

THE INTERDISCIPLINARY BARIATRIC CLINIC HONOURED WITH AN AWARD FROM THE FÉDÉRATION DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES DU QUÉBEC

Baie-Comeau, November 19, 2021 – The team of the interdisciplinary bariatric clinic of the Hôpital Le Royer in Baie-Comeau was awarded the *Prix d'excellence en soins en régions intermédiaires ou éloignées* by the Fédération des médecins spécialistes du Québec (FMSQ). The recipient of this prestigious award was announced as part of the 14th Interdisciplinary Training Days of the FMSQ on November 19, 2021.

This award honours outstanding medical specialists or innovative projects that have contributed to improving the access, effectiveness, quality or safety of health care offered in outlying regions of Quebec, while promoting interdisciplinarity.

The interdisciplinary bariatric clinic of the Hôpital Le Royer was created in 2019, after years of efforts by surgeons practising in Baie-Comeau. Various steps had to be taken beforehand, including the creation of an interdisciplinary team composed of three surgeons, a nurse navigator, a nutritionist, a social worker and a nutrition technician. Care paths were established and clinical tools for the various professionals were created, in line with the program of the Institut universitaire de cardiologie et de pneumologie de Québec (IUCPQ).

After having obtained its ministerial accreditation, the clinic received its first patients in December 2019, and the first surgeries were carried out in January 2020. To date, some 40 people have undergone surgery at the clinic, over 50 people are benefiting from post-surgery follow-up, and about 260 people are waiting to be assessed.

Dr. Hélène Milot, surgeon and head of general surgery, accepted this award with great pride. “Since 2020, North Shore residents have had the opportunity to be treated in the region by specialists who understand their reality. I want to recognize the invaluable contribution of everyone who took part in the creation of the interdisciplinary bariatric clinic. Thank you as well to the Fondation de la santé et des services sociaux de Manicouagan for its financial contribution to the project, and to our multidisciplinary team, which plays a crucial role in the success of bariatric surgery, through a case management approach that promotes an overall change in the patient’s lifestyle habits.”

Meanwhile, Dr. Vincent Oliva, Chairman of the FMSQ, highlighted the clinic team’s excellent work. “This award presented to the interdisciplinary bariatric clinic is a perfect example of the medical leadership that we want to promote. Dr. Milot and her team were able to provide service quality and access to care by bridging the gap between Indigenous communities and cutting-edge research in major centres. I am particularly proud of the sharing of knowledge between health care professionals that makes this project stand out.”

The President and executive director of the Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (CISSS) de la Côte-Nord, Ms. Manon Asselin, extended her congratulations to the members of the clinic for this great success. “We are proud of this regional award that is raising the profile of our establishment across the province and that highlights all the efforts made by the physicians and employees involved in this project since the start. Thanks to their commitment, we were able to improve our service offer to the population of the North Shore.”

.../2

For more information on bariatric surgery, visit:

<https://www.cisss-cotenord.gouv.qc.ca/en/care-and-services/bariatric-surgery/>.

Source: Pascal Paradis
Communication advisor
Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux de la Côte-Nord
418 589-9845, ext. 342268