

## NEWS RELEASE • COMMUNIQUÉ

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### **Do you know someone working to improve the health of your community?**

*Ottawa, September 29, 2005*—The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) is calling for nominations for the 2006 Award for Excellence in Health Promotion. The award was introduced in 2003 to recognize those outside the health sector who have made a significant contribution towards a healthy population and a healthy community.

“We tend to think of progress in improving the health of Canadians in terms of big break-throughs like revolutionary new drugs or surgical procedures, but actually initiatives such as those that encourage people to exercise or eliminate a source of air pollution can have a huge effect,” says Dr. Guido Van Rosendaal, chair of the CMA Council on Health Care and Promotion. “These initiatives need to be nurtured and encouraged; that’s why the CMA started this award.”

Past winners are: the Federation of Canadian Municipalities on behalf of those municipalities that have enacted bylaws to ban indoor smoking in public places (2003); the Halifax Chamber of Commerce for their HealthAction initiative in support of healthy workplaces and healthy communities (2004); and the Blue Nose International Marathon Organizing Committee for its promotion of physical activity for all ages (2005).

Residents of Canada who are not health professionals or employed in the health sector as well as organizations that operate outside of the health sector are eligible for this prestigious award. We welcome nominations from individuals and organizations from all walks of life.

The deadline for nominations for the CMA's 2006 Award for Excellence in Health Promotion Award is November 30<sup>th</sup>. For more information, you can visit [www.cma.ca/healthaward.htm](http://www.cma.ca/healthaward.htm) or call 1 800 663-7336 ext. 2329.

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*Please note that a Public Service Announcement in PDF format, in various sizes, calling for nominations for the 2006 CMA Award for Excellence in Health Promotion, can be downloaded from the CMA website at [www.cma.ca/healthaward.htm](http://www.cma.ca/healthaward.htm)*

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