



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

## Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception of Saint John

Continued from the July edition...



The Sisters of Charity continued to do their best to respond where there was a need, in the fields of education, health care and social work. As their work evolved and demand grew so did their numbers. Between 1905 and 1923 their number nearly doubled to 220.

During the decades of their presence in Atlantic Canada, ethnic tensions between the English speaking, primarily Irish Catholics and the French speaking [Acadians](#) existed. Education provided by the Sisters was restricted in Acadian areas and those parishioners felt it, and often requested that the Sisters provide the same opportunity to French speaking students. From the beginning, French speaking women who entered the Sisters of Charity had to pray and teach in English. As a result, many young Acadian girls chose to enter French speaking convents in Quebec or the United States. Over the years, numerous requests of proposed solutions went to Rome, including the creation of an official French novitiate within the community or two ecclesiastical provinces. Both were denied. Finally in 1924 approval from Rome was received; to separate the English speaking Sisters of Charity and create the French speaking Les Religieuses de Notre-Dame du Sacre'-Coeur. The new Order was comprised of 53 members and had five houses ceded to them from the Sisters of Charity.

After the expansion west and the separation of the Acadian Sisters, the Sisters of Charity focused on the education of their own members. While some who entered the convent in the 1920s already held university degrees, many others who joined in the 1930s and 1940s pursued teaching and nursing degrees and undertook doctoral work. With their degrees, they became the administrators of hospitals and principals of schools—positions held traditionally by men in the secular world. Membership continued to rise during this time and by 1948 there were more than 375 members staffing foundations in seven of Canada's 10 provinces.

From the mid 50s to the mid 60s housing boomed and communities developed and the need for schools and hospitals exploded, but the Sisters were not always able to respond. Their numbers plateaued during this time, as more work opportunities opened for women. The baby boom also created a demand for traditional female positions like teachers and nurses. During this time, the Sisters, continued to live according to the rules of their 1937 constitution. They dressed in floor length habits and walked in pairs, when in public. Personal relationships outside of the convent were restricted and family contact was limited. When they entered the order they had given up their given names to signify the new lives they were beginning. **To be continued.....**

*Committed to perpetuating the healing mission of Jesus*

## St. Bernard Hospital, Chicago, Illinois

Following approval from the Corporate Member, Mr. Gregory Whitehead, Chair of the Board of Trustees at St. Bernard Hospital, recently announced the appointment of Mr. Charles Holland as CEO of the Hospital, to replace Sister Elizabeth Van Straten rshj, who is retiring after 34 years of service.



Mr. Holland (Chuck) joined the Hospital senior leadership team in 1998 and has been instrumental in helping to build the stature of the hospital as an institutional community development leader. He led the work on Bernard Place, the Englewood hospital's affordable housing project, which won the prestigious Richard H. Driehaus Award for Outstanding Non-profit Neighborhood Real Estate Project in 2004.

He guided the development of pivotal programs for which he raised more than \$4 million, namely, the Pediatric Mobile Health Unit and The Dental Center. As the leader of St. Bernard's strategic planning efforts, Mr. Holland is the point person for the development of the hospital's ambitious Facility Master Plan. Mr. Holland's tenure will begin in January 2013 following a transitional phase. Please join us in welcoming Chuck to this position.

Those of you who phoned the CHI offices in New Brunswick this summer, probably spoke to Melanie Barry, our summer student. This was the fifth year we were lucky enough to get approval from HRDC to hire a student and Melanie agreed to join us again this year.



Melanie has returned to her studies at Dalhousie University in Halifax where she is studying Environmental Science. We will certainly miss her. She was a wonderful addition to the team—a tremendous help and a wonderful sense of humour! Bye Melanie—we miss you!



## Catholic Health International—Centre for Excellence in Leadership

In the March 2012 issue of the Torch, we announced the names of the CHI Board Member who will sponsor each of the Pillars.

We are pleased to introduce the Champion (Chair) of each Pillar (Committee).

We are now in the process of completing the appointment of four representatives from our facilities for each pillar, based upon linguistic requirements and their geographic location throughout the CHI system.



Dave Schneider,  
Executive Director  
Langlade Hospital  
Antigo, WI  
Champion: Mission  
Development



Claire Savoie,  
Executive Director,  
Foyer Notre Dame de  
Lourdes, Bathurst, NB  
Champion: Values  
Integration  
Assessment



David Levangie,  
Mission Development  
Officer  
St. Joseph's Hospital &  
Rocmaura Nursing  
Home, Saint John, NB  
Champion: Religious &  
Spiritual Care



Bonnie Ruest,  
Executive Director  
St. Joseph's Continuing  
Care Centre, Cornwall,  
ON  
Champion: Catholic  
Healthcare Leadership



Ken Deane,  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hotel-Dieu Grace  
Hospital,  
Windsor, ON  
Champion: Ethics

The new Health Ethics Guide (third edition) English (available this month) or French (currently being translated). Please let us know how many copies your facility will require as CHI is looking at purchasing in bulk. Send your request to [ebowes@chpchi.com](mailto:ebowes@chpchi.com)

**St. Bernard Hospital** Chicago IL donated 150 free mammograms for women who live in the Englewood and West Englewood neighborhoods. Hospital President and CEO Sister Elizabeth Van Straten offered the mammograms to help serve a community, where despite a rate of breast cancer on par with surrounding areas, women are far less likely to survive the disease. Says Sister Elizabeth, "As a Catholic hospital, we serve the needs of the community as part of the healing mission of Jesus Christ. In keeping with that mission we strive to provide access to care and preventive medicine that can save lives."

As part of the 'Screen to Live' initiative, sponsored by the Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force, the program specifically targets African American women in these communities, who are not covered by health insurance and are over 40 years of age. They are seeking to educate women about breast cancer mortality disparity, nutrition, lifestyle, mammography myths, and treatment options. The mortality rate from breast cancer is 68% higher in African American women in the Chicago area than in white women.

The Radiology Department at St. Bernard is equipped with new, state-of-the-art digital mammography machines that produce images 100% more accurate than the traditional mammography film. Traditional mammograms don't always give a clear picture of the breast, the images on digital mammography can be magnified to get a closer look at any suspected problem areas.

To submit content for the Torch or to subscribe: [cbatten@chpchi.com](mailto:cbatten@chpchi.com)  
Past editions of the Torch can be viewed on-line at  
[www.catholichealthpartners.com](http://www.catholichealthpartners.com) under Library

### St. Joseph's Health Centre, Toronto, ON

The Board of Directors of St. Joseph's Health Centre is pleased to announce the appointment of Elizabeth (Liz) Buller as the Health Centre's new President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Liz will officially join the organization on September 17, 2012. Congratulations Elizabeth!

### 2013 JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL— PLENARY SESSION

Held every two years, this conference includes the CEO/ Executive Director/Facility Manager and Board Chair from each of our sponsored facilities.

Scheduled for the 4th and 5th of April 2013, at the Fairmont—Queen Elizabeth in Montreal, speakers include:

- † Sister Elizabeth Davis, RSM, Congregational Leader, Sisters of Mercy, St. John's, NL
- † Sister Mary Haddad, RSM, Sister of Mercy of the South Central Community, Director of Sponsor Services at CHAUS
- † Rev. Francis Morrissey, Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Professor of canon law

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### CHI Board and Corporation meetings for 2012:

September 12, December 12

#### Joint Leadership Council—Central & Atlantic:

September 20 & 21, 2012

Hosted by St. Joseph's Continuing Care Centre  
NAV Centre—Cornwall, ON

#### CHI Alumni Association

(graduates of Catholic Healthcare Leadership Programs)  
October 3, 2012—Rodd Inn, Miramichi, NB

#### Catholic Health Association of New Brunswick

October 4 & 5, 2012—Rodd Inn, Miramichi, NB

#### Catholic Healthcare Leadership Program (French)

Module 2 October 17—19, 2012

RHSJ Regional House in Bathurst NB

#### CHI Joint Leadership Council—Plenary Session:

April 4 & 5 2013 Fairmont—Queen Elizabeth Montreal