



**DR. KAREN JOHNSTON**  
**2005 WINNER OF PASHBY SAFETY AWARD**

The Dr. Tom Pashby Sport Safety Fund announces that **Dr. Karen Johnston, MD, PHD, FRCS(C), FACS**, is awarded the 2005 Pashby Safety Award for her outstanding work to prevent catastrophic injuries in sports and recreational activities and most specifically concussions.



Dr. Johnston is a neurosurgeon and the director of the Concussion Program at the McGill Sports Medicine Clinic in Montreal. She is also a principal investigator in the Departments of Neurosurgery and Kinesiology and Physical Education at McGill University Health Centre, and is heavily involved in many concussion research projects.

Dr. Johnston chaired the Concussion Sub-Committee of the Canadian Academy of Sports Medicine which developed Concussion Guidelines issued to doctors, therapists, health professionals, coaches and others involved in the care of injured athletes.

Her expertise is recognized internationally in the field of athletic concussions. She also chairs the Concussion in Sports (CIS) Group, Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF), and International Olympic Committee (IOC).

She is a neurosurgical consultant to various national and international amateur and professional sporting bodies including the NHL, NHLPA, CFL, Judo Canada, National Alpine Ski Team Medical Group, Cirque de Soleil and others.

She is currently working with the ThinkFirst Foundation to facilitate and enhance the education and awareness of health care practitioners and the general public about concussion diagnosis, treatment and management. This includes a public education road show travelling across Canada as mentioned in the May 16/05 TIME magazine story on Dr. Johnston.

Dr. Johnston was the unanimous selection of the Pashby Award Committee and Advisory Committee composed of **Therese Brisson, Murray Costello, Ken Dryden, Richard Garneau, Russ Jackson, Kerrin Lee-Gartner and Brian Williams**.

Dr. Pashby, now 90 years young and whose pioneering work to prevent catastrophic injuries in sport and recreational activities for over 50 years has been recognized with The Order of Canada and selection to Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, will be on hand to present the award.

This is only the second year for the Pashby Safety Award. It is housed in Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and comes with a \$10,000 cash prize. Last year's winner was **Patrick Bishop, PhD**, retired professor of impact biomechanics at the University of Waterloo. He was recognized for his valuable research on sports equipment designed to prevent catastrophic head and eye injuries, and for his volunteer service on Canadian Standards Association committees to establish CSA standards for such protective gear.

For more information on the Pashby Safety Award including criteria and guidelines please visit The Dr. Pashby Sports Safety Fund website at [www.drpushby.ca](http://www.drpushby.ca)

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