

2020

Award of Merit Recipient

Pierre Poirier



In recognition of outstanding leadership, vast technical expertise, and significant contributions to public safety and paramedicine standards

A highly engaged member since the beginning of CSA's work in standards development for the paramedic sector, Pierre Poirier's dedication is incomparable. He has served as a technical committee member, co-Chair or Chair of almost every paramedic standard project to-date. He led the development of numerous first-of-their-kind paramedic standards, in areas such as: ground emergency response vehicles and equipment, response to opioids, psychological health and safety, and community paramedicine. He also significantly contributed to standards on emergency management and business continuity, and a standard for protection of first responders from chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) events. Pierre is currently co-investigator and a lead member of a project to develop a Paramedic Information System standard.

At the core, Pierre's efforts are working to build a strong foundation for first responders, from which everyone in the community benefits. He consistently advocates for standards development as a novel and innovative solution to many complex problems that arise in paramedicine.

Pierre recognizes the importance of mentoring new committee members. By leveraging his expertise, Pierre

helped guide less-experienced members through the standards development process with poise, respect and by striving to ensure that everyone's voice was heard. Even in challenging situations, Pierre is inspirational, motivating and skilled in consensus building. He both respects and is respected by his peers.

Beyond his committee work, Pierre has presented many times to national and international audiences where he showcased Canada's leadership and the research and standards Canada has championed. His research involvement with CSA has included projects on health service needs in the north, and the potential for community paramedicine in remote and isolated indigenous communities. When requested, Pierre has also excelled as a media contact spokesperson upon publication of standards and research projects.

Pierre's selfless hard work and dedication has been greatly appreciated, and as best said by a fellow committee member, "He is a great man and a champion . . . no, a warrior, for Paramedics and Paramedicine."

Pierre is the Executive Director of the Paramedic Association of Canada.