



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **GASHA Named Top Atlantic Employer for 2012**

**Antigonish:** For the third year in a row, the Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority is named a Top Employer in Atlantic Canada by Mediacorp, which organizes Canada's Top 100 Employer competition. This special designation recognizes the employers in Canada's four Atlantic provinces that lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work.

"There are many reasons for GASHA to be selected as a Top Employer in Atlantic Canada, says Carrie MacIsaac, Director of Human Resources. "As a district, we are known for our involvement with new and innovative health programming such as the MORE OB program (Managing Obstetrical Risk Efficiently) and CREW (Civility, Respect and Engagement at Work)." MacIsaac also believes that open communication throughout all levels of the organization is a key factor to our success. "Our senior leadership team takes part in 'safety walk rounds" on a regular basis ensuring two-way communication between management and staff. These rounds take place in all departments at each of the five hospitals in the District."

According to Mediacorp, GASHA was selected as a Top Employer for several reasons which include having a unique head office with a variety of onsite amenities such as a fitness facility with subsidized membership. Staff can access ongoing employee development with subsidies for professional accreditation in addition to a range of in-house and online training programs. The District also helps employees prepare for life after work with retirement planning assistance, generous contributions to a defined benefit pension plan and health benefits coverage that extends to retirees

Employers are evaluated by the editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers using the following criteria (1) Physical Workplace; (2) Work Atmosphere & Social; (3) Health, Financial & Family Benefits; (4) Vacation & Time Off; (5) Employee Communications; (6) Performance Management; (7) Training & Skills Development; and (8) Community Involvement. Employers are compared to other organizations in their field to determine which offers the most progressive and forward-thinking programs.

For additional information on the Top 100 Employer process and to view GASHA's criteria for selection, please visit :[www.canadastop100.com/atlantic](http://www.canadastop100.com/atlantic)

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