

***Making a Difference in Canadian Healthcare  
CHIA Awards Salute HI Excellence in Emerging Professionals to National Leaders and  
Companies***

**For Immediate Release**

**November 23, 2009**

(TORONTO, ON): How are health information and technology initiatives transforming healthcare and achieving better health across Canada?

The Canadian Health Informatics Award (CHIA) Gala provided a vast array of answers to this question last week at the Four Seasons Hotel. A wide range of accomplishments – from helping patients to self-manage chronic disease in their homes, to connecting manufacturers, pharmacies, hospitals and other healthcare institutions serving the needs of 12 million+ Canadian patients every day – were recognized.

[ITAC Health](#) and [COACH: Canada's Health Informatics Association](#) co-hosted the gala.

**Award Recipients  
Company of the Year Award  
McKesson Canada**

**Leadership in the Field of Health Informatics Award  
Dennis Rankin, Independent Health Industry Consultant**

**Innovation in the Adoption of Health Informatics Award  
Telehomecare Phase One Program, Ontario Telemedicine Network**

**Corporate Citizenship Awards  
(Presented by Healthcare Information Management & Communications Canada)**  
•Multi-National: **Agfa Healthcare**  
•Small to Medium Enterprise: **DeltaWare Systems Inc.**

**Community-Based Physician Leader/Innovator Award  
(Presented by the Canadian Medical Association & Practice Solutions Ltd.)  
Dr. James Lane, Georgian Bay Family Health Team**

**Project Implementation Team of the Year Award  
ColonCancerCheck (CCC) Project Team, Clytan Inc./Cancer Care Ontario**

**Emerging Leader in Health Informatics Award  
(Presented by Courtyard Group)  
Ian Cummins, eHealth Ontario**

**Healthcare Transformation Award  
TELUS Health Solutions, through their work with the Grand-Littoral Health and Services Centre**

**Steven Huesing Scholarship  
Mu-Hsing (Alex) Kuo, School of Health Information Science, University of Victoria**

“Health informatics is making a very valuable contribution towards improving patient care for Canadians,” said Michael Green, Interim Chair, ITAC Health Board. “The fifth annual CHIA Gala recognized people and organizations that made outstanding contributions during 2009. Canada is a recognized global leader in the field of healthcare IT; continued investment will benefit the health of all Canadians.”

“The gala is a valuable reminder of the very real and significant advances HI is making in Canadian healthcare,” said Linda Miller, COACH President. “The award winners, through their dedication, commitment and innovation, have played vitally important roles in taking HI mainstream and ultimately improving the system for all Canadians. I am immensely proud of all the award recipients and nominees, as well as all the people who took the time to prepare nominations.”

Winners of the Canadian Society of Telehealth (CST) Awards, the Canadian Health Information Management Association (CHIMA) Pinnacle Awards and the Canada Health Infoway Standards Collaborative Peer Award, all presented prior to the gala, were also recognized at CHIA 2009.

**For more information,** visit [www.healthinformaticsawards.ca](http://www.healthinformaticsawards.ca) or contact:

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**About COACH**

COACH: Canada's Health Informatics Association is the diverse community of accomplished, influential professionals who work passionately to make a difference in health informatics (HI). Members are dedicated to realizing their full potential as professionals and advancing HI through access to information, talent, credentials, recognition, programs and a broad range of services and specialized resources. For more information, visit [www.coachorg.com](http://www.coachorg.com).

**About ITAC Health**

Representing more than 130 Canadian ICT companies that are actively involved in the health sector, ITAC Health promotes the role its members can play in establishing the Canadian healthcare industry as a global leader. ITAC Health serves its members as a collective voice to healthcare professionals, government representatives, researchers, and healthcare consumers, and as a conduit for those stake-holders to leverage the members' ability to facilitate the Canadian healthcare system as a “model of excellence” for healthcare systems around the world. Through collaboration, ITAC Health and its members work with healthcare stakeholders to improve the health of Canadians and the efficiency of the Canadian healthcare system through the implementation of information and communications technologies.