

## CATHOLIC TRUSTEE TO RECEIVE NATIONAL AWARD



Colleen Landers,  
Chair of the NCDSB

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board is proud to announce that Chair of the Board Colleen Landers has been selected to receive a national award of merit from the Canadian Standards Association. The award recognizes her outstanding volunteer work and leadership, in particular for her contributions to the reprocessing standards in Canada.

Colleen is honoured to have been selected as a recipient of this award. "In the early nineties, it became apparent that there was a need for greater education of standards and new and improved techniques for hospital central service departments in northern Ontario," explained Landers. "It is with this objective that I formed the Theta chapter of the Central Service Association of Ontario (CSAO). My goal in life is to make a difference in improving health care in Canada, and to work towards ensuring that all patients receive the best quality care possible." She pursues these goals on an ongoing basis by dedicating thousands of volunteer hours to improve central reprocessing practices in Canada and promote the Canadian Standards in reprocessing.

Within the northern chapter, she served as President for ten years, organizing, chairing and speaking at education days. Under her leadership, the Theta chapter won the CSAO Chapter Award for the education and growth of the membership. She has also worn many hats for the provincial Central Service Association of Ontario, most recently as President from 2000 to 2002. She also worked to improve the relationship between the CSAO and the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA), chairing a committee for the OHA to write a report on "The Reuse of Single Use Medical Devices". This document was presented to the Minister of Health in Ontario as part of an initiative to improve the health care practices within the province. She was awarded a Life membership by the CSAO in 2004 for her contributions to the association over the 15 years of membership. She assists the CSAO executive in education and mentoring in any capacity they require. She also remains committed to teaching the CSAO Techniques course and whenever she gets a chance she speaks with enthusiasm about education, the Canadian Standards and dedication to the profession.

She joined the Canadian Standards Association in 2000, and brought forward to the Technical Committee the idea for a new standard for the control of loaners in healthcare. This issue was a problem in reprocessing departments across Canada. She took a lead role on this committee and did research assisting in the development of this Standard.

She is Canada's representative on the Association of the Advancement of the American Medical Instrumentation Committee where she has been a volunteer user representative for 8 years. She has been a volunteer educational coordinator for the Central Service of Ontario since 1990

She is a retired registered nurse of 34 years and runs her own private health care consulting business and has consulted in the reprocessing field in Ontario. She has been an elected school board trustees for 17 years, presently acting as the Chair of the Northeastern Catholic District School Board.

The award will be presented to her at the Canadian Standards Association's Annual General Meeting in Kelowna in June. The Canadian Standards Association serves business, industry, government and consumers in Canada and the global marketplace by developing standards that address real needs, such as enhancing public safety and health.

**For more information, please contact Mélanie Bidal-Mainville, Community Relations Officer**



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