

CHAIR/CEO ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES
CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF NEW BRUNSWICK
2022 – 2023

INTRODUCTION

In 1986 the Catholic Health Association of New Brunswick was formed as a network of catholic health facilities in Atlantic Canada. This germinated from the previous group “Therapia”. Other catholic entities which maintain and / or support our mission and values are also invited and encouraged to join.

Again, this year, the Association operates in collaboration with Catholic Health International and acts as the voice for Christian healthcare, in the Catholic tradition, in the Atlantic area. The mission of the Association has been promoted for over 38 years.

The Board of Directors this year met as required by zoom and responded to the work of the various committees staffed by a number of dedicated volunteers. We were not able to hold the Annual Conference again this year but look forward with optimism to 2023.

The Catholic Health International *Centre for Excellence in Leadership* continued to be the main contributor to the work of the committees generated by the pillars of the Centre in five major areas: ethics, spiritual & Religious Care, catholic healthcare leadership, mission development and values. After a short hiatus during Covid-19 the Centre has planned its many activities for the next year.

SPIRITUAL AND RELIGIOUS CARE

The New Brunswick Spiritual Health Network, which was formed by CHANB and the New Brunswick government, continues to meet regularly to improve the quality of spiritual care in NB hospitals. CHANB continues to have representation on the Network. During the year “Mindfulness Self-Compassion for Healthcare Professionals” training was offered to all spiritual care practitioners in the province, as well as an online course in “Working with Pain”. The Canadian Association for Spiritual Care held its annual conference in April; New Brunswick Spiritual Health Network members were sponsored to attend either in person or virtually. Work continues on forming or joining a College for registered professionals, as well as building on a survey on scope of practice for clinical spiritual care practitioners in the province.

The CHI Spiritual Care pillar welcomed three new members this year. Lise Guerrette-Daigle is now the CHI Board Representative on the committee. Rev. Kelly Collins from Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston ON and Rev. Hilton Gomes, from Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare in Windsor ON have also joined the committee. The pillar’s focus continues to be on spiritual care education and its availability in the communities that we serve. The group discussed the availability of specialty training in spiritual care, Clinical Psycho-Spiritual Education (C.P.E.) in

Canada and the United States. It was noted that there are fewer units of training available as well as fewer students in these programs. Some spiritual care practitioners, from CHI sponsored facilities, either have to travel long distance, or join virtually, to access this type of education. This concerns the committee as they have already noticed that it is difficult to find C.P.E. trained spiritual care providers to work in our facilities when there is a vacancy. It is the plan of the pillar to have opportunities to meet, virtually, with other spiritual care practitioners in our NB and other CHI sponsored facilities in the upcoming year. It is hoped that will allow for educational opportunities and the development of Spiritual Care Community of Practice Network.

ETHICS

MAiD has been an area requiring a great deal of time and study over the past year. This issue will continue in the coming months as the Association, the National Ethics Network and the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada continues to develop strategies for deal with the various situations involving MAiD across Canada. In particular developing strategies for educating the general public on this issue.

MISSION

The CHI Mission Pillar met regularly during the year. The pillar has initiated a Journal club as a regular part of the meeting. The pillar members also began the process of reviewing the results of CHI's 2022 Annual Report to the Sponsor. It is made up of survey responses from each of the facilities and it explores mission, ethics, values, orientation, formation, commitment to serving the underserved, and governance. Each of the pillars will be reviewing this document in their meetings with the plan to explore what areas need follow up and possible new programming or education.

LEADERSHIP

The Catholic Healthcare Leadership Program has been running at full capacity during the past year. There are waiting lists for both programs for the coming year. The Leadership Pillar of the Centre of Excellence met twice during the year. Heather Oakley, Director of Education Services, kept the committee updated on the Catholic Leadership Formation Program going forward. The second module of the English program was held September 13-15, 2022, in Guelph Ontario at Loyola House the second module of the French Leadership Program was also held in September 2022, at the Villegiature Deux Rivieres Resort in Tracadie New Brunswick. Evaluations from both sessions were very positive. The participants stated they enjoyed the content, the networking, and the new relationships formed over the 3 days.

The 2023 English Formation Program will be held June 20th-22nd in Mississauga Ontario at Queen of the Apostles Retreat Centre. The same presentations will be given at the French Leadership Formation Program to be held September 26-28th, 2023 at the Villegiature Deux Rivieres Resort in Tracadie, New Brunswick. As part of the Formation Program (mission, spirituality, diversity, and reconciliation) participants will take part in the Kairos Blanket Exercise (KBE). The KBE is a participatory exercise that centers on the stories of Indigenous Peoples that will walk us through Indigenous history, legacy and

traditions, and the struggles, harm and injustices arising from colonization.

On April 26, 2022 the Leadership of the facilities sponsored by Catholic Health International gathered virtually to hold a session on the theme “Talking About Catholic Health Care: And why it matters”. Christopher De Bono Ph.D. led the Leadership team in a deep discussion of Catholic Identity. Participants were given the opportunity to share their experiences through small group discussions and in plenary session.

CATHOLIC HEALTH ALLIANCE OF CANADA

Julie Turenne-Maynard, the Executive Director of the Manitoba Catholic Health Association, represents the provincial Associations on the Board of Governors of the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada. The Provincial representation rotates every two years through the Canadian provincial association of which there are fewer in number. The Executive Directors of the provincial associations are invited to sit on the Board of Governors as non-voting delegates. Because of our joint role with Catholic Health International, the Executive Director of CHANB carries a vote at the Governance level of CHAC. The past year the CHAC has been involved with the MAiD issue along with a number of strategies of a common nature across Canada. The Governing Council of the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada, with the support and approval of the Canadian Catholic Bishops, has chosen to move the dates of National Catholic Healthcare Week. Traditionally held the first full week of October, going forward it will be celebrated the first full week of February. This will align the celebration with World Day of the Sick, on February 11th. The Governors Council set a number of national goals that require some regional leadership. These will be more deeply explored at future meetings of both CHANB and CHI. All of these were designed to further the vision for “pan-Canadian Collaborative for Catholic Health Ethics, Formation and Mission Integration” to increase collaboration amongst sponsors and associations and address gaps in service to catholic works. This will also improve the ability to state Catholic health care’s value proposition, and continue to build on communications strategy responding to challenges to Catholic health care. It will also help determine and implement CHAC support for its key partners in the distribution and uptake of pragmatic tools for organizations and Canadians related to palliative and end-of-life community education.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The CHANB has been delaying its Strategic Planning development sessions until Catholic Health International had completed their new plan. Now that CHI has begun the implementation of its plan, CHANB will be holding a board retreat in the very near future to develop a new plan for the Association in harmony with the CHI Sponsor plan.

AGREEMENT

The Agreement continues to work well. Negotiations will begin in the Fall of 2003 for the development of a new and/or renewal of the existing plan. We are not aware of any impediments to a new agreement at the time of writing this report.

We sincerely thank the Board of Directors, CHI Staff, volunteers and all who have contributed to the Catholic Health Association of New Brunswick over the past year and humbly ask for your support as we move forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Oakley
Chairperson



Robert B. Stewart
Executive Director



AWARDS

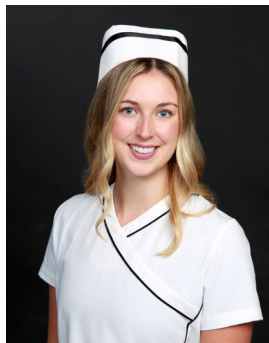


Nadia Losier recognized as 2023 Tomorrow's National Leader by Catholic Health Alliance of Canada

SCHOLARSHIPS

Anglophone Recipient 2022

Emma Stephen



Francophone Recipient 2022

Emilie Risdon



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023

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Claire Savoie—Vice President

Lise Guerrette-Diagle—Past President

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Adélarde Cormier—Secretary

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