

# THE TORCH



The Newsletter of Catholic Health International

## SPRING LEADERSHIP SESSION

Talking about Catholic Health Care:  
And why it matters

On April 26th, Christopher De Bono Ph.D., led CHI's CEOs, Executive Directors, and Facility Managers, as well as the CHI Staff in a very deep and fruitful discussion of Catholic Identity. Chris is the Executive Director of Mission, Values and Spiritual Care at Unity Health Toronto and the Executive Director Mission Integration for the Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario. During this virtual session, Chris explored why "talking about Catholic Identity matters" in today's healthcare climate, with particular attention to the experiences of those who attended. Chris challenged participants to look at "talking" in the context of a wider sense of "dialogue." He noted that Pope Francis' recently stated, "we cannot create a culture of dialogue if we do not have identity." Chris also noted a way of more fully understanding our identity is through formation and being a Learning Organization. Participants were given opportunity to share their experiences through small group discussions and in plenary session. CHI would like to thank Christopher for his thoughtful presentation and for leading the participants in this important discussion, the beginning of further dialogue.



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## POPE FRANCIS APOLOGIZES TO INDIGENOUS DELEGATES

CBC April 1, 2022

Olivia Stefanovich

Pope Francis spoke before an audience of 200 bishops, Indigenous delegates and supporters, delivering an apology for the conduct of some members of the Catholic Church in Canada's residential school system. Saying he was 'deeply grieved by the stories of the suffering' experienced in residential schools, Pope Francis apologized to Indigenous delegates at a public audience at the Vatican. In response Former Assembly of First Nations national chief Phil Fontaine says Pope Francis's apology to Indigenous delegates is something to celebrate but more work is needed to push Canada down the path to reconciliation. The full CBC article is available at the following [LINK](#).



## SPIRITUALITESANTE

INFOLETTRE : AVRIL 2022

Several times a year the Center Spiritualitésanté de la Capitale-Nationale publishes its newsletter "INFOLETTRE" of which the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Québec and Université Laval are the trustees. The latest edition is available by following this [LINK](#).



Villa Saint-Joseph du Lac



## VILLA SAINT-JOSEPH DU LAC HISTORY

Sarah Corning Villa

Several years ago, when planning for their new, at the time, facility, Villa Saint-Joseph du Lac, in Yarmouth, N.S., decided there residents would be cared for in six "neighborhoods" which they would call *Villas*. The Board of Directors and staff wanted at least one of the Villas named after someone of prominence from their community who accomplished amazing things in his or her life. After much discussion, it was decided to name one Villa after Sarah Corning, nurse and humanitarian. From the farming community of Chegoggin, just outside of Yarmouth, she began her amazing journey. As a nurse she responded to the call of the 1917 Halifax Explosion to provide care for the many who had been injured. Once her work there was completed, she traveled to New York where she joined the American Red Cross. Through the Red Cross she was sent to work in war-torn Turkey to care for the injured. Over the years she also cared for orphan children in both Greece and Turkey. She eventually retired back home to Yarmouth. She lived there until her death in 1969 at the age of 97. On her tombstone is inscribed her life's purpose – *She Lived to Serve Others*. For more information on Sarah Corning, follow this [LINK](#).



THE CATHOLIC HEALTH INTERNATIONAL



*Volunteer  
Excellence Awards*

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Catholic Health International recognizes the tremendous dedication of our volunteers and is pleased to accept nominations for the Annual Volunteer Excellence Award.

To nominate go to our website:

[www.catholichealthpartners.com](http://www.catholichealthpartners.com)

Deadline for nominations is June 30, 2022

## UKRAINE SUPPORT

*Catholic Health Association of the United States*

Below are links to information on the programs and support being provided from Catholic agencies and partners, to the people of Ukraine, including a powerful Reflection Video: [LINK](#)



## Important Dates and Events

### ***CHI Board Meeting Dates***

May 6, 2022 (AGM-Partners in Mission)  
 May 18, 2022 (Corporate)  
 June 20, 2022 (AGMs-Atlantic Corporations)  
 June 21, 2022 (AGMs-Ontario Corporations)  
 June 23-24, 2022 (AGM-CHP)

### ***CHAC Annual (Virtual) Conference***

Thursday May 12 and Friday May 13, 2022  
 Looking Within: Creating Culturally Safe Environments of Care for Indigenous Peoples

### ***Kairos Blanket Exercise***

Wednesday May 11 th at 1:00 pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish centre in Rothesay, NB.

### ***Leadership Formation Program***

New students are being accepted for the next Catholic Leadership Formation Program to be held in the Spring and Fall of 2023 (exact dates to be determined). To register please fill out one of the following forms and you will be contacted with further information:

**[English Registration Form](#)**

**[Formulaire d'inscription pour le programme en français](#)**

For additional information on the program follow this link:

**[CHI Leadership Formation Program Flyer](#)**

Should you have any questions, please contact Heather Oakley, CHI's Director of Education Services at [hoakley@chpchi.com](mailto:hoakley@chpchi.com).

## HÔTEL-DIEU GRACE HEALTHCARE IMPLEMENTING NEW CARE MODEL



**HÔTEL-DIEU GRACE**  
ESTD HEALTHCARE 1888

Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare is implementing a new patient care model, adding as many as 30 personal support workers to its complement of nursing staff in a bid to boost patient care and reduce staff burnout. The new model announced recently, which the hospital has dubbed “team-based care,” will be introduced in the hospital’s complex medical care unit for November 1st. The hospital eventually hopes to expand the model to its rehabilitation and mental health units. “Moving to this team-based model of care will mean that our patient’s needs will be met beginning at admission, right through to their discharge,” said Bill Marra, hospital president and CEO in a statement.

As the province and country faces a chronic shortage of nurses, Marra said they noticed during the pandemic – when the hospital added personal support workers (PSWs) to help with patient care needs – that the extra set of hands was helpful in alleviating the burden on nurses. It allows nurses to focus on their clinical duties, while PSWs offer additional support for patient care. “(Nurses) can focus on primarily their clinical responsibilities, while PSWs for example, can assist with dressing and toileting, bathing and showers, they can do skin reviews ... review vital signs,” Marra said. “Those types of responsibilities that are important as it relates to patient experience and quality of stay ... but they don’t require the clinical practice, the clinical scope or skill set of an RPN or RN.”

Marra added that because Hôtel-Dieu is a post-acute care hospital, the length of patient stays is longer – about 45 days in the complex care unit, or three weeks in the rehabilitation unit, it makes patient comfort and satisfaction all the more important. Hospital officials are also hopeful that, in addition to better patient care and recovery, the move will help reduce staff burnout especially among nurses, by offering them more help in caring for patients. The move will add as many as 30 new PSWs to the hospital staff when the model is fully implemented, about 60 per cent of whom will be full-time staff. No staff jobs will be lost and the hospital will be introducing, hiring and training staff over the next six months.

*This is an adapted article, by Kathleen Saylor, which appeared in the Windsor Star on April 1, 2022*



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