

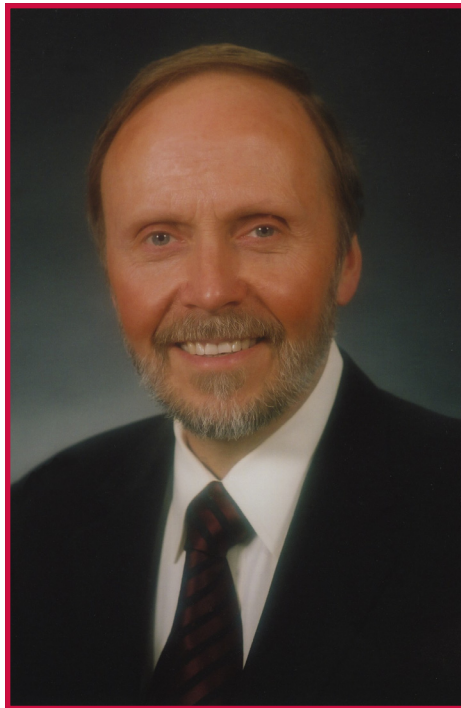
Catholic Health Alliance of Canada

Performance Citation Award

2010

Cliff Nordal

London, ON



Mike Shea, chair of the CHAC board presents the award to Cliff Nordal

**2010
ALLIANCE CITATION AWARD RECIPIENT**

Cliff Nordal

Ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada, I have the pleasure and honour to present this year's distinguished recipient of the Alliance 2010 Performance Citation Award. Please join me in giving a warm welcome to Mr. Cliff Nordal.

Mr. Cliff Nordal will soon complete a distinguished career of 41 years in hospital leadership. He is currently Ontario's longest serving CEO with 28 years at the helm of four different hospital organizations – Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Toronto, the Rehabilitation Institute of Toronto, St. Joseph's Health Care, London, and London Health Sciences Centre. Cliff is a recognized health care leader, whose energy and wisdom has served various health care policy initiatives at the local, provincial and national levels. He has contributed extensively to the professional development of health service executives as a lecturer and author. He has served as Chair of the Canadian College of Health Service Executives, the Council of Academic Hospitals of Ontario, and the Hospitals of Ontario Pension Plan.

Cliff has also served on various boards, including the Catholic Health Association of Ontario, the Ontario Hospital Association, and the Canadian Association for Quality in Health Care. In his twelve years in London, Cliff has demonstrated an unselfish dedication to others and to the ministry of Catholic health care, both locally and provincially. His significant contributions at St. Joseph's Health Care London have ensured the continued existence, vitality and future of Catholic health care in that city.

One of Mr. Nordal's peers remarked that "Cliff has been, for over a decade, the primary leader and change agent in creating in London ON the best example of an integrated system of hospital service in Ontario, and I daresay, in Canada. Under Cliff's leadership, integration with the secular side of the health care system has been massively advanced, yet Catholic health care has not suffered in the slightest."

Another colleague has noted that "St. Joseph's continues to foster the mission of Catholic health care in expressing the healing ministry of Christ; it fosters a work environment characterized by respect for the dignity of persons, respect for life, compassion, and a concern for the marginalized; it ensures that the spiritual dimension of life is embraced, it strives to promote ethical integrity in organizational and business practices as well as in patient care. And it has done all of this under Cliff Nordal's leadership." Many

have noted that Cliff has been an extraordinary leader in and witness for the health care system in London and Canada. His selfless contribution to the Christian community is recognized by all in the Diocese of London.

Cliff has been instrumental in promoting numerous committees within St. Joseph's Health Care that have expanded our understanding of what it means to be a Catholic health care centre today. Huge studies have been completed at St. Joseph's concerning the spiritual dimensions necessary for a Catholic facility and the definition of what it means to have a Catholic mission in a pluralistic environment. In many ways, the Christian roots and Catholicity of St. Joseph's Health System has never had a higher profile, all due to Cliff Nordal as the CEO.

Cliff leaves his post as a tribute to the continuing legacy of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of London. The Christian context of St. Joseph's seems to have tapped into his own Christian roots and resulted in many wonderful events in the city that have very often been a powerful witness to the Catholic ethos of St. Joseph. The spiritual care program, second to none in the city, has received his ongoing support.

No better tribute can be given to a person than to be accepted and affirmed by the people who work with him on a daily basis. And so we leave the final work to his own Leadership & Support Team Members at St. Joseph's Health Care in London. They state, "Cliff Nordal has been the key to our ability to keep moving forward and to work in collaboration with others, while never losing sight of our Christian ethos and all that it means to provide care, develop our staff and engage our community. We have renewed our mission and have integrated key strategies into our organizational plans that will strengthen Catholic health care in our community for years to come."

In conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, what Cliff Nordal has accomplished in London Ontario stands as a model for health care generally, but in particular for Catholic health care in Ontario and in the whole of Canada, and it would not have happened but for the extraordinary and his focused leadership.