

Ottawa-area nurse named 2018 Oncology Nurse of the Year *Committed volunteer, patient-centric leader, and innovator has been selected by panel of oncology nurses for prestigious award*

Ottawa, Ontario- October 28, 2018 — A passion for helping others, and providing comfort to patients along their journey is what inspired Robin Morash to dedicate more than three decades of her life to a career in Oncology nursing.

Today, it's a decision that has allowed her to make a difference in the lives of many patients living with cancer.

After a nursing career of 35 years, ending with a decision to retire in June of this year, Ms. Robin Morash is being honoured as the 2018 Boehringer Ingelheim Oncology Nurse of the Year. The seventh annual Boehringer Ingelheim Oncology Nurse of the Year award was presented at the Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology (CANO/ACIO) Annual Conference in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. The award recognizes the unique contributions of an oncology nurse who consistently demonstrates the highest level of nursing excellence and leadership.

Ms. Morash held her most recent position for 33 years at The Ottawa Hospital (formerly the Ottawa Civic Hospital) holding the title of Advanced Practice Nurse, Uro-Oncology where she simultaneously managed two programs as well as her clinical practice.

Ms. Morash is known by for consistently demonstrating a passion for assisting others – which is evident in everything that she does, always inspiring those around her to be better. Her nomination was supported by her peers for her work in both direct patient care and the transformation of various programs, including the development of a prostate cancer assessment centre. She has also offered her support in the community to national patient driven organizations such as Bladder Cancer Canada, working with them to develop several programs in recent years.

“Over the course of my career, I have been so fortunate to put the focus of the patient at the centre of my work, and to see the comfort I am able to provide them during what can be a challenging journey,” Ms. Morash says. “I’m so honoured to receive this award, particularly as I end a fulfilling 35-year career in the oncology nursing profession. It is my hope that I can continue to make an impact by continuing to volunteer in my community.”

“With this award, we recognize Robin Morash for her outstanding commitment to advancing excellence in oncology nursing through volunteerism, education, and inspiring leadership throughout her community,” said Dr. Linda Watson, President, CANO/ACIO. “The work of Ms. Morash in both direct patient care and in the transformation of regional cancer centre programs has led to improved outcomes that have positively impacted the lives of patients. We’d like to acknowledge how proud we are of all the nominees for this award, and the impact they continue to make in oncology nursing.”

The criteria for this year's award included an emphasis their exemplary service in Oncology nursing excellence, oncology leadership and advocacy. Nominations were submitted by healthcare professionals, cancer patients, survivors and members of the community-at-large. The submissions were assessed by a panel of Canadian oncology nursing professionals who watched for exemplary service in oncology nursing excellence, oncology leadership and advocacy.

"We are pleased to recognize Ms. Morash as the recipient of the 2018 Boehringer Ingelheim Nurse of the Year Award, and we acknowledge all of the compassionate and hardworking nurses across Canada who were nominated," said Richard Mole, President & CEO, Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd. "Oncology nurses are an integral part of health care delivery for both the patient and their families. Ms. Morash's accomplishments over the course of her career speak to the positive impact she has had on not only the patient journey, but in transforming how patients are cared for."

The winner of the Boehringer Ingelheim Nurse of the Year Award is given \$5,000 towards further education and professional development.

ABOUT THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSES IN ONCOLOGY

CANO/ACIO is the national organization that supports Canadian nurses to advance oncology nursing excellence through practice, education, research and leadership for the benefit of all Canadians. Our vision is that CANO/ACIO is a driving force nationally and an influencing force internationally in advancing excellence in cancer nursing across the cancer control spectrum. For further information on CANO/ACIO, the conference and awards please visit www.cano-acio.ca.