



Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario

CHSO Update to Member Organizations October 27, 2017

The Board of Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario met in Toronto on September 27th, and by teleconference on October 20, 2017. The following provides a summary of items addressed during these two meetings:

Toronto Network

On August 1, 2017, the amalgamation of Providence Healthcare, St. Joseph's Health Centre, and St. Michael's Hospital became effective, and is currently being referred to as the Toronto Network while the new Board undertakes the process of identifying a new corporate name. CHSO is working closely with the Network Board on two priorities: to develop and implement an ongoing, multifaceted leadership formation program for the Board; and recruitment of the Network's Chief Executive Officer.

Integration and "Open Architecture"

CHSO is taking a proactive approach to studying the various models of integration, and is developing a framework to assist organizations when discussing integration opportunities, issues to consider, and to ensure a broad, common understanding as it pertains to Catholic health care. A draft discussion paper, *Forms of Integration and Sponsor Considerations*, will be a topic at the CHSO Regional Forum in Kingston on November 23rd. Integration was a common theme at Sponsors Day and the CHAO Convention in Toronto September 28-29, with several speakers noting that Catholic health care should not be restricted by boundaries when creating service networks.

Identifying and Responding to Unmet Need

As a follow-up to the CHSO discussion paper, *Serving the Most Vulnerable*, the next phase of work on this strategic pillar is to develop a tool to assist CHSO organizations to identify and respond to unmet need in their communities. This will involve each organization thinking beyond its own environment of care. CHSO is partnering with Health Quality Ontario, and we will work together in the months ahead to determine if a "companion document" to the Quality Improvement Plan process can be created to help organizations identify where there are access issues, and think upstream about what causes demand and how demand can be reduced.

Ethical Decision-Making Framework

CHSO endorsed this new tool developed by the Ontario Sponsors Group, and has added it as a resource in the CHSO Sponsorship Manual. One of the key elements that differentiates Catholic health care is how we make decisions; this tool simplifies the process for ethical discernment and can be used by any health care organization to help the decision-making process for both clinical and administrative issues that may arise.

CHSO Board & Designates Forum – September 28, 2017

The Board of CHSO held a forum with the Designates of CHSO organizations on September 28th in Toronto, which was facilitated by Dianne Parker-Taillon, CHSO Designate at Bruyère Continuing Care in Ottawa. The objective of the session was to discuss the evolving reality of Catholic health care, and identify potential actions by CHSO as Sponsor and CHSO organizations in response. The three top priorities that emerged were: need for each CHSO organization to develop a strong Board Formation Program; embracing the "frontier spirit" of Catholic health care, especially as it relates to identifying and responding to unmet need in local communities; Board member recruitment process to ensure new Directors have the understanding, desire and skills to advance Catholic health care as part of a high quality integrated health care system.

CHSO Approval of Member Organizations' Board Appointments/Auditor Appointments

New Board member appointments for Mattawa Hospital/Algonquin Nursing Home, as well as auditor appointments at St. Joseph's at Fleming and Marycrest at Inglewood were considered and approved.

Visit to the Holy See

In its 20th year of reporting to the Holy See, CHSO has accepted an invitation to visit the Vatican to report on our work and discuss future directions directly with Church leaders. We have identified our delegation, reached out to CHAO for their participation, and will be visiting Rome October 29 to November 1. We will be meeting with Cardinal Braz de Aviz who leads the Congregation CHSO is accountable to, as well two other Dicasteries. The Canadian Ambassador to the Holy See is hosting the delegation for a dinner, and tours have been arranged where the group will receive a "behind the scenes" look at Vatican operations. This is a welcome indication of the success of CHSO and the value with which CHSO is seen by the Holy See, two decades after being established as one of the first Public Juridic Persons in the world.

CHSO Accountability

The Board recognizes the importance of evaluating its accountability to CHSO organizations and other key stakeholders, and has developed a tool for the purpose of obtaining evaluation feedback. This tool has been informed by recent work of the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada – *Sponsorship Relationships, Roles & Accountability*. (The Alliance brings together the 15 sponsors of Catholic health care in Canada with a common strategy and work plan.) CHSO organizations were asked prior to the summer to complete this survey with their Boards this fall. Please contact Lynne Pollard at lynne.pollard@chco.ca for further information if your organization has not yet completed this survey. Your feedback is appreciated!

CHSO Calendar – Save the Dates!

- Please mark your calendars for **Monday, February 26, 2018** for the annual CHSO Forum & Gala Dinner for all CHSO organizations. This will be held in Toronto, with details and agenda to follow. We expect this event will begin in the early afternoon, followed by a reception, dinner and presentation of the CHSO Living the Mission award. CHSO expects representation from all CHSO organizations, and strongly encourages all Chairs, Vice Chairs, Designates and CEOs to attend.
- Annual General Meetings (AGM) for all CHSO organizations in 2018 - There will not be 1-hour meetings with each organization this year. The previous format has been very valuable to build relationships between CHSO and each organization; we will now build on that success by trying a different approach to ensure organizational relationships flourish and board-to-board discussions are maintained. The CHSO Board will consider all AGM motions the week of **June 25, 2018**, teleconferencing with each CHSO organization if necessary. As in past years, AGM Themes for Discussion will be issued by March 31. This will be to request particular points to be addressed in the written report from the Board Chair & CEO, in addition to the required materials related to Board appointments, financial statements, and appointment of auditors. AGM materials will be due to CHSO by Friday June 1, 2018.
- CHSO Regional Forums:
Thursday, November 23, 2017 at Providence Care, Kingston - for Board Chairs, Vice Chairs, Designates and CEOs from CHSO organizations in Kingston, Peterborough, Ottawa, Pembroke and Mattawa.
Thursday April 26, 2018 at St. Joseph's Health Centre, Sudbury - for Board Chairs, Vice Chairs, Designates and CEOs from CHSO organizations in Sudbury, Elliot Lake and Thunder Bay.

Please note that any Board member and senior leader is welcome to attend a Regional Forum.