

# CHAC



# INFO

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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## Highlights of CHAC Restructuring Process

Reflection and comments from last year's National Dialogue and Forum indicated clearly that the Catholic health ministry needs a national association. It was also clear that, in the light of future directions for the ministry, the CHAC's mandate, tasks and governance structure should be re-examined. Since the Dialogue the CHAC board has committed itself to pursuing this restructuring agenda in a spirit of collaboration and openness with its partners in the ministry.

### **CHAC Working Groups (June - August 2003)**

Immediately after the National Forum in Montréal, the board set up Working Groups with representation from the CHAC board, provincial associations, sponsors and the CCCB. Their mandate was to recommend to the CHAC board, at its September 2003 meeting, action plans for the review of CHAC's governance structure, mandate, roles, responsibilities, and funding sources, as well as to suggest ways of nurturing and supporting the momentum and actions proposed during the National Dialogue.

### **CHAC Governance Review Task Force (September - November 2003)**

At its September meeting, the CHAC board discussed the reports of the two Working Groups. It then established a *Governance Review Task Force* with the mandate to review and recommend to the board at its late November meeting 2003, a new national relationship among partners in the Catholic health ministry. The Task Force included three CHAC board directors, four sponsor and three provincial association representatives and one CCCB representative.

### **CHAC Board Proposal & Joint Associations/Sponsors Meeting (December 2003)**

Discussion of the *Governance Review Task Force* report was the major agenda item of the CHAC November board meeting. The *Proposal of the CHAC Board of Directors* regarding the *Task Force Report* was then submitted for consideration to a Joint Associations/Sponsors Meeting held in New Westminster, December 6, 2003.

The December Joint Meeting led to the following agreement:

#### **CHAC Roles and Functions**

- **National Advocacy / Public Policy.** This is a primary role for the CHAC. A re-focused approach to advocacy will focus on the determinants of health as they relate

## CHAC President Retires

In early January 2004, Dr. Richard Haughian announced that he will retire from his position as President of the CHAC on December 1, 2004.

Dr. Haughian indicated that the setting of new directions for the association is the appropriate time for new leadership. As you know, the CHAC board is currently reviewing the association's roles and governance structure, and plans to come to the annual assembly in early May with a proposed new structure for membership approval. Richard's retirement in December will give the board sufficient time to plan a smooth transition to new leadership for the association.

We are most grateful to Richard for his years of inspired leadership. He has provided dedicated commitment to the CHAC since 1981, first as Director of Education, then from 1993, as President. We look forward to celebrating his many achievements in the evolution of the CHAC and in the broader identity of Catholic health care in Canada and beyond. We hope that our members will join us when these events are announced.

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## Call for resolutions

The next Annual Assembly of the CHAC will be held on **May 2-3, 2004**. Members may submit a resolution prior to or during this Assembly. To be printed and circulated before the annual Assembly, resolutions must be received by **April 2, 2004**. Please send them to: President, CHAC 1247 Kilborn Place, Ottawa, ON, K1H 6K9.



to health and equity in health care. The CHAC will advance, publicize and defend the values and principles of Catholic health on a national basis. This approach is to be defined by member needs and emphasizes the unique contribution the CHAC can make to particular advocacy issues.

Other CHAC roles/functions are the following:

- **Networking / Partnerships** (understood as a means to achieve other roles and goals of Catholic health care);
- **Education and Leadership Development;**
- **Developing Standards and Guidelines.**

CHAC's specific contribution to these roles/functions are to be worked out, in an on-going way, with its partners, i.e. sponsors, provincial associations, who also share responsibility for these roles/functions.

#### **Federated Partnership Governance Model**

- At the Joint Meeting, the CHAC and partner representatives endorsed in principle a "federated partnership" governance model, as proposed by the CHAC board, understanding that the details of the model, its implications and timing would still have to be worked out.
- According to this model, the CHAC board would be composed of representatives from the provincial associations, sponsor organizations and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB).
- The CHAC board would be smaller than the current 19 director board.

#### **Financial Issues**

Representatives at the Joint Meeting began consideration of financial assumptions and possible membership fee scenarios with the goal of proposing new membership fee formulae for the CHAC.

#### **Working Groups (January - February 2004)**

At the Joint Meeting, two Working Groups were set up — a Governance Working Group and a Financial Issues Working Group. These groups are to report to the CHAC board for its February 27-28, 2004, meeting with specific details of a governance model and fee formulae.

The results of the board's deliberations will be communicated to members after its February board meeting.

## New Ways to Communicate with CHAC Members

The internet is a creative and pro-active tool to provide information in a timely and cost-effective manner. The CHAC is pleased to present three new innovative ways of providing services and products to our members.

### **1. CHAC Web Site Launches Member Section**

The CHAC is in the process of launching a "Password Protected Member's Only" section of our Web site. As a further service to CHAC members, we will be able to provide material and resources to you as a service to members only.

Once this is initiated, members will log-in with a password and user-id. Members will then have access to all of the pages on the CHAC Web site. If a non-member attempts to access member pages, they will be notified that they need the proper user-id and password. Members will soon be notified on how to obtain their user-id and password for access.

### **2. CHAC Info and CHAC Review Goes Online**

The *CHAC Info* newsletter and *Review* journal will be available online starting in the Spring of 2004. Members will be able to download these documents through the "Password Protected Member's Only" section of the CHAC Web site. Members who do not have access to the internet can request a photocopy of these documents from the CHAC office.

### **3. "Quick Links" section on the CHAC Web site**

The CHAC has introduced a new section to its Web site. The Quick Link section that appears on the left side of the *What's New* page provides fast and easy access to the most popular pages of the CHAC's Web site.



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