



### **Dr. Martin LaBrie: CSPCP Humanitarian Award Winner 2015**

The Canadian Society of Palliative Care Physicians (CSPCP) is pleased to award Dr. Martin LaBrie with the inaugural CSPCP Humanitarian Award. This award recognizes a palliative care physician who has made a difference to underserved populations nationally or internationally through direct service provision and/or development of humanitarian programs.

Dr. Martin LaBrie is a palliative consulting physician with the Calgary Regional Palliative and Hospice Care Services, and a clinical assistant professor at the University of Calgary. He embodies the passion, commitment, humanity and lifelong learning principles of hospice palliative care, most notably for underserved and marginalized populations. He developed an interest in HIV patients in the mid-1980s and his growing support of palliative care for HIV/AIDS as well community based palliative care was instrumental in establishing Agapé Hospice, the first residential hospice in Calgary. He served as its first medical director from 1993-2003 after which he was granted the Order of Distinguished Auxiliary Service Award by the Salvation Army in recognition of his decade of service.

Dr. LaBrie was a key participant in establishing Calgary's integrated regional palliative program, created in 1997. He has helped lead the growing Calgary palliative care community in its attention to underserved populations and has remained committed to this goal throughout his career. He runs twice-weekly clinics for HIV patients and since 1998, has been visiting and treating inmates afflicted with HIV and Hepatitis C at Corrections Canada's Drumheller penitentiary. For four weeks in 2010 and again in 2012 he assisted in the development of palliative resources in Burkina Faso, providing consultative support to develop palliative capacity for individuals living with HIV. He has also been a strong advocate for the homeless population, developing capacity throughout southern Alberta. His efforts were recently acknowledged with the 2013 Leadership for Life award from AIDS Calgary for his HIV and hepatitis C advocacy.

Congratulations to Dr. LaBrie for his outstanding achievements and for his dedication to patients living and dying with HIV/AIDS in Canada and beyond.

