

# Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia chas communiqué

VOL. 38 No. 1 May 2023

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## From Care to Cure to Care — 2023

“The more things change the more things remain the same.” The founding story of Catholic Health Care in Saskatchewan and many other places in the world is rooted in “care”. Hospitals cared for people who were sick. As science and technology proved more and more beneficial, a change occurred. The ministry of health shifted from “care” to “cure.” The work of doctors and nurses became the labor of lifesaving interventions. While this change in emphasis remains strong, it is clear that Catholic Health is again placing a focus on “care.”

As present-day lingo puts it, our vision of Catholic Health is “moving upstream.” It’s a shift that places the emphasis on wellness as opposed to sickness. Responses that consider the “social determinants of health” – things such as housing and social supports – are getting increased attention. For this reason, a March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Canadian Bishops and the Governing Council for the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada (CHAC) engaged in presentations and discussions focused on housing for the homeless, exploring examples of faith-based property innovation and the full engagement of Indigenous people in applying for grants from the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund.

In keeping with the focus on care that’s taking place in Catholic Health nationally, we are excited about our upcoming convention. The 2023 gathering will be: CHAS’ 80TH CONVENTION and it will also give attention to the “upstream” issues of wellness. The convention will take place on **Thursday October 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> and it’s titled “Holistic Care: Healing Through Spirit, Story and Song”**. The anchoring words that are guiding our plans for the convention include relevant, hospitable, and enriching.

Focusing on the theme of the convention, Rev. David Maginley will draw attention to the grace that springs from suffering and John Ruetz will speak to the innovative work being done by Catholic Health throughout the country. Perseverance in the work of Truth and Reconciliation are also vitally important. For this reason, we are delighted to announce that Chief Littlechild and Fr. Ken Thorson OMI will share stories of accompaniment and hope. (more on p. 3)!

### CHAS IS 80 !!!

The healing ministry of Jesus Christ is rooted in the love of God whose **ultimate concern** is not “cure” but rather holistic

health, hope, reconciliation, and the fullness of life in all that we do. Walking in the footsteps of Jesus we bring these priorities to people on the margins, the elderly, individuals with disabilities and those struggling with mental health and addictions. We work toward cure when it is possible but know that care is always central.



**Healing Through Spirit Story and Song**

## M.A.I.D FOR MINORS AND THE ROLE OF PARENTS

A message from the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institutes make this observation about the Federal Government's the report from the Special Joint Committee on Medical Assistance in Dying of February 2023: The possibility, most likely probability, of euthanasia being allowed after the five-year consultation period is strong, but such a delay also provides an opportunity to continue to witness publicly to the wrongness of euthanasia in general, including the dangers of allowing it for 'mature minors.' For example, the Report states, coolly and levelly, that **parents should be consulted 'where appropriate,'** but the child's wishes would take priority. (!)

In relegating parental consultation to a lower level than that of their child, society is turning the world upside down. In what other situation would a minor's wishes over matters so serious take priority over parental consent? Such an approach must give most people pause - does it make sense in terms of what we know about minors? Are they capable of understanding long-term implications and possibilities regarding their own

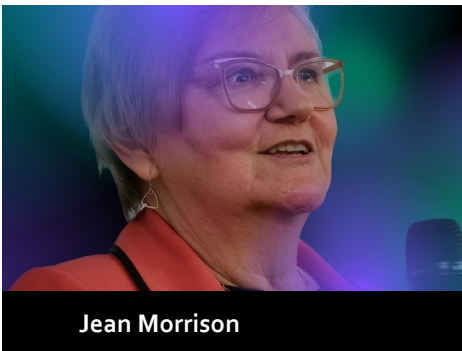
situation? Are they mainly autonomous in the legal sense or could they still be unduly influenced by others? Are they truly capable of self-determination? Neuroscience points to the fact that the human brain does not reach full maturity until we are in our mid-twenties. Do such factors have no bearing?

We must call on legislators to respond to such questions. We must ask them to uphold the separate category of 'minor' that already exists in law (at least in nearly all systems), whereby a person is deemed such until reaching a legally recognized age of majority because he or she lacks, by virtue of age, stage of development and narrow experience, the capacity to make serious decisions, especially about life and death.

It is precisely because young persons are adolescent and NOT adults that they need and deserve society's care and protection in all dimensions of life, and **certainly not the offer of death by euthanasia** at adult hands as a solution to being incapacitated by physical or mental illnesses, handicaps or disorders.

Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute **Moira McQueen** Bambi Rutledge March 3, 2023

## Thanks and Blessings to Jean Morrison



Jean Morrison

Emmanuel Health's staff and many dignitaries gathered at the Saskatoon Club on March 29th to celebrate and say goodbye to Jean Morrison.

When Jean first assumed the role of CEO of Emmanuel Health, she spoke of the difference she experienced among the staff at St. Paul's Hospital, highlighting the importance of attention to relationships and going beyond what was expected to meet the needs of patients. From the rapport and warmth at the celebration, it was evident that these experiences and the values they point to, endured throughout her tenure with Emmanuel Health.



FROM A STAFF GENERATED WORD CLOUD

**Compassionate** **collaborative** **loving**  
**reliable** **and** **unflappable!**



As a sign of appreciation for her excellence in leadership, an Award titled **The Jean Morrison Agape Award** will be given to an individual who "embodies compassion and integrity in service to St. Paul's Hospital." The scripture passage highlighting the Award fits perfectly with the gift of Jean's service to Catholic Health: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. (John 13:35)"

On a personal note, I would like to express my thanks to Jean for the warm and consistent support she showed me in my role with CHAS.



Jean Morrison  
Corey Miller, CEO Emmanuel Health  
Michelle Murphy Admin. Fellow St. Paul's

## CHAS 80th Convention - Keynote Rev. David Maginley

### Broken and Beautiful: Accompaniment, the Power of Story & Compassionate Presence

Explore with Pastor, Certified Spiritual Care Practitioner, and four-time cancer survivor David Maginley how compassionate holistic care reveals the mystery and beauty of who we are. By definition *Holistic Health* is all encompassing. It supports dignity, integrity, and identity when a person is faced with their mortality. Through the power of story, we will explore compassionate presence, **the grace that springs from suffering**, and the surprise of transformation that illuminates our diminishment.

#### About Reverend David Maginley, M.Div CSPC

Rev. David Maginley is a pastor, published author, a respected mentor and spiritual care provider. As an **internationally recognized speaker**, David has amassed a wealth of experience and wisdom. He has spoken to a wide range of audiences, including healthcare professionals, patients, and corporate teams. David is also a published author, with his book "Beyond Surviving: Cancer and Your Spiritual Journey" earning critical acclaim for its poignant insights into the human experience of cancer. David brings passion, energy, and inspiration to his keynote speeches, leaving audiences with a sense of hope, purpose, and a renewed appreciation for their own lives.



Reverend David Maginley

### Chief Littlechild Will Present At This Years Convention!



Chief Wilton Littlechild

Chief Littlechild made headlines around the world when he gifted Pope Francis with his Grandfather's headdress. It was a gesture of forgiveness and appreciation for Pope Francis' apology. I recently met with Chief Littlechild on the Maskwacis reserve where the apology took place. He shared his **amazing journey** from residential school, to exceptional athlete, to international career in law, to becoming an MP, and finally receiving Pope Francis at Maskwacis where Pope Francis offered the apology. He is truly an extraordinary person and **we are so pleased** that Chief Littlechild has agreed to present at our convention this year.



Fr. Ken Thorson

Chief Littlechild will join Fr. Ken Thorson, Provincial of OMI Lacombe. As provincial of the Oblates of Canada, Fr. Ken has an intimate knowledge of the Truth and Reconciliation work the Catholic Church is undertaking in Canada. They will share **stories of hope and fortitude**, which are essential ingredients for real healing to take place.

### CHAS Convention 2023 Feature Presentation John Ruetz

#### Caring for Communities: Understanding the Impact of Catholic Health in Canada Today

This presentation will delve into how Catholic health is **staying true to its core purpose** of identifying and responding to the needs of local communities. It will discuss the priorities, dilemmas, and progress being made, **emphasizing the healing with heart** approach to reconciliation and relationship building.

John's senior leadership positions have taken him on a journey across the healthcare continuum in Canada, with a focus on implementing strategy and leading major change initiatives.



John Ruetz CEO CHAC



## SEEING PAST THE HORIZON OF DEATH

Tina Claxton, Philomena Ojukwu & Peter Oliver

horizon of death to the hope that is life in Christ. Encourage doctors, nurses, government leaders and people from all walks of life to speak out against MAID and comfort the families whose loved ones have fallen victim to this temptation. Amen

This year Tina Claxton (nurse at St. Paul's palliative care), Philomena Ojukwu (CHAS board member & nurse at the Hospice at Glengarda) & Peter Oliver represented "Palliative Care" at the outdoor Way of the Cross on Good Friday in Saskatoon. This was our prayer:

### Station 8: Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus to Carry His Cross *Luke 23:26*

Let us pray: God Our Father, help us to see Jesus in the crosses we carry. Strengthen our resolve to provide good palliative care so that the dying and their families can see past the

### Relationship Centred Care—Mary Heilman

*Ethicist CHAS and St Paul's Hospital*

Have you heard of care? It's a concept that has been around since the 1990s, and yet I find that it is still relatively unknown. The phrase was adopted at a point when philosophies of care were moving away from paternalism and toward patient-centered care.

However, several scholars worried that in moving towards patient-centered care, we were forgetting the heart of healthcare: the relationship between the healthcare provider and the patient. In 2006, after over a decade of thought on this issue, Mary Catherine Beach and Thomas Inui defined relationship-centered care as "care in which all participants appreciate the importance of their relationships with one another" (2006).

As an ethicist, relationship-centered care has always resounded with me because I firmly believe that ethics is a discipline that must be lived out in relationships. The dilemmas that our staff are faced with every day are unsolvable until we form connections with the people around us.

#### WARNING!



**DONUTS WILL MAKE  
YOUR CLOTHES  
SHRINK.**

Imagine a patient who routinely asks her nursing staff to provide care in unsafe ways, for example by asking them not to use a lift to transfer her to a commode. A paternalistic nurse might respond to such a

demand by telling the patient that either she will be transferred with the lift, or she will have to have a catheter placed. Alternatively, a nurse focused purely on patient-centered care might feel that she is obligated to make the transfer despite her own safety concerns.



Dr. Mary Heilman

By contrast, a relationship-centered nurse would draw a boundary around her own safety, and recognize the need to further investigate why the patient is making this request. She might use this opportunity to share with the patient, "I cannot lift you alone, and I can appreciate that the lift is not comfortable. Is there something else I could be doing to help you through this?"

Relationship-centered care aims to respect the dignity of both the patient and the health care professional, which sets the stage for them to be able to problem solve challenging situations together.

As a philosophy of care, patient-centered care has had a critical role articulating the fundamental rights of our patients, residents and clients. Relationship-centered care builds on this foundation, and emphasizes the relationships that must be honored to provide quality care.

How do you build relationships with the people you care for? Have you been part of a challenging situation that would have fallen apart if someone hadn't been willing to do the vulnerable work of building a relationship?

(Article originally appeared in the SaskEthic Newsletter March / April 2023)