



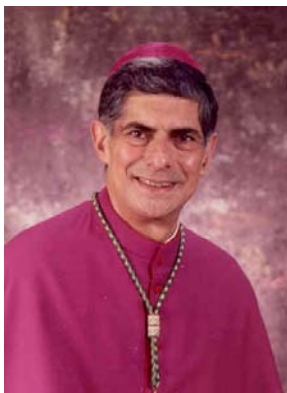
Catholic
Health
Association
of Canada

For Immediate Release
May 15, 2005

Bishop Anthony Tonnos Receives Canada's Highest Distinction in Catholic Health Care

(Ottawa) – The 2005 *Performance Citation Award* — Canada's highest distinction in Catholic health care — has been awarded to Bishop Anthony Tonnos, Bishop of Hamilton, for outstanding leadership in the Catholic health care ministry. The presentation of the award took place on Saturday, May 14 during the annual convention of the Catholic Health Association of Canada (CHAC), in London, ON.

The presentation of the *Performance Citation Award* was initiated in 1981. Bishop Tonnos is the first bishop in Canada to receive the award.



It is presented each year by the CHAC to an individual who exemplifies leadership in an activity, program or project judged worthy of national recognition for its strengthening of the Catholic health ministry in an extraordinary way.

As one of his nominators wrote: "Bishop Tonnos' contribution has been exemplary during a decade of instability and turbulence, a decade that posed a direct threat to the future of Catholic institutional health care. Bishop Tonnos demonstrated great leadership in his willingness to act as a spokesperson for the ministry."

In addition to his many pastoral and diocesan commitments, Bishop Tonnos served on the board of the Catholic Health Association of Ontario (CHAO) for 13 years. Not only did he make a significant contribution to the work of the Association, he also provided his expertise and wise counsel to Catholic health care organizations across the province of Ontario.

In recognition of his dedication, the CHAO established, and with the assistance of the membership, endowed the Bishop Anthony Tonnos Scholarship Award that is granted annually to a person studying health care ethics at an Ontario University.

Sandra Keon, Chairperson of the CHAC Board of Directors, noted the leadership shown by Bishop Tonnos and described him as a man rooted in the great legacy of Catholic health care in Canada. In presenting the award to him she said: "Your pursuit of excellence and your dedication to the mission of Catholic health care has benefitted and inspired us all."

The Catholic Health Association of Canada (CHAC) is a national Christian association supportive of health care in the tradition of the Catholic Church. As the national voice for Catholic health care, the CHAC acts to promote health in all its aspects: physical, emotional, spiritual and social. Its membership includes seven provincial associations; 23 sponsors/owners of health care organizations; 95 hospitals and long-term care organizations; health care professionals; and affiliate organizations and individuals.

NOTE: A photograph of Bishop Tonnos is available upon request (TIF format).

INFORMATION: Greg Humbert
(613) 731-7148 ext. 257 or ghumbert@on.aibn.com