

CNF Nightingale Gala

Nightingale de la FIIC

MEDIA RELEASE

Canadian Nurses Foundation's 1st Annual Nightingale Gala on May 10th

Ottawa, May 10, 2011 – A capacity crowd is gathering at the Ottawa Congress Centre tonight for a gala soirée in support of nursing research, education and clinical excellence. The Canadian Nurses Foundation (CNF) is hosting a major fundraising event in celebration of National Nursing Week – and in tribute to the legacy of Florence Nightingale, considered the founder of modern nursing.

“Florence Nightingale was a truly remarkable individual. She pioneered new approaches to care based on science, observation, evidence and statistics. She wrote the first nursing textbook and built the first nursing school,” said honorary co-chair Dr. Helen K. Mussallem, Canada’s most decorated nurse. “The Canadian Nurses Foundation’s work is maintaining the powerful legacy of this exceptional nurse.”

Proceeds from the event will be dedicated to CNF’s Nursing 4.0 campaign, which has a goal to raise \$4 million to fund scholarships and research opportunities for Canadian nurses. “There is currently no stable, long-term funding for nursing clinical research, yet this is precisely the kind of research Canada needs in order to build a smarter, more accessible and cost-effective health system,” said CNF board chair Murray Elston. “We hope to see funding support for nursing science in upcoming discussions among the federal, provincial and territorial governments.”

Money raised at the Nightingale Gala will help narrow the research gap. The Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR) and CNF announced earlier that Dr. Susan Slaughter from the University of Alberta’s Faculty of Nursing is being awarded the very first CIHR/CNF New Investigator Award in Chronic Disease. Her research will be looking at hearing loss as a contributor to disability among long-term care residents with dementia. “As a nurse researcher, this funding means that I will be able to dedicate more time to my research to improve the well being of older adults living in long-term care.

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La très honorable Michaëlle Jean,
[C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D.]

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Retired Senator and Cardiac Surgeon/
Sénateur retraité et Chirurgien cardiaque

The Honourable/L'honorable
Carolyn Stewart Olsen
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Nursing research is about answering questions that can make a real difference to the lives of real people.”

About CNF: *Canadian Nurses Foundation supports world-class Canadian health care by raising funds to advance nursing knowledge and research, and by recognizing professional excellence in Canada's nurses. www.cnf-fiic.ca*

About CIHR: *For the past 10 years, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) has supported better health and health care for Canadians. As the Government of Canada's health research investment agency, CIHR enables the creation of evidence-based knowledge and its transformation into improved treatments, prevention and diagnoses, new products and services, and a stronger, patient-oriented health-care system. Composed of 13 internationally recognized Institutes, CIHR supports more than 13,600 health researchers and trainees across Canada. www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca*

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