Richard B. Goldbloom, MD

Scholar, scientist, and administrator, much honoured in Canada and worldwide, Richard Goldbloom has devoted his life to improving the lives of children. In a career spanning a half-century, Dr. Goldbloom has served as professor and head of the Department of Pediatrics at Dalhousie University, physician-in-chief and director of research at the Izaak Walton Killam Hospital for Children in Halifax, and chancellor of Dalhousie. He is admired and loved by colleagues and friends for his compassion and his unique ability to communicate with patients and their families.

Dr. Goldbloom achieved international recognition as a pioneer of family participation in the care of hospitalized children, having introduced one of the first Care-by-Parent Units in Canada. He has authored hundreds of articles and seven books, including Pediatric Clinical Skills, a popular textbook for medical undergraduates and postgraduates. He has taught and lectured in many countries, providing guidance on issues of health care for children. Chair or president of many boards and committees, Dr. Goldbloom has received many accolades including four honorary degrees and the F.N.G. Starr Award. In 2006, the Dr. Richard B. Goldbloom Research and Clinical Care Pavilion at the IWK Health Centre was named in his honour.

As physician and educator, Dr. Goldbloom has long served Halifax, but he was also one of the city's leading patrons, supporting the Atlantic and Nova Scotia symphonies, the Waterfront Development Corporation of Halifax, and the Discovery Centre, an interactive children's museum of science and technology.

In 2003, Dr. Goldbloom received a Canada Post National Literacy Award for his work promoting child literacy. To this day, every newborn in Halifax receives a free Read to Me! bag containing books, a CD with Iullabies and nursery rhymes, a baby's first library card, and a Family Reading Guide available in several languages, including Mi'kmaw.

A physician who helped build the culture of his city, Dr. Goldbloom has promoted the well-being of his fellow citizens in many ways, but above all, he has promoted the well-being of children throughout Canada and the world.

W.L.Hoth

