



March 18, 2005

Catholic  
Health  
Association  
of Canada

## New CEO for Catholic Health Association of Canada

(Ottawa) – The Catholic Health Association of Canada (CHAC) announced today that Mr. Gerard Lewis has been appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of the association. Making the announcement, Chairperson of the Board, Ms. Sandra Keon, said “we are delighted to have someone of Mr. Lewis’ professional standing and calibre to lead the organization.”



Gerard Lewis

Mr. Lewis provides a unique blend of public sector management, and association marketing background along with a breadth of senior management consulting experience successfully delivered over the past 32 years. His experience in strategic and operational planning, policy development and organizational development make him an impressive and visionary leader.

Speaking on behalf of the Board, Keon said, “The Board extends its full support to Mr. Lewis and looks forward to the contribution he will make to develop more focused roles and functions for the CHAC that will be valued by members and enhance the ministry of Catholic health care.”

Mr. Lewis served as Director of Marketing with the Canadian Bar Association prior to turning to management consulting. Before that, he enjoyed a 23-year career in museum management with the Canadian Museum of Civilization and the National Museums of Canada. A consultant since 1997, he has displayed special talents as a process facilitator, and strategic policy analyst.

In his personal life, Mr. Lewis currently serves as President of L’Arche Ottawa, an organization that operates seven homes for 30 individuals with developmental disabilities. He is married to Louise Matte-Lewis; both are native to Ottawa where they continue to make their home.

Commenting on his appointment Lewis said, “Guiding the CHAC’s transformation into the advocacy and guardianship organization the members desire is my mission. I look forward to working with our provincial association counterparts, the Sponsors, and the CCCB to preserve and disseminate those values that make us invaluable to the wellness of Canadian society. We need to see ourselves as the portal to Catholic health care in Canada.”

The CHAC has recently completed a restructuring process in which it has defined its two roles as national advocacy and the development of standards and guidelines. “We look forward to the coming years with enthusiasm. And we are confident that as Mr. Lewis takes on this leadership role he will further develop the new directions that the CHAC and its members have embarked on in recent years,” said Ms. Keon.

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; 98 hospitals and long-term care organizations; health care professionals; and affiliate organizations and individuals.

INFORMATION: James Roche, Interim Executive Director  
(613) 731-7148 ext. 252  
or jroche@on.aibn.com

A photo of Mr. Lewis (jpg format) is available upon request.