

Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan 1702 20th Street West, Saskatoon, SK S7M 0Z9
P 306-655-5330 F 306-655-5333 cath.health@sasktel.net www.chask.ca

Mark the Dates: 70th Annual CHAS Convention

October 27 – 29th will mark the 70th annual convention for the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan to be held at the Sheraton Cavalier, Saskatoon. There is no time like the present to encourage the opportunity to ‘walk in the shoes of the other’ to see, hear and experience how the charism of Catholic faith and tradition are carried out. The theme, *Game Changers: How people of faith change the landscape of health-care*, will take delegates on a journey beginning with a reception on Sunday evening to celebrate CHAS as a thriving organization for the past 70 years.

On Monday, October 28th, John L. Allen Jr., National Catholic Reporter Senior Correspondent and will provide a broad spectrum of the landscape of the Catholic Church offering an unexpected and provocative look at where the Catholic Church is headed—and what the changes will mean for all of us. From there, Bill Brinkman, former VP for Mission Formation at Ascension Health in USA will explore the development of formation programs with an emphasis on enabling the spiritual development of all staff. Finally, Leah Perrault, Co-Director of the Saskatoon Roman Catholic Diocese Pastoral Office will journey with delegates in finding their own story in God’s story. Leah will make you think about your own discipleship with stories, laughter and a down to earth style about what it means to be a game-changer.

Three breakout sessions are offered back to back for delegates to choose from. Brian Walton will speak about *Animating the Spirit: Compassionate Listening in the Midst of Illness*; Zofia Monika Dove will offer an enlightening and thought-provoking session to explore *Unexpected Gifts: Taking Time for Presence* and Dr. Vivian Walker will share through her

personal lens exploring *A Change of Heart: How those I serve Shape My Practice*.

Additionally, as part of being Game Changers, each facility has been invited to provide a short vignette that speaks to how their facility is currently changing or shaping the landscape of health care in their community. For the last five years, CHAS has highlighted all of the founding congregations of Sisters in Saskatchewan at this annual gathering. CHAS has celebrated their achievements, has been inspired by their mission

and vision and this year holds the opportunity to celebrate the contributions of each facility.

All are invited to mark their calendars for October 27-29, 2013 and be open to the possibilities of not only being challenged about the future, but also be re-charged and ready for whatever that future holds.

For further information, please contact CHAS at 306-655-5330 or cath.health@sasktel.net

Sandy Normand
Mission Education Coordinator, CHAS

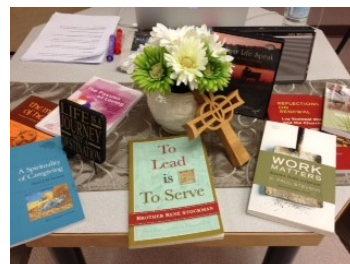


Critical Conversations Tour 2013

This year, Sandy Normand, Mission Education Coordinator, hit the prairie landscape to facilitate fourteen conversations in eleven facilities for CHAS's second annual spring educational event *Critical Conversations* offering the question, "Tell me again, why do I work here?" The goal was to facilitate a reflection in understanding the personal meaning each person gives to the work they do within Catholic health care.

Discussions were used throughout the hour for participants to share: how they got into health care, an exploration of the difference between having a 'job,' a 'career,' and also a deeper exploration about 'vocation.' Giving participants the time to quietly reflect about personal values they hold dear, and then comparing those values to their facility's declaration of mission and values, provided the opportunity to affirm, empower, or even challenge people about 'why' they do what they do. Normand highlighted that, "Not knowing 'why' you do what you do will make it impossible to have a compelling vision; an organization without a shared vision results in a lack of focus." Normand continued, "So, does your personal 'why' bring fulfillment and is it reflected in the 'what' and 'how' of the work you do? Knowing why, offers perspective. 'Why' is based on personal beliefs." Additionally, Normand asked, "What does your facility believe? Is there an invitation for another conversation? When we build a culture of vocation – one where each person knows 'their why' they are freely and fully able to 'walk the talk.' Invariably, the people will be

an attraction to all those who also share those beliefs at a personal level and at an organizational level. It is how one makes an emotional connection with not only the people whom they work with but just as importantly to all whom they serve."



Responses to Critical Conversations has been very positive with comments including: the desire to have more sessions that explore 'vocation,' and 'mission'; participants expressing feeling empowered and affirmed about the work they do – again for the first time; and expressing appreciation to learn about the term *vocation* as being a calling for every person and not just reserved for clergy or sisters. Over the spring, from April 15th (where road conditions were still a factor) to June 12th and 4,297 kms later, eleven Catholic Health Care Facilities were visited in: Melville, Esterhazy, Radville, Gravelbourg, Ponteix, North Battleford, Macklin, Saskatoon, Regina, Prince Albert and Moose Jaw. The audiences included: Volunteers, Board members, RNs, LPNs, Psych Nurse, SCA, Dietary, Laundry, Maintenance, Spiritual Care, Activity/Recreation and Administration. To date, one facility has called for Critical Conversations to return to their facility this fall and offer three sessions so all staff can attend. Dates are also being scheduled for the three remaining sites.

Blessing & Dedication of St. Joseph's Park in Macklin

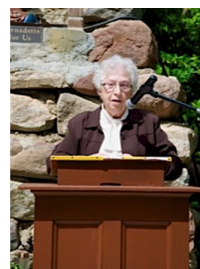
A beautiful spring afternoon, Sunday, June 9th, was the setting of many who gathered at St. Joseph Park in Macklin for its Blessing and Dedication Ceremony. Master of Ceremonies, and Board Chair of St. Joseph's Health Center, Jack Daley, welcomed dignitaries, honoured guests and residents of Macklin and surrounding area.



Bishop Don Bolen Blesses the Park

Bishop Don Bolen officially blessed and dedicated the park, stating that, "This park serves as a symbol of the community, and with its beauty, is a reminder of how they wish to embrace the Sisters of St. Elizabeth and thank them for their many years of service and ministry."

Sr. Philomena Dobmeier, Superior of the Sisters of St. Elizabeth, graciously received the honour and blessing bestowed on behalf of all the Sisters that served in Macklin. She offered a special thank-you to Larry Stang, for his courage and initiative, in carrying out the will of God for him. She noted Larry's humble sentiment that, "it was all God's doing, not Larry's doing" to prepare and dedicate this park to all of the Sisters.



Sr. Phil Dobmeier

Others who brought words of thanks that day included - Fr. Augustine Ebido of St. Mary's Parish in Macklin, Scott Irwin with the Catholic Health Ministry of Saskatchewan, Rev. Greg Parker with Grace United Church, Pat Doetzel, Mayor of Macklin, Christopher Holst on behalf of the Macklin K of C, Darlene Weinkauff on behalf of the St. Joseph's Health Centre staff, Teresa Brost on behalf of St. Joseph's Auxiliary, and Sandra Kary on behalf of the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan.

What is Mission Formation Anyway?

CHAS is bursting at the seams to share with you what we have been working on. Sandra Kary walked into my office back in December 2011 and offered the challenge to create something which “strives to develop the enhancement of the person versus the person simply ‘functioning’ within the organization.” Those are a lot of words that add up to an amazing challenge I was so ready to embrace. It meant creating a Project Charter, gather a working group of people and begin to formulate and ultimately create the Core Content of such a program.

CHAS’s Mission Formation Program seeks to equip and empower individuals ... in the church’s healing ministry in Saskatchewan.

Formation may be a new concept for some. Most people are familiar with the term ‘*development*’, which is about improving what and how we do things. Formation is more about the meaning of and why we do what we do. Formation enables us to consider our calling, find deeper meaning in our work, realize our gifts and develop our competencies in service of human dignity and the common good.

Through formation we travel a journey of becoming more fully who we have been called to be as persons in community. Formation throughout our Catholic health ministry is designed to invite all of our people, within their own faith journey, to discover paths to greater flourishing as they serve Catholic health care’s mission of healing.

Formation is not primarily about imparting information. It is not an academic exercise for the head, but must touch one’s heart and ultimately must be embedded in one’s life and work. That takes time.

Formation requires that participants “unplug” from their routine responsibilities so they can engage fully in a reflective experience. Most programs use retreat centers and similar settings away from work to provide a peaceful environment with minimal distractions. The literature supports that the setting is important to allow participants to fully enter into the reflective spirit that formation requires. More specifically our Project Charter Team created a “Common Description” of Mission Formation that will be designed to enable those working in Catholic Health Care:

- To identify, understand and appreciate the fundamental values of the Catholic health care ministry;
- To integrate these values into their own lives as leaders in Catholic health care;
- To be creative in implementing these values in the organizational frameworks within which they work;
- To be more effective in representing these values within the wider health care community.

CHAS is uniquely positioned to be able to enhance the rich legacy given to us by the many religious congregations who established Catholic health care by expanding the role of the laity, to ensure a Catholic healthcare ministry of the future. Formation programs for those who work within Catholic health ministry equip individuals, personally and professionally, to sustain, steward and advance our ministry so that it will faithfully serve the over-arching Catholic health mission into the future.

*By Sandy Normand
Mission Education Coordinator*

Take Note

- Welcome to **Darryl Mills** who started as Executive Director of **St. Joseph’s Integrated Health Centre in Macklin** on May 1, 2013. He brings with him several years of senior management experience. Darryl is replacing Kathy Smith who has served in Macklin since the spring of 2011.
- Congratulations on the Grand Opening Celebration of the **Leslie and Irene Dubé Urology Centre of Health** at St. Paul’s Hospital, Saskatoon, held on May 24th.
- A **Farewell Tea for Sr. Cecile Richard** was held on June 23rd in Esterhazy. Sr. Cecile has served at St. Anthony’s Hospital in Esterhazy since 1997. She will be retiring and moving to Winnipeg at the end of July.



It was a tearful goodbye for many; she will be dearly missed by all in her community and CHAS family.

- We celebrate with **St. Ann’s Senior Citizens Village on their 60th Anniversary** and Unveiling and Blessing of the Statue of St. Ann on June 25, 2013.
- Congratulations to the **Sisters of Notre Dame d’Auvergne who celebrate their 100th Anniversary** this year. Many of these Sisters faithfully served at Foyer St. Joseph’s Home in Ponteix. A Mass of Thanksgiving will be held at 3:30 pm on August 20th, with a banquet to follow. A Come and Go Tea will be held the following day at 2:00 pm in the Parish Hall.



2013 CHAC Awards

2013 Lifetime Achievement Award Patricia Murphy and George Webster Winnipeg, Manitoba



The CHAC Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes individuals who have inspired and mentored numerous others in Catholic health care and whose accomplishments, over the course of a career, have strengthened the ministry. Her or his leadership extends beyond a single Catholic health organization to influence and impact the local community and beyond.

Congratulations to George and Pat, who currently work with the Health Care Ethics Service at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg.

2013 Midcareer Leadership Award Patrick Dumelie Edmonton, Alberta



This award is given to young leaders, 50 years of age and younger, who have already made significant contributions to the ministry and who, through their leadership, provide prophetic witness to the mission of Catholic health care. Strong leadership is needed now and for the future of the Catholic health ministry. This Award is intended to encourage and support young leaders in their commitment to Catholic health care, thereby contributing to a promising future for the ministry and the people it serves.

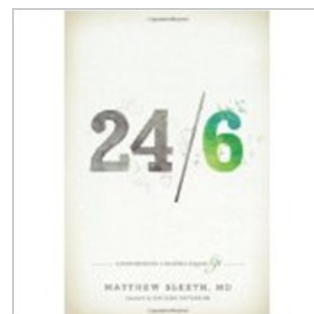
Congratulations to Patrick Dumelie who serves as the President and CEO of Covenant Health in Alberta.

A Great Summer Read

It's summer time again, and we're all looking for a great book to read! CHAS gifts our facility leads with a new book twice a year (winter and summer), and if we could... we would give our entire membership this gift!

The selection we've chosen for this summer is:
"24/6: A Prescription for a Healthier, Happier Life" by Matthew Sleeth, MD

Earlier this year I was listening to the radio, and tuned into a broadcast where this doctor was proclaiming the benefits of a day of rest each week, and how the medical profession had evidence of this 'new concept' towards staying healthy. I remember rolling my eyes, thinking that the medical profession hardly was the innovator of Sabbath rest.



The doctor was engaging enough, and my skepticism strong enough, that I searched out the book on Google. I figured there had to be more to this story. Within a few days, I found myself cracking the cover, and in one shot, read the entire book. I couldn't put it down. I found myself laughing out loud, and then in the next chapter crying real tears. There definitely was more to his story than the radio snippet I heard!

I highly recommend this book, and think it is a wonderful summer read. Dr. Sleeth tells personal stories that are so crazy, they have to be true, and shares principles of Sabbath rest that are so profound, you know that there is really something to it. In our crazy, frenetic, fast-paced world, the idea of stopping to rest is nearing counter-cultural. I hope you can tuck yourself away on a beach or deck this summer and indulge. May you have a rest-filled summer.

Compassionate Healers Mass

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2013

9:30 a.m. St. Michael's Parish
1505 - 13 St. West, Prince Albert, SK
Presider and Homilist: Bishop Albert Thévenot

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH, 2013

7:00 p.m. St. John Bosco Parish
1202 Ave. O South, Saskatoon, SK
Presider and Homilist: Bishop Donald Bolen

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 16TH, 2013

7:00 p.m. St. Cecilia's Parish
5020 7th Avenue, Regina, SK
Presider and Homilist: Archbishop Daniel Bohan

everyday **ETHICS**

Do you work in a health care setting where ethical questions and concerns can come up on a regular basis? Want to learn how to better identify and navigate them? CHAS provides a session based on the new Health Ethics Guide about the everyday practice of ethics in our relationships with our patients, residents, clients and colleagues. This session is presented by our Ethicist, Joy Mendel. For more information on how you can arrange for this session in your organization or parish, please call the CHAS office at 306-655-5330.

