

Catholic Health Alliance of Canada

Lifetime Achievement Award

2015

Lil Bergamo

Thunder Bay, Ontario



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Catholic health care in Canada has been blessed with a legacy of dedicated and often prophetic leaders whose commitment has built up the ministry and ultimately brought care and healing to many persons and communities. The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes annually one such leader. This award honours individuals who have inspired and mentored numerous others in Catholic health care and whose accomplishments, over the course of many years, have strengthened the ministry. Her or his leadership extends beyond a single Catholic health organization to influence and impact the local community and beyond.

Ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada, I have the pleasure and honour to present this year's recipient of the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Lil Bergamo has been in the arena of Catholic health care during a lifetime of service, making substantive and long-lasting impact at the local, provincial, and national, levels. She has dared greatly, inspired others, and has faithfully contributed to furthering the legacy of the founding Sisters and the healing ministry of Jesus. Through decades of dedicated service and leadership, Lil has flourished as Board Chair of three Catholic health care organizations: St. Joseph's Care Group, Thunder Bay; the Catholic Health Association of Ontario; and the Catholic Health Corporation of Ontario. And at the national level, she served on the board of the Catholic Health Association of Canada. As a committed volunteer, Lil invested an incredible amount of personal time in support of these organizations, and to further Catholic health care.

In the words of those who nominated her: "Lil is an outstanding mentor who has encouraged, inspired and developed strengths in scores of other leaders. Lil's profound respect for people and belief in what others can achieve are among her strongest traits and are directly responsible

for many of her greatest achievements and proudest moments."

Lil's personal beliefs and her ability to translate those beliefs into exemplary leadership have been instrumental in advancing the agendas of the organizations she has served so well. Her influence as a volunteer leader in Catholic health care is undeniable. She has worked with bishops, governments, Local Health Integration Networks and politicians, using her strong and unique charm to influence change and obtain agreement and understanding. Her nominators concluded with the following words: "The vulnerable person and those with the greatest needs are at the centre of Lil's care and concern. She stands for the best of the Catholic health care ministry and does not hesitate to speak about her powerful understanding of what Catholic health care stands for, and why it is more relevant than ever today."

Lil, for your dedicated service, and outstanding contribution to the Catholic health ministry, the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada is pleased to acknowledge you as the recipient of the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award.



Daniel Lussier, Chair of the Governing Council presents award to Lil Bergamo (right)

