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Parkinson Canada



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Michelle McDonald new chair Neurological Health Charities Canada

Toronto – February 25, 2020 - Governing Council of Neurological Health Charities Canada welcomes Michelle McDonald as chair of NHCC, the leading coalition of organizations that represent people with brain diseases, disorders and injuries in Canada. She succeeds Joyce Gordon who is retiring as CEO of Parkinson Canada and stepping down as chair of NHCC.

Michelle is executive director of Brain Injury Canada and an accomplished non-profit professional with two decades of experience working in the sector in both Toronto and Ottawa.

She sits on a variety of committees across Canada, working collaboratively with partners and stakeholders to ensure those individuals and families living with acquired brain injury and other neurological conditions have the supports and services they need to be fully engaged and valued in their communities. Past roles include executive director at the Brain Injury Society of Toronto and in health promotion at the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario.

NHCC Governing Council is grateful to Joyce for her leadership as a founding member of the coalition in 2008 and the first chair of NHCC. She was instrumental in obtaining funding from the Government of Canada in 2008 for the most comprehensive population health study of neurological conditions in Canada. The study culminated in the report *Mapping Connections* in 2014 and resulted in four additional neurological conditions being added to the important Canadian Chronic Disease Surveillance System.

As Parkinson Canada CEO, Joyce led the 2016 integration of six Parkinson organizations creating a stronger Parkinson Canada and the drive to create guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson disease.

Neurological Health Charities Canada is a coalition of organizations that represent people with brain diseases, disorders and injuries in Canada. With a research to action focus, NHCC provides leadership, evaluates and advances new opportunities for collaboration specific to advocacy, education, research and innovation related to brain/neurological health.

More information: www.mybrainmatters.ca