



ASSOCIATION CATHOLIQUES
CANADIENNE DE LA SANTÉ

CATHOLIC HEALTH
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHAC Opposes the Establishment of a Private Hospital in Calgary

Ottawa — The Catholic Health Association of Canada (CHAC) is opposed to plans of the Health Resources Group, of Calgary, to establish a private, for-profit hospital in the city the first in a projected chain of private hospitals.

“The offering of medically necessary services, outside the public system, to people who choose to pay for them, represents a serious threat to not-for-profit health care,” said Kateri Ghesquiere, CSJ, CHAC chairperson. “It would move us toward the establishment of a parallel health care system and the commercialization of health care,” she added.

At its recent annual convention, May 3-5, the CHAC Annual Assembly called on the federal government to oppose any further moves toward for-profit health care in Canada, and to protect Canada’s universal health system by enforcing the standards of the Canada Health Act.

The CHAC maintains that health care is a social good belonging to all citizens. Universal access to medically necessary services, regardless of ability to pay, must remain a defining feature of our health care system. “The federal government has a leadership role to play in sustaining a national health care system. We call on the federal health minister to take a strong stand in defending the public health care system and in opposing for-profit hospitals “ said Sister Ghesquiere.

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