



CHABC Newsletter

CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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August 2011

“The Things We Do For Love”



Sister Sue Mosteller, CSJ,
L'Arche Daybreak
Richmond Hill, Ontario

September 15th is the date of CHABC's 71st annual general meeting and conference which will be held at the Executive Plaza Hotel in Coquitlam.

This year, the conference theme is “The Things We Do For Love”, with keynote speaker Sister Sue Mosteller, CSJ, sharing her experiences in working for more than thirty years at the L'Arche Daybreak home in Richmond Hill, Ontario. L'Arche is an international network of faith-based communities for those with developmental difficulties.

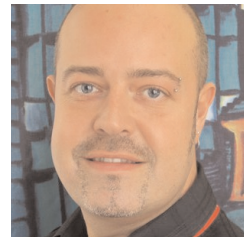
During her thirty-one years with L'Arche, Sr.

Sue has lived with the men and women with disabilities and served as Community Leader and International Coordinator of L'Arche. She worked with Henri Nouwen for the ten years he was at Daybreak, and was named as his literary executrix when he died in 1996. She published two books: *My Brother My Sister* and *Body Broken, Body Blessed*.

Of her life to date she says, “*My life-journey has been one of relationships with wonderful and amazing people, some of whom were disabled, and all of whom shaped my growth and transformation. They have been my teachers, helping me to understand that love is possible, and that God's spirit calls us to walk together, learn to forgive, and experience the Kingdom of God on earth.*”

The conference will begin with Mass celebrated by Vancouver Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB, and will be concelebrated by the various priests who are involved with CHABC.

Our afternoon speaker is Scott Harrison who is the Program Director for Urban Health & HIV/AIDS with *Providence Health Care* in Vancouver. A UK trained Registered Nurse and Registered Midwife, Scott has worked with marginalized communities for twenty years in a variety of roles including street nursing, outreach nursing to sex trade workers, public health, refugee health and HIV/AIDS. In his work with *Providence*, Scott is responsible for HIV/AIDS services, substance use services, urban health and aboriginal health. Scott has a passion for placing people first, as true partners in their care, and returning humanity to the health care system. He and his team – Julie Kille (Operations Leader, HIV/AIDS and Addiction Services), Brynn Grierson (Clinical Nurse Leader, Immunodeficiency Clinic) and Neil Fowler (Project Assistant in the Immunodeficiency Clinic) – will talk about their work in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside in a presentation entitled “*Reconciliation, Recognition and Respect*”.



Scott Harrison
Program Director
Urban Health & HIV/AIDS
Providence Health Care

Father Michael Sabara

A Sad Farewell

The CHABC board and staff were sad to learn about the sudden death of Father Michael Sabara in June. For sixteen years, he was the Director of Pastoral Care at *St. Michael's Centre* in Burnaby until he took a medical leave last year. He was also a faithful member of CHABC's Pastoral Care Committee and, at one time, was a member of the board of directors.

He will be remembered for his compassionate care to those of all faiths, for his knowledge of world religions and his unlimited capacity of sharing his wisdom and resources with others.

“The Things We Do for Love” (cont.)



Jo-Ann Tait
Site Operations Leader
Providence Health Care
CHABC Board Member



Dr. Howie Bright
Family Physician
Chilliwack, BC



Dianne Doyle
President and CEO
Providence Health Care



Dr. David Neima
Ophthalmologist
New Westminster, BC



David Thompson
Vice President for
Seniors' Care and
Clinical Support Services
Providence Health Care

Also on the agenda for the afternoon is a panel whose members will each give brief presentations about some of the work we do in our Catholic facilities and parishes with our most vulnerable populations. CHABC board member Jo-Ann Tait will moderate. Panelists will be:

- Howie Bright, Chilliwack family physician will talk about those who are awaiting organ transplants, what the Church teaches about transplants, what it means to be “brain dead” and the importance of registering as a potential donor.

- Dianne Doyle, President and CEO at Providence Health Care in Vancouver who will speak about “Angel’s Cradle” at St. Paul’s Hospital which is the first hospital in Canada to offer a temporary respite for infants in danger of being abandoned because their mothers cannot care for them.
- Lara Fares, Hospice Patient Care Manager at St. Michael’s Centre in Burnaby, will present about the care provided to those who are dying and how important it is that we create hospice space dedicated to patients and their families.

- Ken Jolley, Clinical Resource Nurse, Mount St. Mary Hospital in Victoria, will talk about his work with residents who live with dementia.
- Dr. David Neima, New Westminster Ophthalmologist, will share his experiences in offering his expertise in eye care through the free clinics he establishes in the Downtown Eastside and in various parishes in the Archdiocese.
- David Thompson, Vice President for Seniors’ Care and Clinical Support Services with Providence Health Care in Vancouver, will explore the challenges of providing appropriate, respectful care for those who live with mental illness in residential care facilities.

The Privacy Act and its Implications for Health Care

If you or a family member are admitted to hospital and you wish to have a priest visit, please be sure to have someone call the rectory or parish office to make this request. Your pastor may have no other way of knowing that you are in hospital, as privacy legislation is sometimes used to restrict the information that is be given to him by the hospital.

Pastors may wish to include a note about this in an upcoming Sunday bulletin, advising parishioners that they need to call the rectory or parish office about a family member being admitted to hospital.

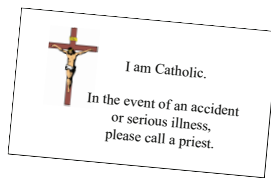
CHABC continues to work with health authorities around the province to ensure that those who are admitted to care facilities and wish to have a pastoral visit are accommodated. This is especially difficult in those hospitals where health authorities have terminated the positions of Spiritual Care Practitioners.

The various reporting components of the Association’s Annual General Meeting will be held throughout the day, concluding with the board missioning ceremony at the close of the conference.

Everyone is invited to attend the conference. The registration fee is \$130. The registration brochure is available at www.chabc.bc.ca under “upcoming events”.

Catholic ID Wallet Cards have taken on a life of their own!

In 2003, the *Catholic Health Association of BC* board of directors launched an initiative to provide wallet cards to Catholics in BC that state very clearly **"I am Catholic"**. The card goes on to instruct medical personnel, who might be looking through a wallet to find identification, that he or she should call a priest if you are unable to make that request yourself. The development and distribution of these cards was initiated at the suggestion of Monsignor Bernard Rossi, then the Archdiocesan Health Care Vicar and the BC Bishops' representative to the *CHABC* board of directors.



In March of this year, the *BC Catholic* published a story about these cards, reminding the faithful that they were available to anyone who wished to have one. The story about the cards was subsequently picked up by several other Catholic newspapers across Canada and *CHABC* was quite surprised by the deluge of requests subsequently received!

In the past three months, approximately 20,000 cards have been sent out by *CHABC* to locations around the Lower Mainland, to other parts of BC, across Canada and into the United States. Requests have come in from individuals, families, church groups, seniors' groups, as well as parishes who ask for hundreds of cards at a time.

Anyone who wants a card (or cards) may contact the *CHABC* office (by email at smhouse@shawlink.ca or by phone at 604-524-3427) and we will send them out at no cost. *CHABC* is happy to provide as many of the cards as are needed.

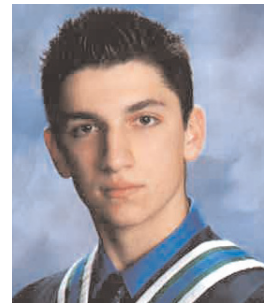
Annual Bursaries

Once again this year, the *CHABC* board awarded bursaries to two students who were graduating from secondary school and who wrote essays addressing the significance of spirituality in the provision of health care.



*Morgan Hoot
St. Ann's Academy
Kamloops, BC*

This year, bursaries were awarded to Morgan Hoot, who graduated from *St. Ann's Academy* in Kamloops and to Marco Piovesan, who graduated from *Archbishop Carney Secondary School* in Port Coquitlam.



*Marco Piovesan
Archbishop Carney
Secondary School
Port Coquitlam, BC*

CHABC congratulates both bursary recipients and wishes them well in their future endeavours.

Other Resources Available from CHABC

CHABC has an active Pastoral Care Committee whose purpose is to strengthen the commitment to Pastoral Care in both our care facilities in the province and in our parish communities. We produce numerous resources and make them available at no cost to the faithful. Call the *CHABC* office or send an email to smhouse@shawlink.ca if you wish to receive copies of any of the following:

- "Let Us Pray" - - a booklet containing prayers that are most common to Catholics
- "Pray for me... now and at the hour of my death" - - a collection of Catholic prayers that can be read at the bedside of someone who is dying
- "What you need to know about a Catholic Funeral and Burial" - - a brochure that summarizes the BC Bishops' booklet on the same subject
- "How to Pray the Rosary" - - a laminated card in large print
- "A Simple Guide for Confession" - - intended for those who require assistance in preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- A brochure about the Sacrament of the Sick, produced in collaboration with the BC Bishops

St. Michael's Centre in Burnaby



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH PRIDE

An innovative health care initiative opened in the Burnaby community 30 years ago. *St. Michael's Centre* complex care facility on Sussex Avenue admitted its first residents on July 6, 1981. The defining feature was the fact that three denominations – the Anglican, Roman Catholic and United Churches – came together to make this much needed health care facility a reality.

The roots of the *St. Michael's Centre* project date back to 1974, when the Metropolitan council of the United Church of Canada met with the Vancouver Foundation, at which time the latter expressed interest in funding the construction of a facility to care for personal and intermediate care level residents. A Seniors Care Project Committee was endorsed by the Metropolitan Council and that committee went on to obtain, within three months, approval from the Minister of Health for the funding of extended care level beds to be included in the project. Having multi-levels of care for the facility displayed great forethought on the committee's part, as allowing for residents to remain in the same facility as their care needs increase, is considered today as being a highly beneficial component of care. In addition, the committee laid the foundation for a holistic approach to resident care by ensuring that the facility have a multi-disciplinary

team composed of care aides, an occupational therapist, nurses, a pastoral care coordinator, recreation workers, a social worker and a volunteer coordinator. The goal was to deliver good quality care which was respectful of the residents and which supported independence of decision making as much as possible. In 1976, the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches were invited to participate in the project, and this multi-denominational approach was another aspect which made the project truly unique. In 1979, the formation of an Auxiliary, which participated in the planning, ensured grassroots community involvement and emphasis on the enhancement of the lives of those who would be receiving care.

Today, *St. Michael's Centre* serves the community by providing 128 complex care beds and 16 hospice beds. It continues to be totally non-profit, funded by the Fraser Health Authority and relying on donations to its *St. Michael's Centre* Foundation and Auxiliary for much of its equipment and resident comfort needs. The *St. Michael's Centre* board and staff are proud that the qualities that set it apart 30 years ago define the facility today: multi-faith (and multi-cultural), respectful of those they serve, with care delivered by a close-knit team.

Advance Care Planning

New Legislation for BC

On September 1st, legislation will be enacted in British Columbia that governs the use of advance care planning. BC is one of the only jurisdictions in the country without such legislation. The new laws will detail the requirements for the preparation of written directions that can be used by loved ones and care providers should an individual become unable to speak for him or herself. Written plans for future care are not mandatory, but many individuals wish to have a way of letting their loved ones know how they would like to be cared for if the time ever came when they could not speak for themselves.

Some of our health authorities in BC employ very useful documents for this purpose, but they do not specifically address issues from a faith-based perspective. *CHABC* has developed a guide for those who wish to make their future plans while taking into consideration the teachings of the Catholic Church on end of life issues.

In conjunction with the enactment of the legislation, *CHABC* will make this new document available to its members and to all parishes in BC and Yukon. It will also be available to download from our website at www.chabc.bc.ca. For anyone who would like a copy to be put in the mail, please call the office at 604-524-3427 or send an email request to smhouse@shawlink.ca.