

NEWS RELEASE

Inaugural Claudette Bradshaw Innovation Award to be presented to New Brunswick team

Team from New Brunswick are the first ever recipients of the CanFASD's Claudette Bradshaw Innovation Award for a ground-breaking model that addresses Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) with Indigenous communities.

(December 3, 2019) The inaugural Claudette Bradshaw Innovation Award was developed by the CanFASD Research Network to recognize the work of individuals and organizations across Canada using innovative approaches to improve the lives of individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

The award is named after Claudette Bradshaw, a former Member of Parliament, a champion for woman in poverty, and an early advocate for the importance of addressing prenatal alcohol exposure. Mme. Bradshaw recently retired from the CanFASD Board of Directors. This award recognizes her dedication and impact in the field of FASD, early education, and homelessness.

The recipients of this inaugural award are a team of service providers from the New Brunswick FASD Centre of Excellence, a member of the Vitalité Health Network authority. Their Dream Catcher service delivery model is the focus of this award.

The Dream Catcher is an innovative model designed in partnership with Indigenous elders. It provides a framework for service providers to tailor resources and supports specifically to each client. It takes into consideration the skills and needs of not only the client, but their support system as well. This holistic, people-centered practice that ensures that Indigenous clients with FASD and those surrounding them are involved in supporting the individual throughout their lifetime. The Dream Catcher Service Delivery Model serves not only First Nation Communities, but NB FASD has implemented this approach with all of our clients across the province.

The New Brunswick FASD Centre of Excellence is one of two centers offering FASD assessment in the province of New Brunswick, and one of only two bilingual clinics in Canada. It is through this organization that the Dream Catcher model is currently being implemented. The NB FASD team has experienced some success from this model, but to this date have not had the opportunity to evaluate it.

The funding from the CanFASD 2019 Claudette Bradshaw Innovation Award will help the NB FASD Centre of Excellence fund research efforts to measure the effectiveness of the Dream Catcher model and identify any areas for improvement.

Claudette Bradshaw will present this award to Dr. Nicole LeBlanc of the Vitalité Health Network and Annette Cormier of the NB FASD Centre of Excellence in Dieppe, New Brunswick on December 12, 2019.

Quotes:

"I am very honoured to be the name sake of this award and excited to have the opportunity to present this award to an organization that is doing incredible work to improve the lives of people with FASD."

Mme. Claudette Bradshaw, Former CanFASD Board Member

"We are so pleased to present this Innovation award to the FASD Centre of Excellence for their unique Dream Catcher program. CanFASD wants to inspire others to think creatively when serving individuals with FASD and to create hope with these positive stories."

Audrey McFarlane, Executive Director, CanFASD

About CanFASD:

CanFASD is Canada's first national Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) research network. CanFASD works collaboratively with researchers and partners across the nation to address complexities of FASD. Our mission is to produce and maintain national, collaborative research for all Canadians, leading to prevention strategies and improved support services for people affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

To speak with someone regarding the Claudette Bradshaw award ceremony please contact:

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