QEII FOUNDATION

EXCELLENCE • INNOVATION • LEADERSHIP

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, NOV 26/07 AT 11:00 AM AST

Inaugural Population Cancer Research Chair announced

(HALIFAX) The QEII Foundation has announced the appointment of Dr. Louise Parker as the first Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division Chair in Population Cancer Research. Made possible through a partnership with Dalhousie University and Capital District Health Authority, and generous funding from the Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division, and Fred and Elizabeth Fountain and the QEII Foundation, the appointment of Dr. Parker aims to address the high rate of cancer in the province through evidence based cancer prevention strategies and health and society research. Dr. Parker's appointment as the Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division Chair in Population Cancer Research was announced today at a ceremony at the QEII Health Sciences Centre.

"With Dr. Parker in this position, the chair in population cancer research will provide provincial, regional and national leadership in monitoring cancer-related behaviors and other risk factors among the general population," said Dr. Ray LeBlanc, Vice-President Research & Academic Affairs, Capital District Health Authority. Constance Glube, the Chair of the QEII Foundation Board of Trustees thanked the Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division, and Fred and Elizabeth Fountain, for their "vision and commitment to building a healthier future for Nova Scotians through ground-breaking research".

"We're so proud to be a partner on this initiative," says Maureen Summers, executive director of the Canadian Cancer Society – Nova Scotia Division. "By making an investment in this Chair, we'll increase our collective understanding of why Nova Scotia has some of the highest cancer rates in the country. And armed with this knowledge, we'll be able to make a significant difference in the lives of Nova Scotians."

Dr. Parker, a past recipient of the Bronze Marie Curie Award from the French Association for Cancer Control for her work on neuroblastoma screening, brings a wealth of knowledge to her new role and plans to make a lasting impact on the region's cancer research. "Men and women in Nova Scotia are at higher risk of cancer than most other Canadians and we don't really know why," she said. "My appointment to the Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division Chair in Population Cancer Research gives me a great opportunity to work with scientists, doctors, other health professionals and the public to find out why Nova Scotians have such a high risk of cancer and see if we can reverse this upward trend. We do know that there are things about the way we live which change our risk of cancer - the food we eat, the air we breathe and the water we drink.

We want to find out what is going wrong for Nova Scotia to give us such a high risk of cancer - and then we can fix it."

Endowed research chairs, like the Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division Chair in Population Cancer Research, are catalysts for change, attracting others to the field of investigation and supporting growth of a dedicated research program. An endowment fund has been created to support the research chair, where the capital is invested in perpetuity and the income is used annually by the Chair holder to advance the research program. By creating this endowment fund in support of population cancer research, the Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division, Fred and Elizabeth Fountain and the QEII Foundation are helping attract scientists of great distinction – like Dr. Louise Parker – who will work to advance medical research, right here in Atlantic Canada.

For more information, contact:

Steve Jennex, APR
Director of Communications
QEII Foundation
(902) 473-5591

-30-

About the Canadian Cancer Society
The Canadian Cancer Society is a national community-based organization of volunteers whose mission is to eradicate cancer and to enhance the quality of life of people living with cancer. When you want to know more about cancer, visit our website www.cancer.ca or call our toll-free, bilingual Cancer Information Service at 1 888 939-3333.

About the QEII Foundation
The Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization established to strengthen health care for Atlantic Canadians. The QEII Foundation raises funds for state of the art technology, community-based disease prevention initiatives, professional education and medical research. Since 1996, the QEII Foundation has raised more than $120 million for the QEII.