

## **CSCC Award for Outstanding Contribution to Clinical Chemistry**

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### **Dr. Christine Collier**

Dr. Christine Collier has been a clinical biochemist for over 30 years. She is the 2024 recipient of the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists (CSCC) Outstanding Contribution to Clinical Chemistry, an award presented as a mark of recognition of outstanding achievement in and/or contribution to the field of clinical chemistry. Dr. Collier has an unwavering commitment to the field of clinical biochemistry, with boundless energy and positive leadership, and has been dedicated to advancing clinical biochemistry. She leaves an indelible mark on her peers and the profession.

Dr. Collier's career has spanned over three decades. Originating from her MSc and PhD studies at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, her interest in clinical chemistry blossomed. Dr. Collier became a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry in 1989 after completing the Clinical Biochemistry Post-Doctoral Residency Program at the University of Manitoba and a post-doctoral fellowship at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre in New York. From there she practiced as a Clinical Biochemist at Kingston General Hospital (KGH) until 2017, and concurrently led as the Service Chief of Clinical Chemistry from 2008 to 2013. During this time, she also provided consultation services to three additional hospitals. In 2017, she moved to Lifelabs in Ontario and worked there until 2019, after which she joined Fraser Health in British Columbia, where she currently practices and is appointed as a Clinical Professor at the University of British Columbia.

Dr. Collier has made a substantial contribution to teaching and education. She was the architect behind the CSCC/Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry (CACB)'s Maintenance of Competency Program, and has significantly influenced the professional development of clinical chemists across Canada for over two decades. Alongside Dr. Paul Yip, she established the biweekly CSCC Education Roundtables, a pivotal educational platform available across Canada. More locally, Dr. Collier coordinated the clinical chemistry rotation for Queen's University postgraduate residents from 1992 to 2009 and was site director of the St. Lawrence College MLT Training Program from 1996 to 2005. On a day-to-day basis, she remains an invaluable mentor with a wealth of experience for both laboratory technical staff and junior clinical biochemist colleagues, alongside supporting the broader medical community.

Dr. Collier is a leader in shaping how clinical biochemists practice both nationally and internationally. Her contributions to advancing Canadian clinical biochemistry are exemplified through her authorship on CSCC Guidance, Position Statements, and Recommendations, including co-authoring manuscripts in areas such as POCT quality indicators, harmonized clinical laboratory lipid reporting recommendations, and candidate recommendations for protein electrophoresis reporting. Dr. Collier is also co-chair of the CSCC Working Group on the Harmonization of Reference Intervals (hRI) and has worked on numerous international endeavours (e.g. IATDMCT and CLSI).

Dr. Collier has further aimed to push the envelope when it comes to dedication to quality lab testing. She was involved in Ontario's Quality Management Program – Laboratory Service (QMP-LS, now Institute for Quality Management in Healthcare), and supported numerous quality initiatives at KGH, such as the MU program, serving as the first Chair of the Decentralized Laboratory Testing Committee (later POCT Committee) and acting as the first Chair of the Pathology Quality Assurance Committee.

Finally, Dr. Collier is highly collaborative and actively seeks to promote and enhance the profession. She has worked extensively with the CSCC in various roles and capacities, such as serving as Registrar of continuing education credits, Chair of the Professional Affairs Committee and of the Professional Development Program Committee, Co-Coordinator of the CSCC Education Roundtables, Co-Chair of the CSCC Working Group on hRI, and Chair of the Archives Committee. With the Ontario Society of Clinical Chemists, she was also the Chair of the Professional Affairs Committee and served as President from 2004-2005. You may have also seen her name pop up now and again on the IATDMCT listserv, the CSCC general listserv, and the OSCC listserv to engage the community. She has published more than 50 papers within clinical biochemistry, and has received several other awards for her contribution to clinical biochemistry.

Dr. Collier has had a remarkable career in clinical biochemistry with tremendous success in education and quality. Thank you for supporting the profession and making it better for future generations.

*April 30, 2024*