

# chas communiqué

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## 2017 Joint Conference - CHAS & SCSBA

**F**all weather greeted 125+ delegates at the third joint convention of the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan (CHAS) and the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association (SCSBA), which took place in Regina October 20-22, 2017. The purpose of the conference was to bring people together to celebrate Catholic health and education, to deepen their connections and relationships, and to explore how to serve and learn from those who are vulnerable. The conference theme, **‘Ministering to God’s Beloved,’** reminded participants that wherever they are serving, they are in the presence of Christ. As the Presidents for CHAS and SCSBA wrote in their message of welcome, “each of us can be healers and teachers, in formal and informal ways. Each of us has the capacity to be compassionate and caring, to lovingly guide and direct those in our care.” Delegates attending the convention included health practitioners and educators, as well as a collection of administrators, board members and trustees. Also in attendance were representatives from each diocese, the Catholic Women’s League, and the Knights of Columbus.

The convention’s first keynote speaker, **Anne Butler**, brought her calm demeanor, sharing that there is both science and art to our caregiving. Anne invited the delegates to embrace their own vulnerability first in order to tend properly to the vulnerability in another. As God’s beloved, we are awakened to our innate capacity to transform our pain and become ‘wounded healers.’

**Dr. Josephine Lombardi**, provided the second keynote address. Dr. Lombardi shared God’s grace is the greatest influence on the human person’s ability to

respond to God’s will. She also explored the deeper meaning of mercy and obstacles that keep us from being God’s instruments of mercy.

The weekend included two plenary presentations, one each for education and health.



The Health Plenary featured **Dr. Hazel Markwell** to discuss how autonomy and choice regarding assisted suicide and euthanasia changes everything. Dr. Markwell offered insights and reflections from her experience as Executive Director of

the Centre for Clinical Ethics in Toronto, and now from her current role as Ethics Consultant with the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada. The Education Plenary brought **Fr. Mark Miller** who offered his insights on the gospel mandate to love those on the margins.



In addition to the thought-provoking liturgies that centered delegates throughout the weekend, Archbishop Donald Bolen of the Archdiocese of Regina celebrated Mass to conclude the conference.

A farewell and special thank-you was also offered to Sandy Normand, CHAS’ Mission Education Coordinator, for her 6 years of dedication and service to the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan.



**Catholic Health**  
Association of Saskatchewan

*a faith community sharing the healing ministry of Jesus*

## 2018 Catholic Health Award Recipients

The Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan presents its annual **Mission Award** to honor an individual who has exemplified outstanding service in Catholic Healthcare Ministry in the Province of Saskatchewan.

### CHAS Mission Award: Mont St. Joseph Team

Congratulations to this team of three very deserving women:

**Joan Byrne** is the Director of Environmental Services and leads the housekeeping, laundry and dietary teams. For five years, she contributed to dietary services at Holy Family Hospital; for 31 years, she has contributed to MSJ Home. Her energy and enthusiasm is endless. If the people she serves ever need an advocate, they turn to Joan who is there for two reasons—she enjoys what she does and loves who she serves. She is the consummate professional and team player... her latest volunteer contributions to the provincial bargaining team is just one example of her commitment to MSJ Home—and the health care system.

**Lorrie Kaglea** has served MSJ home for 28 years in different capacities, including a fundraiser role during the planning and construction process of the new MSJ home on 28th Street. Today she functions as the Director of Financial, Information and Business Services where she manages the day-to-day financial affairs of the home and its key partner MSJ Foundation. Lorrie keeps MSJ grounded through word and deed of the traditions and connections to the Sisters of Our Lady of the Cross who founded MSJ home in 1944.

**Shannon Meyers**, the Director of Volunteers and Recreation Services also has a long history with Holy Family Hospital and the Sisters Presentation of Mary, The Sisters of Our Lady of the Cross, and of course, MSJ Home—28 years and counting! She is the leader and facilitator of more than 300 registered volunteers with MSJ Home, including the Auxiliary. Shannon is respected and admired by every volunteer for her leadership and support. She manages MSJ's innovative recreational programming that provides opportu-

nities that residents and families look forward to and appreciate. Shannon is a strong supporter of and contributor throughout the years to CHAS as a Director and with various working groups.

### CHAS Honorary Membership: Bert Yakichuk

Bert Yakichuk is a well known face to those in Regina, and the province. His background is in Catholic education, and his influence is extensive as he has served as Principal of every Catholic High School in Regina over the course of his career.

His foray into Catholic health care overlapped his formal career in education, noting his service on the Board of Santa Maria Senior Citizen's Home in Regina, of which he was the Chair between 2005-2009. It was around this time that Bert was also elected to the Board of the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan. He served from 2005 to 2013 in various roles and on various committees, notably as Vice-Chair for 2009, Chair for 2010, and Past Chair for 2011. Many still remember the first ever Joint Conference of Catholic

Health and Catholic Education (themed *One Lord, One Call: A Rainbow of Ministries*), and recall Bert's excellent co-leadership of the planning committee, and emcee-ing—we are still trying to figure out how rainbow roses grow!

There is no mistaking how community-minded Bert is. His leadership and volunteerism is noted with many organizations such as the Chiropractors' Association of Saskatchewan, the U of R Alumni Association, Regina Crime Stoppers, John Howard Society, and many more. He served on the 100th Anniversary Planning Committee for the Archdiocese of Regina, and continues to serve as Chair of the Saskatchewan Catholic Connections Committee. How fitting it is for CHAS to have the opportunity to bestow upon Bert the Association's highest honour at a joint gathering of both ministries that he has deeply impacted—Catholic education and Catholic health.



Left to right: Joan Byrne, Lorrie Kaglea, and Shannon Meyers



James Schneider (L) offering Award to Bert Yakichuk

## Compassionate Healers Mass Held in Each Diocese

Now in its eleventh year, the Compassionate Healer's Mass was held this fall throughout the province—in Regina at Christ the King Parish on September 14th, in Prince Albert at St. Mark's Parish on September 17th, and in Saskatoon at Holy Spirit Parish on October 4th. The annual mass is offered for the benefit and intentions of medical personnel, health care workers and administrators, parish nurses, men and women religious in health care ministry, and ministry of care volunteers in parishes and in health care facilities across the province.



Saskatoon Mass—with Fr. Kevin McGee, Bishop Bryan Bayda, and Fr. Darryl Millette

## Witness to Mission continues...

The five-day *“Witness to Mission: a mission formation experience”* program continues to serve our Catholic Health facilities throughout the province. The Winter term started on January 10th, 2018 with 10 participants from Mont St. Joseph Home. This will be the fourth offering of the program in Mont St. Joseph Home. Also offering the program for a second time is St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon with 13 participants from different departments.



Since its beginnings in 2012, CHAS continues to offer the five-day experience of mission formation to the staff of our institutional members. To date, there have been over a hundred of individuals who have taken part.

*Witness to Mission* aims to bring reflection and celebration that reminds participants of the meaning of life and the dignity of our work in Catholic Health Care. A series of structured activities and experiences give participants the opportunity to realize the sacredness of everyday encounters. Participants are offered the opportunity to recognize and explore again their purpose and engagement with the mission of Catholic health care within their workplace. The shared stories and conversations unfold to make mission ‘real’—as all give voice and *witness to mission*. It is a rich opportunity to come together as community, growing in understanding in the work in which we take part - *the healing ministry of Jesus*.

## CHAS Board and Staff for 2017 - 2018

**We are pleased to introduce our 2017-18 CHAS Board and Staff:**

Back row, L to R: Therese Jelinski (Past President, Saskatoon); Ethna Martin (Saskatoon); Chris Donald (President, Saskatoon); Mary Deutscher (Ethicist, Saskatoon); Lesley Larrea (Prince Albert).

Front Row, L to R: Marissa Alarcon (Executive Assistant); Anne Reddekopp (Secretary/Treasurer, Saskatoon); Sandra Kary (Executive Director).

Absent from photo are: Archbishop Don Bolen (Bishops' Representative), Terrie Michaud (Vice President, North Battleford), and Scott Irwin (Emmanuel Care, Participant/Observer).







# Catholic Health Care

**A MINISTRY. A MISSION. A MOVEMENT.**

At the heart of Catholic health care is a deep respect for the intrinsic value and dignity of every human being and an unwavering commitment to serving all people, from all backgrounds and faiths – especially society's most vulnerable.

## **WE ARE PURPOSE DRIVEN.**

Our footprint on the Canadian health system is vast and our impact is great. Millions of Canadians seek care and services at our facilities each year, and we respond with compassion, innovation, and patient-centeredness. Our contributions make the Canadian health care system, and Canadian society, stronger.

Drawing on a legacy of faith and trust in Providence, we are courageous, resourceful, and confident in taking risks to meet needs. 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.

## **THEIR MINISTRY HAS BECOME OUR MISSION.**

## 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*

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### **|| To continue supporting the work of CHAS, this is how to donate:**

- || 1. On-line: Through CHAS website and CANADA HELPS Website ([www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org)) Search for Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan under 'Find Charity' and click 'Donate Now.'
- || 2. E-transfer: send your transfer, and answer to your security question to:  
[catholichealth@chassk.ca](mailto:catholichealth@chassk.ca)
- || 3. By Mail: Send cheque payable to CHAS, #104-3502 Taylor Street East, Saskatoon, SK S7H 5H9
- || 4. In Person: Suite 104, 3502 Taylor Street East, Saskatoon, SK (same office location with Emmanuel Care).

|| All donations are income tax receipted. Thank-you for your support! ||