

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Local health leader selected for national fellowship

*July 4, 2005 Vancouver (British Columbia)* Ms. Annemarie Taylor, Director of Quality, Safety and Risk Management for BC Children's Hospital and BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre, has been selected as one of 26 participants in a prestigious national healthcare fellowship program — Executive Training for Research Application (EXTRA).

The EXTRA fellowship is designed to train health services leaders to become better decision makers by using and applying evidence from research in their day-to-day work. The two-year program combines residency seminars, e-learning, mentorship and networking components with intervention projects undertaken in fellows' home institutions.

"Through the EXTRA/FORCES program, fellows are given the opportunity to network with other healthcare leaders from across the country," said Dr. Jean Rochon, former Quebec minister of health and social services and chair of the EXTRA/FORCES Advisory Council. "While their contributions to the healthcare sector differ, the challenges they face are similar: the program allows them to share problems and ideas, and to have an exchange on possible solutions."

A key element of the program is an intervention project through which fellows apply their classroom learning to solving issues in their home organization.

Taylor has chosen to work on implementing a province-wide electronic safety reporting system to help create a culture of safety.

"I am honoured and excited by the opportunity this fellowship program brings," said Taylor. "A comprehensive provincial reporting system and the safety strategies that support it will help us identify areas for improvement and share evidence-based best practices to enhance quality and make our healthcare system safer – which are important goals for everyone working in healthcare today."

EXTRA/FORCES was established in 2003 with a \$25 million grant from Health Canada. The first cohort of 24 fellows was selected in May, 2004. Taylor is part of the second cohort who will begin their first residency session in August.

EXTRA/FORCES is a partnership program, administered by the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation and supported by the Canadian College of Health Service Executives (CCHSE); the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF); the Canadian Medical Association (CMA); the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA); and a consortium of Quebec partners represented by the Agence des technologies et des modes d'intervention en santé (AETMIS).

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