



August 8, 2017

Dr. José Pereira Appointed Inaugural Gilchrist Chair in Palliative Care Research

Dean Richard Reznick is pleased to announce that Benoit-Antoine Bacon, Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic) at Queen's University, and Matthew Anderson, President and CEO of Lakeridge Health, have appointed Dr. José Pereira as the inaugural Dr. Gillian Gilchrist Chair in Palliative Care Research. This appointment is for a five-year period beginning July 1, 2017.

Queen's University Faculty of Health Sciences and Lakeridge Health in Durham Region have partnered to create the first academic chair in palliative care based at a community hospital in Canada. Dr. Pereira, in this part-time position, will lead palliative care research at Queen's Durham region sites and contribute to palliative care leadership at Lakeridge Health, one of Ontario's largest community hospitals. The chair was made possible by a generous donation from Dr. Hak Ming Chiu and Mrs. Deborah Chiu, who named it in honour of Dr. Gillian Gilchrist, Medical Director of the Palliative Care Team at Oshawa General until her retirement in the mid 1990s.

Dr. Pereira graduated from the University of Pretoria with his Doctor of Medicine in 1987, and then earned his Diploma in Anesthesiology at the College of Medicine in South Africa, graduating in 1991. He subsequently completed the Cantel Overton Clinical and Research Fellowship in Palliative Medicine in 1996, followed by a Family Medicine residency, both at the University of Alberta. In 2007, he completed his Master of Science in Medical Education at the University of Calgary.

Dr. Pereira currently holds a number of prestigious appointments within his field of work. He serves as Chief Scientific Officer for Pallium Canada, an organization that he co-founded in 2001 with the mission of improving primary-level palliative care across Canada. He holds academic appointments in the Departments of Family Medicine at the University of Ottawa and McMaster University. He is also Visiting Professor at the Catholic University of Portugal and the University of Navarra in Spain and is a Board Member for the African Palliative Care Association. In 2016, Dr. Pereira was appointed Director of Research for the College of Family Physicians of Canada, and this will continue to be a major part of this work.

Dr. Pereira currently holds a clinical appointment as a Palliative Care Physician Consultant for the William Osler Health Services Brampton Civic Hospital. He previously held appointments as Head of the Division of Palliative Care at the University of Ottawa and The Ottawa Hospital, and Medical Chief of Palliative Care Services for Bruyère Continuing Care in Ottawa. Dr. Pereira led the establishment of the Champlain LHIN Regional Palliative Care Program in 2009, the first regional palliative care program in Ontario. Dr. Pereira was the Provincial Lead of the Palliative Care Program for Cancer Care Ontario from 2011-2013.

Dr. Pereira has received many prestigious awards recognizing him for his outstanding dedication and achievements to his work in family medicine and palliative care. In 2002, he received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal and the Canadian Palliative and Hospice Care Association Award of Excellence. In 2006, he was awarded the Canadian Palliative and Hospice Care Association Award of Leadership. In 2012, Dr. Pereira received both the Queen Elizabeth II Award of Diamond Jubilee Medal and the 2012 Annual Award of excellence. Most recently, he was awarded the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) Continuing Professional Development Program 2016 Award for the Pallium LEAP interprofessional courses.