

*June 15, 2011*

## **Alberta names new chief medical examiner**

*Edmonton...* Dr. Anny Sauvageau has been appointed chief medical examiner for the province of Alberta, effective July 1. Dr. Sauvageau's appointment follows an extensive international search to fill the position.

"It is a pleasure to welcome Dr. Sauvageau to her new position," says Verlyn Olson, Minister of Justice and Attorney General. "Dr. Sauvageau is an accomplished forensic pathologist, author and internationally renowned speaker in her field. She is a worthy successor to Dr. Graeme Dowling, who is stepping down as chief after 18 years of outstanding service to the province."

Dr. Sauvageau has been with the Edmonton Office of the Chief Medical Examiner since 2009, first as assistant chief medical examiner and as deputy chief medical examiner since 2010. She received her medical degree from the University of Montreal in 1996 and was certified in anatomical pathology in 2002. She has a founder designation in forensic pathology from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in recognition of her significant contribution to the development of this new specialty in Canada.

Dr. Sauvageau is involved with a number of professional organizations. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, and since 2007 she has been vice president of the Forensic Pathology Examination Board of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. She is also one of the founders and the program director of the residency program in forensic pathology at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Sauvageau takes over from current chief medical examiner, Dr. Graeme Dowling, who announced his intention to retire from this position last spring. Dr. Dowling will stay on as a practicing forensic pathologist.

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner provides an essential service in the criminal justice system. When a death occurs suddenly or cannot be explained, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner conducts an investigation. The chief medical examiner is appointed under Alberta's *Fatality Inquiries Act* by the Lieutenant Governor in Council upon the recommendation of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

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