

CSCC Award for Outstanding Contribution to Clinical Chemistry
Sponsored by Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Ltd.

Sherry L. Perkins,



For over 25 years, Dr. Sherry Perkins has always been a strong supporter for Clinical Chemistry and for Clinical Chemists and the important role they play in laboratory medicine. Since becoming a clinical biochemist in 1984 she has always promoted the highest standards in this career.

Sherry is currently Head and Laboratory Director, Division of Biochemistry, Ottawa Hospital and Medical Head and Director of Laboratories at the Winchester & District Memorial Hospital. She is also Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine with cross appointments in the Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology, with the University of Ottawa. Between 1998 and 2004, she was the Director of the Eastern Ontario Regional Laboratory Services Project, only one among the

innumerable administrative assignments of her career. Sherry has been active in research with over 100 peer reviewed formal publications, conference proceedings and invited presentations. She is currently co-investigator in two CIHR funded research projects: one on folic acid deficiency in second trimester and adverse pregnancy outcomes (\$500,000 awarded in 2002) and an epidemiologic study of disinfection by-products and markers of early biologic effect (\$523,000 awarded in 2006).

Sherry has been contributing her time and effort in support of her fellow clinical chemists for many years. She was a council member and then president with the Ontario Society of Clinical Chemists from 1995-1999. Between 2003 and 2009, Sherry was successively president-elect, president then past-president of CSCC. She did an excellent job as president. She was organized, efficient and able to make difficult decisions. Her enthusiastic and light manner also injected fun into the proceedings. During her term on Council Sherry was an integral part of a number of achievements; she was instrumental in the very successful joint CLMC 2002 with CSMLS and CAP; she encouraged holding the CSCC annual meeting in smaller Canadian cities and centralized many of the planning responsibilities so that smaller sites could cope with the challenge of hosting the meeting; she was the driving force behind the 50th Anniversary celebrations in Victoria including the video memorial, and injected her own enthusiasm into this very successful event; she led the council through a difficult financial period back to stability; she introduced the Leadership/Administration grant to promote management skills in clinical chemistry; she revised the Awards Manual and she brought us the iconic red hockey jerseys for past Presidents, a truly Canadian way to recognize the contributions of previous Presidents. Four years after ending her term, Sherry is still devoting time for all her colleagues, as a member of the Awards and Nominations Committees and as the first to organize golf events during our Annual Meetings.

Sherry's personable nature extends to all colleagues and co-workers, regardless of their experience or their job title. As President, she always encouraged junior members to participate and contribute at council meetings. Sherry has also always valued and promoted positive relationships with the commercial sector who provide not only the technology we work with but also provide generous financial support for our Society.

For over 25 years the personal achievements of Sherry Perkins as a respected clinical chemist and a senior laboratory administrator have highlighted clinical chemistry in the most favourable light and clearly demonstrated to others the important clinical contributions that clinical chemists can make. Two years after the Ontario Society of Clinical Chemists, it is now time for CSCC to honour this excellent role model and worthy recipient of the CSCC Award for Outstanding Contribution to Clinical Chemistry.