



SOGC Annual Clinical Meeting, Vancouver, June 22-27, 2006

Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada honours exceptional women's health reporting with 2006 Journalism Awards

Vancouver – The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2006 Women's Health Journalism Award: in the print category, Lisa Priest and in the broadcast category, 90th Parallel Productions and Dr. Marla Shapiro.

"We applaud these journalists for their excellence. Providing the public with accurate and insightful communication enables women to make better health and lifestyle decisions," said Dr. Andre Lalonde, Executive Vice-President of the SOGC. "We hope that by launching this award, and honouring the best each year, we will inspire all media to do the best job possible to inform women about health issues that may affect them."

The 2006 recipients of the Women's Health Journalism Award, Ms. Priest and Dr. Shapiro, will be honoured at the SOGC Awards Ceremony on June 26, as part of the Society's 62nd Annual Clinical Meeting in Vancouver, for the following winning entries:

Lisa Priest
The Globe and Mail

"Mother Courage"

In this insightful and moving investigation of women fighting cancer during pregnancy, Lisa Priest gained access to the real life experiences of women who underwent cancer treatment while pregnant, many of whom are still living with the uncertainty inherent in their diagnosis. Ms Priest described the exceptional medical efforts provided to patients with this disease, such as chemotherapy and surgery, while at the same time portraying the strength and courage of the women who struggled with the disease while protecting their unborn babies.

Dr. Marla Shapiro
Parallel Film & Television Productions Ltd., in association with CTV

“Run Your Own Race”

“Run Your Own Race” chronicles the cancer survival story of Dr. Marla Shapiro as she went from high profile doctor to patient after being diagnosed with breast cancer, finding herself on the other side of the desk, as a patient, trying to find answers instead of being the one offering them. Produced by Parallel Film & Television Productions Ltd. in association with CTV, Dr. Marla Shapiro tells her private story from the mammogram that revealed her illness, through her yearlong journey to recovery. The one-hour special openly describes how cancer affected not just herself, but her friends, family and the public.

The Journalism Award is awarded each year by the SOGC and the Canadian Foundation for Women’s Health (CFWH) to recognize outstanding reporting on women’s reproductive health issues. The award is open to reporting that appears in consumer newspapers, magazines and broadcasts across Canada.

For more information on the Award, or about the SOGC, please visit www.sogc.org.

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About The SOGC:

The SOGC is one of Canada’s oldest national specialty organizations. Established in 1944, the Society’s mission is to promote excellence in the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology and to advance the health of women through leadership, advocacy, collaboration, outreach and education. The SOGC represents obstetricians/gynaecologists, family physicians, nurses, midwives and allied health professionals in the field of sexual reproductive health.