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April 7, 2009
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Canadian Achievements in Psychosocial Oncology Recognized – Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology 2009 Award of Excellence honours Esther Green

TORONTO—Esther Green, RN, MSc (T) received the 2009 Award of Excellence from the Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology/Association Canadienne d'Oncologie Psychosociale (CAPO/ACOP) on April 2, 2009. Dr. Zeev Rosberger, a Past President of CAPO and former Award of Excellence recipient, presented the annual award for outstanding contribution to psychosocial oncology in Canada at the association's annual conference in Vancouver, British Columbia.

“Esther Green’s passion for the field of psychosocial oncology and her enormous dedication, not only to improving psychological and supportive care for patients and their families but also to enhancing the working lives of all professionals in this field, has been exemplary,” said CAPO President Tom Hack. “Esther has an extensive history in psychosocial oncology, having written book chapters and contributed to numerous articles and studies in the area of quality of life for people with cancer and their families. She established a national Symptom Management Coordinator Program in 22 cancer centres and hospitals in Canada, and has been the recipient of many previous awards including the 2004 Ontario Hospital Association Award of Excellence in Nursing Leadership, the CANO Helene Hudson Memorial Lectureship Award in 1998 and in 2003, and was the recipient of the CANO-PHARMACIA and UPJOHN, Award of Excellence in Administration in 1996.

“Given that on the basis of current incidence rates, almost 40% of Canadian women and almost 45% of men will develop cancer during their lifetimes, the need for emotional support and care is paramount for all whose lives are affected by cancer in Canada,” Hack said. “Esther has not only been a champion for psychosocial supportive services, she has been a true psychosocial oncology leader in Canada.”

Esther Green is currently the Provincial Head, Nursing and Psychosocial Oncology, CancerCare Ontario. She has spent the past 18 years of her career working in oncology. She has been on the CAPO Board for the past ten years, contributing significantly through her work as Chair of the Education Committee, and then serving as Vice President, President, and Past President.

CAPO/ACOP is an organization of professionals trained to help patients and families cope with the emotional, psychological and social stresses that often surface in the course of cancer and its treatment. CAPO is dedicated to the understanding, treatment and study of the social, psychological, emotional, spiritual and quality-of-life aspects of cancer.

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