



Our Mission at Catholic Health International is to ensure the presence of Catholic values in our Corporations.

Les Oeuvres de Hôtel-Dieu Saint-Joseph

St. Basile, NB

On the Feast of St. Joseph, March 19th 2013 the **Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph** transferred sponsorship and ownership responsibilities of this facility to Catholic Health International. Originally a convent school for girls, established in 1857 by the



Sisters of Charity of Saint John to respond to the needs of education in the Madawaska area of New Brunswick. The majority of people in the region could neither read nor write and spoke only French. Later, the school would prepare girls to teach other Acadian children at the primary level.

In 1873 seven Hospitallers of Saint Joseph of Montreal arrived in Saint Basile and replaced the Sisters of Charity who had supervised the **Academy of Madawaska** from 1857 to 1873. Some Hospitallers became teachers, but they also intended to open a hospital.

On November 5, 1873, the first patient was hospitalized in a room in the convent. Hospital care improved with the help of a benefactor to enlarge the original building and in 1881, a fourteen bed hospital was opened. The RHSJs opened a boarding school for girls 1874 which became a public school for externs in 1885, as well as for boarders and orphans. Thus the two principal works of the RHSJs in Saint Basile began simultaneously.

Nevertheless, there was not enough space to adequately lodge everybody. In 1885 the Sisters established a brickyard on the property in order to expand or build. The hospital, a beautiful orphanage, boarding school, day school, as well as a monastery and a chapel developed. The brickyard was expropriated in 1907, to make way for the Transcontinental Railway line.

In 1902 a boarding school and orphanage for boys was established. It ran until 1947 when the Eudist Fathers opened a college in Edmundston so was no longer necessary and closed the same year.

In 1915, the first wing (orphanage) became a 60 bed hospital; 57 Sisters of the community moved into the monastery which was situated behind the chapel. Classes, female boarders and orphans occupied the older wooden wing; some rooms in the "convent" were reserved for elderly retired persons. Following a fire in the old wooden convent in 1935, another building was constructed in 1936; students, boarders and some priests moved into this modern edifice.

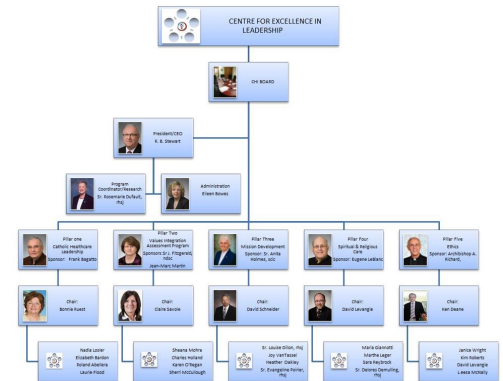
Today, a combination of independent living, special needs and Alzheimer residents, occupy the major part of two wings of Hotel Dieu, while the remaining space is used for the chapel, Museum, Foundation, a library, a dyslexia clinic, and a kindergarten organized and managed by lay people. The third wing contains the living quarters of the Sisters and the infirmary. A major \$8 million renovation of the building was undertaken to upgrade the facilities in 2011.

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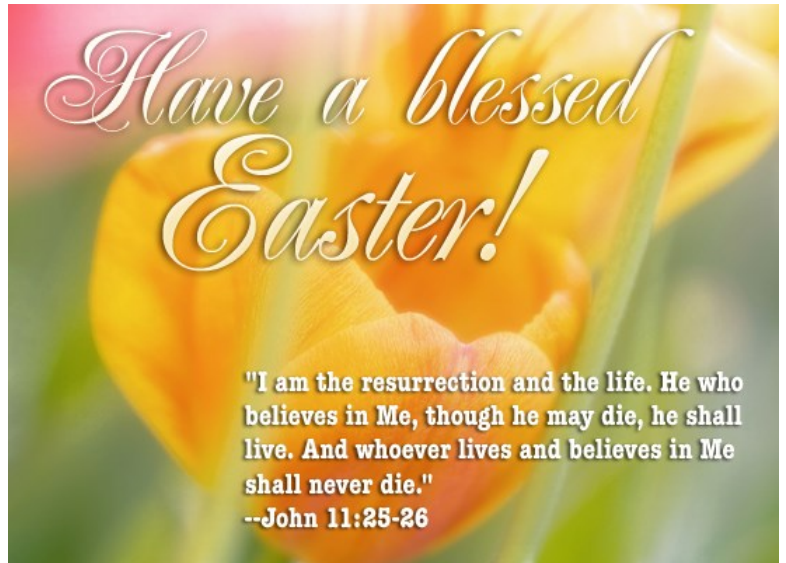
CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP (update)

Appointment of participants in the **Centre for Excellence in Leadership** is now complete. Informational materials have been circulated to the individual Chairs, and the task of developing the mandate and priorities of each Pillar for the 2013 - 2014 budget year has commenced.

Recommendations to the Board of Catholic Health International through their individual Sponsors regarding their work-plan for the coming year is a key objective of each Committee.



The Torch will feature one Pillar each month, keeping everyone informed of their progress.



CATHOLIC HEALTH INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER EXCELLENCE AWARD - call for nominations!

The process and selection criteria for the new Catholic Health International Volunteer Excellence Award was approved by the Board of CHI in February. A call for nominations and the selection process details have been circulated to each of our facilities.

The award will be given annually upon recommendation from the local Board/Advisory Committee during Volunteer appreciation Day/Week in your facility. We want to recognize one individual from each of our facilities who best demonstrates the spirit of volunteerism while reflecting the mission and values of the facility and CHI.

Catholic Health International appreciates and recognizes the tremendous dedication of our volunteers.

**NODA Program at Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital
(NO ONE DIES ALONE)** *Not everyone goes to their deathbed surrounded by loved ones.*

In the December 2012 issue of *The Torch*, we reported that this program was being started in Windsor at Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital by Maria Gionnatti Spiritual Care Coordinator. The goal being to provide a compassionate and caring presence for patients who are dying alone, so their death can be as dignified as possible.

It's a volunteer program where compassionate companions pledge to be available to stay with a dying patient. The model was started by a nurse at the Sacred Heart Medical Center in Oregon in 2001 after an incident in which she was unable to find time to be with a dying patient. A frail, elderly man who was near death asked her if she would stay with him. She told him that she would be right back after checking on her other patients. But tending to others takes the next hour and a half, and by the time the nurse returns to the man's room, he had passed away. She was overcome with guilt and frustration, but just knew something had to be done.

At Hotel-Dieu Grace, volunteers are comprised of hospital employees, hospital volunteers, hospice volunteers (who have experience in dealing with patients) as well as people from the community. There is no specific training or background to participate as training is provided.



The response from staff and the Windsor community has been overwhelming. Over 75 volunteers applied for positions in a short period of time. To date 20 have completed all steps and received orientation and NODA training.

When a patient is identified as actively dying (within the next 48 to 72 hours) and there are no friends or family available to stay with them, the nursing staff will notify the unit Chaplain. The Chaplain reviews the request and schedules coverage. The

volunteers, who are called "Compassionate Companions," wear a special badge with an attached ribbon that identifies them. Upon arrival to the unit, they introduce themselves to the nursing staff, which supervises and assists them.

This program doesn't replace Hospice care, rather it focuses on those individuals that might be in acute care beds, or in the emergency room and have been identified as actively dying alone.

More than 900 NODA programs have been implemented throughout the world in hospital, nursing homes and even one in a California prison.

To submit content for the Torch or to subscribe: cbatten@chpci.com
Past editions are on-line at www.catholichealthpartners.com under NEWS

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**CATHOLIC HEALTH INTERNATIONAL
JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL— PLENARY SESSION**

April 4 & 5, 2013 Montreal, Quebec

This is the third in a series of biennial Plenary Sessions whereby Board Chairs, Advisory Committee Chairs, CEOs and Facility Managers of all the facilities within Catholic Health International can come together with the Board and staff of CHI for orientation, missioning and educational sessions.

This is an opportunity to get to know one another and share ideas with your peers from our growing family of Catholic works founded by four Religious Institutes.

Religious Hospitallers of Saint Joseph
Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception
Les Religieuses Filles de Jésus
Les Religieuses de Notre-Dame-Du-Sacré-Coeur

This years' Keynote speakers promise to be informative and inspirational!

Sister Elizabeth Davis, RSM

Congregational Leader, Sisters of Mercy Generalate,
"Ministry of Leadership in the context of rapidly changing healthcare and church environments"

Father Francis Morrissey, OMI

Canon Lawyer
"Sponsorship of Catholic facilities and Canon Law"

Sister Sarah Quackenbush, CSJ

Consultant, Mission and Education for CHCO
"What Legacy Will You Leave? It's Your Turn To Take Up The Torch -- We Believe In You"

Sister Mary M. Haddad, RSM

Senior Director, Sponsor Services CHAUS
"Stewarding the Ministry in Times of Change"

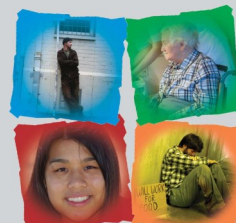
**CHI Board of Directors and Corporation meeting
dates for 2013:**

April 17, 2013
June 12, 13, 14 (Annual Corporation Meetings)
September 11, (October TBA), November 20

2013 / 2014

**Catholic Healthcare Leadership Program ([French](#))
Catholic Healthcare Leadership Program ([English](#))**

Please let us know as soon as you can, how many senior staff and Directors/Trustees you have to attend this year, so that we can arrange dates and locations. catholichealth@chpci.com



Who is my neighbour?

**Catholic Health
Alliance of Canada
2013 Annual
Conference**
May 1—3, 2013
Calgary, AB
Fairmont Palliser Hotel