CHAO 2015 Convention and Annual Meeting

September 30 to October 2, 2015
Toronto Marriott Bloor Yorkville Hotel

The Palliative Care Alternative

Comfort Love Mercy

The Palliative Care Alternative

Catholic Health Association of Ontario
Association Catholique de la Santé de l’Ontario
The Supreme Court of Canada, in a unanimous decision, struck down as unconstitutional the nation's century-old law prohibiting physician-assisted suicide. The high court suspended the declaration for 12 months in order to give the federal and provincial governments time to respond. This decision highlights the change in public opinion over the past 20 years. However, it is important to note that even in the most liberal jurisdiction in the world, the Netherlands, only 8% of dying patients request assistance in dying and only 2.6% go through with it. But what about the remaining 97.4% who take the journey of dying as they always have?

While the issue (and its possible ramifications) may bring a great deal of complexity to Catholic health care organizations and the health care professionals who work in them, palliative care with proper pain management becomes more important than ever. The theme for this year’s convention provides a compassionate way to proceed as well as a challenge to all who care for the dying. Acquiring the medical and pharmaceutical knowledge, along with a supportive pastoral care team, must be a priority if The Palliative Care Alternative: Comfort, Love Mercy is to become the hallmark of Catholic health care organizations, leaders in the care of the dying and the support of their families.

Who Should Attend?

Trustees, CEO's, senior leaders and department heads and sponsors. It is also suggested that an effort should be made to introduce young, up-and-coming leaders in your organization to these topics and to give them the opportunity to meet representatives from other Catholic health care providers.

Online Conference and Hotel Registration

CHAO Group Rate at the Toronto Marriott Bloor Yorkville Hotel is $197 per night. To receive this rate you must confirm your room before September 11, 2015. Book your room NOW.

CHAO Convention Registration Fee is $475 + HST (includes meals and refreshment breaks). All convention registrations are to be completed on-line. To register on-line for the CHAO Convention and the Pre-Convention Trustees Seminar, please scan the QR Code to the lower left with your mobile devise or click the following link:

Link to Online Registration Form
Wednesday September 30, 2015

7:30 p.m.  
**Opening Ceremony and Welcome**  
**Opening Keynote Address ~ Cardinal Thomas Collins**  
Archbishop of Toronto  

*Dignity of the Human Person: A Fundamental Value of Catholic Health Care at the End of Life*  
Each one of us is a child of God and must be treated with reverence from the first moment of conception until natural death. This principle must guide those engaged in Catholic Healthcare as they serve people at all stages of the continuum of life on this earth.

9:00 p.m.  
**CHAO Chairperson’s Reception**

Thursday October 1, 2015

7:30 a.m.  
**Eucharist**

8:30 a.m.  
**Continental Breakfast**

9:00 a.m.  
**The Ministers Speech ~ The Honourable Eric Hoskins, MD (invited)**  
Dr. Eric Hoskins was first elected to the Ontario legislature as the MPP for St. Paul’s in 2009. He was re-elected in 2011 and 2014. Dr. Hoskins was appointed Minister of Health and Long Term Care on June 24, 2014. His previous Cabinet appointments include Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Employment, Minister of Children and Youth Services and Minister of Citizenship and Immigration.

9:30 a.m.  
**Plenary Session ~ Nuala Kenny, OC, MD, FRCP**  
Ethics and Health Policy Advisor Catholic Health Alliance of Canada  

*The Supreme Court of Canada and Challenges to the Tradition of A Good Death*  
The Supreme Court of Canada has struck down the Criminal Code prohibition on assisted suicide and euthanasia. While heralded as humane and compassionate care, this is the medicalization of human suffering and of death itself. It is in stark contradiction to our long and strong Catholic tradition on a good death. This reflection will identify the urgent need for persons of faith to understand the meaning and consequences of this crucially important decision and to act to ensure legislation limiting and regulating PAS and protection of conscience for health professionals.

10:30 a.m.  
**Refreshment Break**
**Plenary Session ~ Dr. Jose Pereira, MBChB, CCFP, MSc(Med)**
Professor and Head, University of Ottawa, Department of Medicine, Division of Palliative Care, The Ottawa Hospital and Bruyere Continuing Care

**Responding to a Request to Hasten Death: Considerations and Implications for Palliative Care given the decision by the Supreme Court**

This presentation will review the reasons why patients may request to have their life shortened. It will draw on research findings and clinical research to formulate an appropriate response.

It will highlight myths and clinical complexities that are relevant to this discussion and highlight challenges that catholic health care providers may face.

**Buffet Luncheon**

**Workshop Sessions**

**Workshop 1 ~ Palliative Care at St. Joseph’s Care Group, Thunder Bay**

An Overview and Case Studies

The workshop will provide an overview of the North West’s regional palliative care services and offer two case studies that demonstrate how best to care for palliative clients in their home, whether the client is in the community or in a Long-Term Care Home.

Jill Marcella – Coordinator
Case Studies: a) **Tele-palliation Project** – Robin Cano, RN
b) **End Of Life Care in Long-Term Care Toolkit** – Jackie MacDonald, PSW and Lina Moore, PSW

**Workshop 2 ~ Whole Person Care Approach to Palliative Care**

Stedman Community Hospice, Brantford

The workshop will showcase the unique and innovative programs developed by Stedman Community Hospice Brantford to support individuals, their family and caregivers in a “Whole Person Care” approach, from diagnosis of a life limiting illness through bereavement. Workshop participants will have an opportunity to discover and share their own personal perspective of dying and death.

Cheryl Moore – Executive Director
Camillia Galezowski – Supportive Care Co-ordinator
Jennifer Dennis – Residential Care Co-ordinator

**Workshop 3 ~ Caring for and Supporting Marginalized Individuals Facing Life-limiting Illness**

This workshop will discuss how the Good Shepherd Hospice Palliative Care Outreach Team, Hamilton is supporting marginalized individuals who are facing life-limiting illness. A case study will be presented on an individual from the time of identification to his death and the resources we facilitated to meet his unique needs.

Kerry Ann Bracewell RPN – Clinical Navigator Outreach Team
Dr. Tony Kerigan – Palliative Care Physician
Mary Beer – Psycho-social Spiritual Bereavement Clinician Outreach Team
Donna Lawrence RN – Emmanuel House Residential Hospice

**Break**

**Annual Meeting of the Catholic Health Association of Ontario**
Continental Breakfast

Morning Reflection

Closing Plenary Session ~ Balfour Mount, OC, MD
Emeritus Professor of Palliative Medicine, McGill University

The Potential for Healing at the End of Life
The biomedical model focuses on the pathophysiology of disease while neglecting the broader existential depths that frame our experience of illness. Our potential for healing in the face of progressive disease, a potential rooted in the special relationship formed between healer and sufferer, so familiar to Osler, the shamans of primitive cultures and faith healers, remains an untapped resource. Cassell has eloquently expressed the reality underlying the flaw in modern medicine’s paradigm, “same disease, different patient - different illness, pain and suffering.”

Refreshment Break and CHAO Adjournment
After the CHAO adjournment the Ethics Conference continues until 4:00 p.m.

Celebrating the Legacy

Catholic Hospitals in Canada Digital History Books Collection
(under the auspices of the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada)

Documenting the legacy and contribution of the Congregations of Religious Women in Canada, their mission in health care, and the founding and operation of Catholic hospitals

A unique historical resource available online and free to the public
View Catholic Hospital history books online at:
www.chac.ca/about/history/digital_e.php

The Catholic Hospital Digital History Book Collection seeks to create a digital record of all books and/or booklets printed to celebrate Catholic hospitals and Catholic nursing schools in Canada. If you are aware of any such book or booklet documenting the history of a Canadian Catholic hospital or Catholic nursing school, The Catholic Hospitals Digital History Books Collection is interested in obtaining a digital record of the book or booklet.

For more information on Catholic hospital history books e-mail Greg Humbert at catholichospitalhistory@outlook.com
Affirming an Ethic of Care

Bridging the Gaps at the End of Life

The Centre for Clinical Ethics is a Joint Venture of Providence Healthcare, St. Joseph’s Health Centre and St. Michael’s Hospital.

Those who register to the CHAO Convention will be accorded a reduced registration fee of $75 to attend this Conference. Participants in the CHAO Convention should consider registering for the Ethics Conference.

The full program will be available in the near future. Persons who wish to register for the Ethics Conference must register directly with the Centre for Clinical Ethics. Please contact Lynda Sullivan at the Centre for Clinical Ethics (sullil@stjoe.on.ca; 416-530-6750).