

Telling Our Story with Passion + Purpose

CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE IN CANADA

VALUE OF FAITH-BASED HEALTHCARE IN MANITOBA

Faith-based healthcare has existed for centuries and yet many people are not aware of it, understand it, or have any idea that so many of our health and social service organizations were founded by religious orders of varying faiths.

The onset of the MAID debate has brought faith-based healthcare, its self-governance, and its legitimacy in a publicly funded system into the limelight, with many people asking why our facilities exist, and what the benefits are.

As a result of this, and the need to better communicate the value of faith-based healthcare to individuals, clients/residents, and those in public office, CHAM, in partnership with IHCAM (Interfaith Healthcare Association of MB) will be developing an awareness and advocacy tool kit over the next six months to educate and substantiate the important role faith-based health care plays in the health system and our country.

"We are inspired by the example of our Founding Sisters – visionary women who for generations advocated and cared for the most destitute people in their communities"

The Catholic Health Alliance of Canada (CHAC) is an Alliance comprised of 12 organizations sponsoring more than 100 Catholic hospitals, community health centers, nursing homes, and long-term care facilities across Canada.

It was founded as an independent organization in 1942 and has over the years transitioned to a forum for Catholic health and social services Sponsors in Canada, to exchange ideas and develop shared strategic initiatives that support

their ability to strengthen the healing ministry of Jesus.

The Catholic Health Association of Manitoba, along with its provincial partner associations, are also involved with CHAC.

"We need to leverage our legacy and advance our ongoing ministry by developing a national strategy that will provide a clear understanding of the strategic contribution and relevance of Catholic Health Care in Canada."

In 2013, the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada developed a 3-year strategic plan. Its first strategic direction entitled Proclaim has two main objectives:

- ◆ Tell the story and ensure an understanding of Catholic Health Care's strategic contribution – not only historically, but also the current and future critical role of Catholic health care in Canada.
- ◆ Ensure the Catholic health care story is entrenched within the following communities – political, church, health care and public.

Over the last two years, a CHAC task force consulted with stakeholders across the country to develop a set of pillars, to serve as a focal point and tool to help organizations talk about the ministry in a way that is bolder, dynamic, consistent and modern. At CHAC's 2017 Conference, *Proclaim* was introduced.

This Fall, a representative group, including some members of the Proclaim task force and CHAM, met to discuss a 12-month action plan centred on supporting organizations to integrate and adopt the Proclaim concepts as foundational to their day-to-day strategic and operational work. This plan will be presented to the Governing Council. Following this meeting, the Task Force will continue Proclaim's Implementation Plan.

Proclaim's 4 Pillars

Our Calling to Serve

Rooted in the healing ministry of Jesus Christ, Catholic health care begins with a spiritual purpose. We have a deep and profound calling to serve and provide care to all people, especially those most vulnerable. We take a holistic and compassionate approach, recognizing the whole person in community, the fundamental link between spirituality and healing, and the diverse cultural and spiritual needs of those we serve.

Our Culture of Encounter

Catholic health care fosters a culture of encounter, where those involved in the healing journey are people first, and health care providers participate with those they serve with compassion and humanity. This culture creates awareness, both of self and others, and opportunities to build profound relationships and lasting impact on people's lives.

Our Commitment to Social Justice

Catholic health care is committed to collaborating with our partners to create the conditions for a just and caring society, where people's voices are heard, and every person has the ability to thrive in community. With a focus on dignity, respect, and compassion, we advocate for service to individuals at times of their greatest vulnerability, and to create culturally safe environments of health and healing.

Our Leadership Role

Catholic health care makes the Canadian health care system stronger, more responsive, and more sustainable. Guided by our values and inspired by our Founding Sisters, we are pioneers, leaders, and innovators. We are resourceful and effective partners within the health system, responding to the communities we serve with compassion, ethical integrity and the highest quality care and services.

Catholic Health Alliance of Canada 2016



NEW MISSION FORMATION SERIES WELL RECEIVED BY MEMBERS

One of the outcomes of CHAM's Strategic Planning session this year was to dedicate more time and resources to the creation of Leadership Formation learning opportunities for its members.

In partnership with the Interfaith Healthcare of MB (IHCAM) and CHCM's Compassion Project, *The Mission Series* was created.

The first two-day Leadership Formation Workshop of the series took place on October 10 and 11th, 2017. Close to 80 attendees participated in this workshop.

The first day concentrated on board governance, while the second day focussed on leadership formation.

Due to the success of this workshop, CHAM is now in the

process of planning two other learning opportunities over the next few months.

The first is on the subject of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID), also referred to as Physician Assisted Death, and the other workshop is entitled Compassionate Presence: Caring for the Spirit Overall, featuring Dr. Christina Puchalski and Dr. Shane Sinclair.

LIVING OUR DYING—BIEN VIVRE LA MORT



In late summer, Archbishop Albert LeGatt approached CHAM to help plan the St. Boniface Archdiocesan study days workshop entitled *Living our Dying*.

People look forward and prepare for births, but very few do so for their death. Individuals, family members, ministry of the sick volunteers, as well as pastors and spiritual care providers face challenges when death is knocking at the door.

In response to this, the planning committee planned a dual track workshop (French and English) on *How Jesus' Experience and Our Stories Reveal a New Vision for Compassionate Care*.

Mrs. Marie-Josée Poirée facilitated the French session, while several facilitators assisted in the delivery of the English workshop.

Ethics at end-of-life, funeral liturgy, palliative care, grief ministry,

spiritual accompaniment and companionship at end of life, conversations on being with dying, sacrament of the sick, medical assistance in dying, funeral rituals, and developing best practices for a parish pastoral ministry for the dying were all topics discussed on October 18th and 19th.

The 120 people who participated in this workshop provided good feedback that will assist us in determining what other topics should be addressed in the future.

There remains a great thirst for more formation on the deep meaning of death and suffering, how to do spiritual accompaniment of the sick, the dying, and those who are grieving. Outreach, communication and sharing of information also needs to be addressed in the upcoming months in order to provide as many Catholics as possible the tools necessary to assist those who are in the process of living their dying.



Research tells us that when we have the opportunity to develop compassion, empathy and kindness for ourselves and others, organizations flourish. The Compassion Project supports people in their journey toward a deeper sense of purpose by offering several initiatives to enhance sustainable, person-centered practices and encourage spiritual and communal well-being.

Click on the link below to view the new Winter Program:

<http://www.chcm-ccsm.ca/compassion-project/>

NEWS BRIEF

- ◆ Sisters Legacy Monument enhanced with lighting in St. Boniface Heritage Garden
- ◆ Rosie Jacuzzi retiring after 13 years as CEO of Misericordia Health Centre. Caroline DeKeyster hired as CEO effective 01 January 2018.
- ◆ CHAM will be celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2018
- ◆ CHAM on Catholica200.ca planning committee to celebrate Bicentenary of the Catholic Mission in Western Canada in 2018
- ◆ Catholic Foundation of MB honoring CHAM at the Caritas Award Dinner on April 19, 2018
- ◆ Attendance at MB Chambers of Commerce MLA Dinner fruitful. Meetings being set up with government on health issues.

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