

THE TORCH

The newsletter of Catholic Health International



French Catholic Health Care Leadership Formation Program

The 2021 CHI French Leadership Program was held September 14-16th at the beautiful Villegiature Deux Rivières Resort in Tracadie-Sheila. Public Health Guidelines were followed for the session including limiting the number of participants, social distancing, mask wearing and sanitizing of meeting space.

The three day session featured the following presenters; Day 1 - Jean Marie Dionne on Heritage and Tradition as well as Mission Leadership. This was a very interactive session where participants shared the mission activities and works that take place in their place of work. Day 2 - Father Denis Belliveau gave an excellent presentation and led the group in a rich discussion on vocation and spirituality. Day 3 - Michel Drisdelle led a dynamic and thought provoking presentation on leadership, care for the self and resiliency during these challenging times in health care.

In addition to the educational content, the session provided our CHI leaders with the opportunity for interaction with colleagues, self reflection, and meditation in a calm and relaxing environment. The 2nd session of the Formation Program will be held in April 2022.

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Roots to Table Community Food Forest volunteers gather at the new food forest located on the grounds at Mount Saint Joseph

Roots to Table Good Food Collective

Mount St. Joseph in Miramichi is host an innovative new program that is led by the *Roots to Table Good Food Collective*. The Community Food Forest is a five-year project of Roots to Table, Northumberland's Good Food Collective, in collaboration with Mount Saint Joseph. There are already established public gardens at Mount Saint Joseph and according to the Food Collective it is the perfect spot to grow the plan which will eventually include Native American medicinal plants as well as a pond and beehive. With the Mount now transitioning into a center of community wellness, it was obvious that the site would be an ideal place for a demonstration food forest and

community gathering space.

These Food Forests are especially suited for urban environments.

The \$30,000 project was started with from NB Environmental Trust Fund and a City of Miramichi Neighbourhood Matching Grant.

CHI congratulates them on this important community initiative.

Adapted from an article by Terri Cormier in *Giv'er Miramichi Magazine*.



Roots to table community garden coordinator Nora Sturgeon and volunteer Ethan Martin tend to a young apple tree at the Community Food Forest, Mount St Joseph.

"By design, food forests are gardens, but become a miniature self-regenerating system of edible and medicinal plants. It is an outdoor nature classroom, a public learning space created and used by local residents and neighbourhood associations."

Terri Cormier, Roots to Table Regional Good Food Collective



Mount St. Joseph

*Catholic Health International
Santé Catholique Internationale*



Catholic Health International recognizes the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

In solemn recognition that in Canada September 30th is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation the offices of Catholic Health International were closed. While marking National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, all Canadians were encouraged to honour the day, and reflect on its importance to the country's past, present, and future.

As part of Catholic Health International's ongoing commitment to education we are encouraging our Board of Directors, staff and all associated with our organization to explore University of Alberta's Faculty of Native Studies *Indigenous Canada* course. It is a 12-lesson Massive Open Online Course that explores Indigenous histories and contemporary issues in Canada. From an Indigenous perspective, this course explores key issues facing Indigenous peoples today from a historical and critical perspective highlighting national and local Indigenous-settler relations. For more information and to register head to [**INDIGENOUS CANADA.**](#)



Catholic Health Alliance of Canada Statement on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

On National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the Catholic health care community acknowledges the past and present impacts of colonialism in Canada, and remains committed to building relationships with Indigenous Peoples that contribute to justice, healing, and reconciliation.

Across Canada, our member organizations serve many residential school survivors, their descendants, and their families and communities. We bear witness to continued demonstration of their strength and resilience, while also grappling with present-day inequities, racism, and oppression.

Catholic health care is committed to be a healing presence on the journey of Truth and Reconciliation. Among other things, this means understanding our own privilege and how we can use this to address the harms of the past and create a more equitable future.

We will work to foster full disclosure of the truths of colonialism and oppression, learn from the past, and build openness and trust to work towards the reconciliation and healing our world needs.

The Catholic Health Alliance of Canada national conference in May 2022 will be one step on that journey. Focusing on the theme Together in Care: Ensuring Culturally Safe Environments for the People We Serve, the conference will explore uncomfortable truths—and the shared values and actions that will help move us towards authentic healing and restoration, mutual understanding, trust and community. The conference aims to inspire action and equip leaders and organizations with insights and tools to support their efforts to ensure a culturally safe environment for all.

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Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare launches *Stories of Grit & Grace*



HÔTEL-DIEU GRACE
ESTD HEALTHCARE 1888

"HDGH is an organization, a hospital, a workforce, a team that can come together for one goal even when things get gritty - to serve the healthcare needs of our community."

Janice Kaffer,
HDGH
President and CEO.

We are all stories waiting to be told. This was the idea that led to the development of Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare's (Windsor, Ontario) newly launched *Stories of Grit & Grace* campaign.

HDGH's *Stories of Grit and Grace* will see more than twenty-five members of the HDGH Family, including physicians, nurses, social workers, leadership, and board members, individually recount their COVID experiences. Stories will tell learnings, triumphs, hardships, and courage not only as healthcare workers but more also as mothers, fathers, sisters, friends, colleagues, and humans during this time.

To see these stories head to [Stories of Grit & Grace](https://www.StoriesofGritandGrace.org)

Adapted from HDGH website

STORIES OF 
GRIT &
Grace

www.StoriesofGritandGrace.org

St. Bernard Hospital Recognized for Investment in Englewood's Community Health



LOWN
INSTITUTE

St. Bernard Hospital, in Chicago, has earned high ranks for investing in the health of the Englewood community, according to a notable healthcare organization. The Lown Institute ranked St. Bernard Hospital 19th on its 2021 list of the nation's top 50 hospitals for investing in their local communities. The hospitals were evaluated according to how well their patients are treated, the level of care they provide, and the level of their investment in the health of the community.

The hospital's response to the COVID-19 pandemic was one of several examples of its commitment to the community, as it was one of the few local hospitals to receive direct shipments of the Pfizer vaccine from the manufacturer in December 2020. In addition to distributing at the hospital, St. Bernard dispatched its mobile unit to deliver COVID-19 vaccinations to Englewood and other South Side communities, including to the residences of homebound patients.

Adapted from St. Bernard Hospital website

**We commit to
doing
everything in
our power to
eliminate
health
disparities and
destroy the link
between poor
health and
underlying
racism.**

**St. Bernard
Hospital's
*Pledge to the
Community***

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Hotel Dieu Shaver recognizes Sister Louise Dillon



Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre in St. Catharines, Ontario was pleased to honour and congratulate Sister Louise Dillon, on her 40th anniversary of Religious Profession. She has served Hotel Dieu Shaver as Director of Mission and Pastoral Services for the last 16 years.

Sister Louise entered the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph (RHSJ) and made her first profession on September 19, 1981 at the St. Joseph Provincial House in Kingston, Ontario. Over those 40 years Sister Louise has worked at Hotel Dieu Hospital in Cornwall, studied at St. Paul University in Ottawa and trained in Pastoral Care taking several units of Clinical Pastoral Education. Sister Louise worked in Chaplaincy at the Hotel Dieu Hospital in St. Catharines for 19 years, becoming the Manager of Pastoral Care in 1991, until 2005. At that time she moved to Hotel Dieu Shaver in her present role.

Hotel Dieu Shaver and Catholic Health International wish to thank Sister Louise, for all that she does and to congratulate her on this important milestone. She is a blessing to Hotel Dieu Shaver and to the entire Niagara community.

Adapted from Hotel Dieu Shaver website

Celebrating 40 years of Religious Profession Sister Louise Dillon

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IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

CHI Board Strategic Planning

October 5, 2021

CHI Board Meeting Dates

November 10, 2021 (Corporate)

November 17, 2021

December 8, 2021 (Corporate)

Leadership Formation Program

English Program

Module 2 of the 2019-2020 English Program has been postponed until Spring of 2022. Registrations are now closed.

French Program

Module 2 of the 2021-2022 French Program, will be held in the Spring of 2022. Registrations are now closed.

Fall 2022 - Spring 2023

We are now taking registrations for the upcoming Fall 2022 – Spring 2023 programs in both English and French. Specific dates to be announced.

REGISTRATION FORM



YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

At times Joseph,
like so many,
was a refugee without home,
welcome or work.
So, what he could do, he did.
It made all the difference.

Sister M Madeleva Williams csj

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