

Lynne McVey appointed Director of Nursing

Lynne McVey has been named Director of Nursing of the Jewish General Hospital. In announcing the appointment, Executive Director Henri Elbaz praised Ms. McVey as "a strong advocate of a vibrant and productive collaborative relationship among nurses, physicians and the other medical professionals in the healthcare team."

Mr. Elbaz also noted that in her role as Co Director of the Segal Cancer Centre, Ms. McVey "has been and continues to be instrumental in ensuring that during the transition to the new facilities, patient care has proceeded without interruption, while nursing services are smoothly and effectively integrated into the new environment."

Shortly after joining the JGH in 1987, Ms. McVey was appointed Nursing Director of Medicine, Mental Health, Geriatrics and Cancer Care, a position she held until her promotion. She will also continue to co chair the hospital's Quality and Risk Management Committee, which ensures that the JGH achieves the highest standards of accuracy and quality in the delivery of patient services.

At McGill University, where she is an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, Ms. McVey has become known for guiding



students at the undergraduate and graduate levels toward fulfilling careers in the nursing profession. She is also one of the first graduates of the Direct Entry Master's Program at McGill's School of Nursing.

Ms. McVey said her "first priority is to ensure that patients' needs are met" through a strong bedside presence by nurses, combining compassionate support with professionalism based on research and the latest scientific developments. This care, she noted, takes into account the needs and feelings of the patient's relatives and loved ones.

Ms. McVey wants to continue the JGH's ongoing success in recruiting and retaining nurses. In addition, she is keen on further developing close collaboration between nurses and doctors, "because the better doctors and nurses work together the healthier patients will be. Research results demonstrate that patients experience fewer complications and lives are saved when these partnerships are supported."

Ms. McVey said she feels "privileged and honoured to serve the JGH in this new capacity. It's a challenge that I'm excited by and very much looking forward to. Throughout my career, I've been mentored by outstanding Directors of Nursing at this hospital and others and by forward thinking Directors of the School of Nursing at McGill. I feel that all of my professional experiences have prepared me well for this role."

JGH Jazz Festival returns for an encore

Once again this summer, music filled the air outside the Côte-des-Neiges entrance, as music lovers enjoyed the seventh annual JGH Jazz Festival. Patients, visitors, staff, volunteers and passers-by gathered at the new picnic tables on the Côte-des-Neiges lawn for lunchtime concerts on the hospital's new stage. As promised, the event—from June 26 to July 7, on the theme of "Healing Through Sharing"—was bigger and better than ever. The jam-packed schedule included a jazz film series and indoor and outdoor concerts. Two new series, DJ and Musical Research, were also added to enable disc jockeys and musicians from a variety of backgrounds to share their favourite music (recorded and live performances). Other popular, new additions were a sizzling Salsa workshop with Angela Palumbo, an indoor lunchtime concert in the Atrium and a cafeteria barbecue with a side order of jazz.

JGH Jazz, a series of free concerts, features the musical talents of hospital staff members and local

musicians. Not only do the performances provide pleasant summer entertainment, the music's power also gives an emotional and spiritual lift to patients.

Returning performers included Latin jazz group Wendajam, JGH orderly Silvio Clauser, master Senegalese percussionists Sadio Sissokho and Trevor Ferrier, Ensemble Hassan el Hadi and Laurie Goodman, and Robert Ménard. Among the first-time JGH Jazz participants were reggae band Killawatt, Marianne Trudel, Marc Chenard, fusion group The Skunks, and All of Oyl.

During the JGH Jazz Tour, music therapist Bryan Highbloom and the Dr. Clown team of therapeutic clowns, spread jazz and laughter throughout the hospital by engaging in intimate and impromptu encounters with patients and staff.



Bryan Highbloom (right), organizer of JGH Jazz, jams with guest musicians.