

November 18, 2016

« **Mon pays ce n'est pas un pays, c'est l'hiver.** »

Gilles Vigneault

Hi Everyone,

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement is an easy one for me to write. I also do so with considerable joy and a bit of pride as it goes to a colleague, **Chantal Poulin**, on the occasion of her promotion to Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Neurology/Neurosurgery.

Chantal comes from a small town in the Gaspesie; so small they did not have a stop sign until recently. She left home after completing high school to attend CEGEP then medical school at Université Laval. She did her years of pediatric residency there in Quebec City and came to us for her residency in pediatric neurology.

Indeed, my first memory of Chantal is her interview for a residency spot. She spoke barely any English then and most of her answers were monosyllabic delivered softly and shyly. This was of course a marked contrast to her voluble outgoing self now. Despite an underwhelming interview, she was an outstanding resident; hard working, quick, great with patients and families, with a natural flair for diagnosis. She also demonstrated a remarkable ability to first grasp and then keep up with the literature and advances in neurosciences.

With Kenneth Silver's departure for Chicago, it was obvious that Chantal would be invited to join our staff after completing her residency. Though this occurred but 20 years ago (sorry Chantal), she was the first female staff member of the Division paving the way for Maelle, Genevieve B, Maryam, Myriam, Genevieve L and Elisabeth.

When it comes to neurology, Chantal is not a subspecialist but a polymath. She does both EMG and EEG. She can manage intractable epilepsy, including

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