.

"Her career exemplifies how combining research, education, and clinical practices is essential to developing care and services that are increasingly adapted to the needs of individuals," said Sylvain Bernier, the administrative director of research at the CIUSSE – CHUS.

#### Committed to serving the elderly

After completing her post-doctoral training at Boston University, Nicole Dubuc became a researcher at the CdRV in 2002. A full professor at the Université de Sherbrooke's faculty of medicine and health sciences' school of nursing, Dr. Dubuc has developed an expertise in the *organization of health care and health services for older adults*. Her research focuses mainly on the evaluation of various programs and service organization methods related to the concepts of independence and frailty among older adults as well as on the development and validation of clinical and administrative systems in long-term care.

Dr. Dubuc has gained an international expertise in research-based knowledge transfers, notably through her collaboration in the evaluation of the implementation of integrated services networks (PRISMA) and her work related to the Iso-SMAF autonomy-based classification system. The Iso-SMAF profiles are currently used within the network both at the clinical and at the decision-making level, where solid data is used for service organization purposes. Dr. Dubuc is now evaluating the implementation of computerized clinical pathway tools (OCCI) which she has developed to back home support services in Québec.

"The CIUSSS de l'Estrie – CHUS has positioned its university mission at the very centre of its own development," noted Patricia Gauthier, its chief executive officer. "With more than 300 researchers active at its three research centres, the CIUSSE - CHUS is counting on the contribution of knowledge to transform public health care and services. Dr. Dubuc, through her pursued excellence at work and in research, contributes to this goal in the most exemplary manner."

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**About the CIUSSS de l'Estrie – CHUS**

The coming into effect of the *Act to modify the organization and governance of the health and social services network, in particular by abolishing the regional agencies* has resulted in the amalgamation of all of the institutions in Estrie into a single entity that is now known as the CIUSSS de l'Estrie – CHUS. The territory now being served extends from Lac-Mégantic to Ange-Gardien and covers over 500,000 people. Practically all services - from prevention to super-specialized services - are now offered by a single organization which has more than 17,000 employees and managers as well as more than 1,000 physicians.

**About the Research Centre on Aging**

The Research Centre on Aging (CdRV) is one of the most important specialized centres in aging in Canada. Funded by the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé (FRQS), it is a centre of the CIUSSS de l'Estrie – CHUS. Its mission is to develop knowledge on aging in order to encourage and promote the autonomy and development of seniors. Its 48 researchers investigate micro-and-macro topics ranging "*from the molecule to society.*" The CdRV can also rely on some 20 associate researchers, more than 100 highly qualified professionals, and approximately 140 students.