



NEWS ARCHIVE:

## Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon

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# Catholic Health Ministries of Saskatchewan plans to openseniors' residence in Saskatoon as part of focus on "continuum of care"

By Kiply Lukan Yaworski

SASKATOON - The provincial corporation that owns and operates 10 Catholic health care facilities on behalf of the bishops of Saskatchewan recently began planning its next project: a seniors' residence.

Temporarily known as "The Manor at Stonebridge" (pending a final decision about the name), the new facility would offer "independent and assisted living to seniors who value living in a vibrant community of shared values nestled in the continuum of care," says Scott Irwin, president and CEO of Catholic Health Ministry of Saskatchewan (CHMS), a provincial organization based in Saskatoon.

Currently in the planning phase, the facility compliments another recent CHMS project: Samaritan Place, a 100-bed long term care home that is under construction in the Stonebridge neighbourhood of Saskatoon.

CHMS embarked on the Samaritan Place project about 18 months ago, through its wholly owned subsidiary Amicus Health Care Inc. Samaritan Place will provide Level 3 and 4 care, and is expected to open in the new year.

"*The Manor at Stonebridge* will be a very different facility in many respects, as it caters to those individuals seeking independent living and assisted living," says Irwin. "The continuum of care would allow individuals to access greater levels of services over time should they need it,

without leaving the community that they have grown comfortable with."

As with all CHMS facilities, this new project will incorporate its "sense of mission, resident focus and shared values within a common philosophy that will promote a strong vibrant sense of community," he says, stressing that the emphasis will be on carefree independent living.

"We envision that those people who come to call this home will choose to do so because they want and appreciate the experience of a strong interconnected and vibrant community focused lifestyle that is situated in a continuum of care and has access to higher levels of care should they experience a need for that over time," adds Terry Cooney, chair of the CHMS board.

Contemplating independent and assisted living options is a departure from the CHMS' traditional hospitals and long term care centres, but it is a logical step, Irwin notes.

"Our role has always been to examine unmet needs in our communities and attempt to respond as we are able and the need for independent and assisted living situated within a Catholic concept of gospel values and nestled in a continuum of care is very consistent with our mission."

Irwin says that although the CHMS has been busy planning this next phase, there is still work to be done before the CHMS board and the bishops can grant final approval to proceed with the new project.

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*The Manor at Stonebridge*, like all CHMS facilities, will be welcoming and open to all, stresses Irwin. “It will emphasize peace of mind where safety and security are the foundations of carefree retirement and an active lifestyle allows seniors to live life their way among friends and supportive neighbours,” he said.

“We envision that the facility will have a wide range of amenities that seniors can participate in and that will contribute to living at their own pace, now and throughout their retirement years,” states Cooney.

For more information about this project and its current status call (306) 373-3135.

Other CHMS facilities in the province include St. Peter’s Hospital in Melville, Radville Marian Health Centre, St. Joseph’s Hospital in Estevan, St. Paul’s Hospital in Saskatoon, St. Anthony’s Hospital in Esterhazy, St. Joseph’s Hospital/Foyer d’Youville in Gravelbourg, Providence Place for Holistic Care in Moose Jaw, St. Ann’s Senior Citizens’ Village in Saskatoon, and Foyer St. Joseph Nursing Home in Ponteix.