

# MEDIA RELEASE

## GROUNDBREAKER AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE (CAM)

## Five Canadian doctors named as recipients of \$50,000 Groundbreaker Awards

**Vancouver, BC (January 4, 2017):** The Dr. Rogers Prize for Excellence in Complementary and Alternative Medicine is pleased to announce the winners of the *Dr. Rogers Prize Groundbreaker Awards.* Five Canadian leaders in health care have been selected by an international jury in recognition of their lifetime of dedication to patient care, often in the face of adversity. Each recipient will receive a cash award of \$50,000 CAD at a Gala Award Dinner to be held at the Fairmont Royal York in Toronto on Friday, February 24, 2017.

In celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Dr. Rogers Prize*, the Groundbreaker Awards are a one-time award to honour those individuals whose personal conviction to pursue practices above and beyond the medical status quo prepared the way for future leaders, evocative of Sir Isaac Newton's famous quote - "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.

Congratulations to the Groundbreaker Award recipients:

- Dr. Steven K. H. Aung, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB Dr. Aung is a physician and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) practitioner and teacher. He is a Clinical Professor in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alberta and Vice Chair (North America) of the World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies. Dr. Aung is a pioneer in the integration of Western, Traditional Chinese, and complementary medicine, and in the advancement of Chinese medicine and acupuncture in Canada.
- **Dr. Jozef Krop**, EcoHealth and Wellness Inc., Mississauga, ON Dr. Krop has been a leader in complementary and environmental medicine for over 20 years. An advocate for people with multiple chemical sensitivities, much of his career has been devoted to defending the right of patients to use safe and effective innovative therapies. He has spent decades courageously fighting charges and controversy, much of it at great personal cost. By not backing down under scrutiny, Dr. Krop established what law firms in Canada and the US now refer to as the "Krop Defense."
- Dr. Stephen Sagar, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON Dr. Stephen Sagar is Professor of Oncology and Medicine at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, and a radiation oncologist at the Juravinksi Cancer Centre. His career has focused on integrating evidence-based complementary therapies into his clinical

practice, and on teaching other clinicians to do the same. For nearly two decades he has worked with professional organizations to define scopes of practice, effectiveness, and regulatory standards for complementary therapies. Dr. Sagar helped establish the new discipline of integrative oncology and is a leader in the use of mind-body medicine and supportive care in the treatment of cancer patients.

- **Dr. Donald Warren**, Naturally Well Naturopathic Clinic, Ottawa, ON Dr. Warren has served in a number of leadership positions within the naturopathic profession. He has served as chair of the Board of the Institute of Naturopathic Education and Research (INER) and was pivotal in his role as president of the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine (CCNM) in helping to establish the college as a recognized naturopathic medical school. His ongoing dedication to competency has advanced the credibility of the field of naturopathy and made Dr. Warren an important contributor to the field of naturopathic medicine.
- Dr. Joseph Y. Wong, Toronto Pain & Stress Clinic, Toronto, ON

Dr. Wong is Medical Director of the Toronto Pain and Stress Clinic and was a founder of the Acupuncture Foundation of Canada in 1974. He has specialized in physical medicine, rehabilitation, and pain medicine for more than 50 years. Trained in both Western and Traditional Chinese Medicine, he developed a new model of acupuncture grounded in anatomy, physiology, and acupuncture. This new treatment approach, known as neuro-anatomical acupuncture, has been taught to thousands of students. He has been called the "father of acupuncture in Canada."

#### ABOUT THE DR. ROGERS PRIZE

The *Dr. Rogers Prize for Excellence in Complementary and Alternative Medicine* is a \$250,000 cash prize awarded every two years to celebrate the achievements of researchers, practitioners, and others in the field of CAM healthcare, innovators who dare to "push the boundaries" in pursuing new approaches to wellness and the treatment of illness. The largest prize of its kind, the first Dr. Rogers Prize was awarded in 2007. It is sponsored by the Lotte and John Hecht Memorial Foundation.

The Dr. Rogers Prize recognizes those who embody the same level of vision, leadership, and integrity as that of the late Dr. Roger Hayward Rogers. Among the first physicians to provide non-traditional therapies for cancer patients, Dr. Rogers was appointed to the Order of British Columbia in 2001 in recognition of his ground-breaking work.

The Call for Nominations for the 2017 Dr. Rogers Prize will be announced in February.

#### MORE INFORMATION

Visit <u>DrRogersPrize.org</u> for more information.

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