



APPHON/ROHPPA NEWSLETTER

Atlantic Provinces Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Network
Réseau d'Oncologie et Hématologie Pédiatrique des Provinces
Atlantiques

Board Executive:
Chair - Holly Morrison
Vice Chair - Dr. Heidi Budden

Our Vision

To facilitate access for Atlantic Province children and youth to comprehensive, current, effective, evidence-based hematologic/oncologic treatment delivered as close to home as safely feasible.

Winter/Spring 2020

Welcome to our New Levels of Care Coordinator-NL

APPHON/ROHPPA is pleased to announce a new Levels of Care Coordinator has been hired in Newfoundland and Labrador. **Jill Mitchell** has been working with us since mid-January.



My name is Jill Mitchell, and I am from Paradise, Newfoundland and Labrador. I graduated from Memorial University with my Bachelors of Nursing Degree in 2003. As a young girl I always knew that I had to work with children. Upon graduation, I began working immediately at the Janeway Children's Health and Rehabilitation Centre on the inpatient medicine/oncology unit.

I learned very quickly this was where I was meant to be. I've had the privilege

of learning from some of the best pediatric nurses, whom I continue to admire and respect to this day. This particular population of patients has been, and remains, my passion for well over seventeen years now. Back in 2006, I took a leave of absence and went to California on my own to do some travel nursing, and while I was there, I did all pediatric hematology/oncology by choice. I received my certification and earned my CPHON status in 2017. At that time, I also became a certified chemotherapy and biotherapy instructor where I continue to teach the course on an annual basis. I have spent five consecutive summers volunteering at Camp Delight (our local annual children's oncology summer camp), that was until I had children of my own.

I'm proud to say that I am the mom of two wonderful kids, Reid (10) & Zoe (7), and of course, my fur baby, Finn. I should also mention my husband Colby of eleven years. We are very involved in our kids' extracurricular activities and I enjoy spending time and volunteering with our local hockey association and Girl Guides of Canada. I was eager and

excited to accept the Levels of Care position with APPHON, as well as the newly created Provincial Pediatric Hematology Nurse Coordinator for Newfoundland and Labrador, as this is better for my family life and provides more flexibility. I look forward to working with you all.

Jill Mitchell

jill.mitchell@easternhealth.ca

Upcoming Educational Sessions:

Cannabis and Palliative Care

February 3rd, 12:00-13:00

Our February educational session on *Cannabis and Palliative Care* will be presented by *Dr. Robin Williams*, Palliative Medicine Consultant, at St. John Regional Hospital. If you have not received a meeting invitation, please contact schoel.strang@iwk.nshealth.ca

Giving Pediatric Chemotherapy in Atlantic Canada

March 12th, 12:00-13:00

Christa McGuirk will be presenting, *Giving Chemotherapy to Pediatric Patients in Atlantic Canada*. She will be discussing the APHON Chemotherapy & Biotherapy course, as well as the APPHON/ROHPPA Standards for Nurses providing that care. Links to the session will be sent via email closer to the date.

Welcome Dr. Subburaj, the IWK's New Locum Physician

The IWK Hematology/Oncology Department would like to welcome their new locum physician, Dr. Divya Subburaj.

Dr. Subburaj was born and raised in Bangalore, India. She completed her

medical degree and pediatric residency at Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute. She has recently finished a three year fellowship in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and BMT from BC Children's Hospital, University of British Columbia, and is also a Fellow of National Board in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology. Bone Marrow Transplant, Cellular Therapy and Hemoglobinopathies are her areas of interest.

Outside of hospital, you can find her hiking, snow-shoeing or walking by the beach!

Call for Volunteers for Communication Working Group

APPHON/ROHPPA is currently forming our Communication Working Group. If anyone is interested in participating, please let Carol know carol.digout@iwk.nshealth.ca

APHON Biotherapy and Chemotherapy Course

As of yet, there is no scheduled date for the next course offering. If you are anticipating having to send staff to the next available course, please keep an eye on our our website, or contact christa.mcguirk@iwk.nshealth.ca to reserve your spot.