



## NSHRF NEWS

After five years with NSHRF - and five annual awards competitions - **Lesley Poirier**, Research Awards Program Manager, is moving on to new career challenges. We wish her all the best. **Linda Waterhouse** is lending us a hand while the recruitment process for this position is completed. Linda, a member of the Operations Committee for the IWK Telethon and a former events producer, can be reached at 902-424-3370 or [waterhll@gov.ns.ca](mailto:waterhll@gov.ns.ca).

We'd also like to welcome aboard **Natasha Sider** and **Carolyn Marriott**. Natasha is our first Communication's Officer. Among her many duties will be overseeing the website. Carolyn joins the team as a Financial Administrator and is responsible for the day-to-day financial and administrative functions of the Foundation. To meet the rest of the NSHRF team, please drop by [www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?id=1002&siteid=1&lang=1](http://www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?id=1002&siteid=1&lang=1).

For those of you who missed our annual awards celebration and news conference, you can still join in the fun. We've posted a slide show that features funded applicants, panel reviewers, members of the health research community, NSHRF staff and many more! Take a look at [www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?ID=1202&siteid=1&lang=1](http://www.nshrf.ca/AbsPage.aspx?ID=1202&siteid=1&lang=1).

## EVENTS

A **Healthy Eating Research Forum** will be taking place on November 3, 2006 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm at the Banook Canoe Club. The event is intended to engage Nova Scotia in the Healthy Eating Research Agenda. Registration is free. For more information about the event, please drop by [www.nshrf.ca](http://www.nshrf.ca).

The NSHRF is holding a workshop for those interested in and/or involved with International Health Research activities in the field of biomedical, health policy, health services and health outcomes research. The workshop will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2006 from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm at Pier 21 National Historic Site, Kenneth C. Rowe Heritage Hall, 1055 Marginal Road, Halifax. Please RSVP by November 3rd to [NSHRF@gov.ns.ca](mailto:NSHRF@gov.ns.ca) or 902-424-4043.

## **OPPORTUNITY**

On behalf of the Nova Scotia Department of Health, NSHRF is inviting Letters of Intent from researchers, evaluators, decision makers and others (including collaborative, multidisciplinary or trans-disciplinary teams) interested in evaluating the new **Involuntary Psychiatric Treatment Act** (Chapter 42 of the Acts of 2005). All Letters of Intent must be submitted to the NSHRF by 4 pm, November 15, 2006. For further information, please visit [www.nshrf.ca](http://www.nshrf.ca).

## **IN PROFILE: NOVA SCOTIA RESEARCH**

*Echinacea* is a Native American herb said to help or cure a variety of conditions, but primarily used to enhance immune function. There have been a number of unsubstantiated claims of efficacy for *Echinacea*, but over the last 20 years only a small number of rigorous, controlled scientific studies have been conducted. **Allyn Meredith Bowen**, with the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Dalhousie University, used a special extract to focus on the effects of a whole polysaccharide extract on immune function. Such extracts are widely used by the public; however, claims as to their effectiveness are generally speculative. To learn about the results, please see [Research Results.](#)

## **BEARING RESULTS**

Amidst heightened public concern about Nova Scotia's health care system, a research team is looking at one of its most intimate - and vital - dynamics: the relationship between patient and health care provider. Led by **Camilla Holmvall** of Saint Mary's University, the team will seek to understand how relationships with health care providers affect the health care choices patients make. To find out more, please visit [Research Advances.pdf](#).

## **KEEP IN TOUCH**

To keep abreast of announcements from NSHRF, all you have to do is drop by [www.nshrf.ca](http://www.nshrf.ca) and add your name to our mailing list. To receive a text version of this newsletter or unsubscribe from this mailing list, please contact [info@nshrf.ca](mailto:info@nshrf.ca).