



News Release

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HIROC Board names Catherine Gaulton as next CEO

(Toronto) December 1, 2016 – Today HIROC announced its Board of Directors has appointed Catherine Gaulton as Chief Executive Officer effective February 1, 2017.

“After a meticulous and thorough search process, the Board determined that Catherine’s leadership and extensive experience in the healthcare and insurance spectrum make her the outstanding candidate for the role,” said HIROC Board Chair Elizabeth Martin.

“We’ve selected someone who will be able to navigate HIROC through our complex and ever-changing healthcare system, at a time when there are growing pressures on HIROC subscribers,” said Ms. Martin. “Catherine’s passion for patient safety, coupled with her understanding of the unique role an insurance reciprocal plays, will equip her to take HIROC to the next level.”

Catherine has more than 25 years in senior leadership roles, most recently at the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) as the Vice President, Quality and System Performance and Chief Legal Officer. In this role, she led, along with 24,000 Health Authority employees, physicians, governors and volunteers, NSHA’s work to achieve excellence through system governance, quality and safety improvement, and strategic planning.

Previously, Catherine led performance excellence at the Capital District Health Authority in Halifax, Nova Scotia, implementing game-changing initiatives such as the development of Capital Health’s Patient Safety Plan and the District Quality, Patient Safety and Risk Management Integrated Framework.

Catherine began her career in Newfoundland as a registered nurse. From there she transitioned to the practice of law, living on both coasts serving as Advisory Services Counsel and then Executive Director for the B.C. Health Care Risk Management Society, the healthcare self-insurer for all B.C. hospitals.

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Following a move back to Nova Scotia, Catherine worked as General Counsel for the Workers' Compensation Board and Senior Solicitor for the Nova Scotia Department of Health.

Catherine has also chaired a number of boards including the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI), and the Nova Scotia Health Organization Protective Association, and is a member of the board of the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI).

Catherine Gaulton will succeed Peter Flattery who has served as HIROC's Chief Executive Officer since 1996.

"Catherine brings a broad range of expertise on legal, healthcare, insurance and risk management issues to the CEO role," said Ms. Martin. "We look forward to her guiding important growth initiatives currently underway, while creating new opportunities that build on HIROC's vision of Partnering to Create the Safest Healthcare System."

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About the Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada – HIROC

In 1987, 53 Ontario hospitals and healthcare organizations made the historic move to a self-administered liability insurance plan. The Hospital Insurance Reciprocal of Ontario (HIRO), commenced business on July 1 of that year. Today, HIROC is a national organization and Canada's largest non-profit healthcare liability insurer, completely owned by its subscribers.

HIROC is guided by its vision of partnering to create the safest healthcare system. They do this by providing cost-effective and innovative insurance and risk management solutions that help its subscribers make better decisions. As a non-profit reciprocal, surplus funds are returned to its subscribers for reinvestment in the healthcare system.