



HALIFAX, N.S. – Three members of the Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception (SCIC) were among about 100 leadership team members from the Sisters of Charity Federation to gather here July 13-17, 2018. Together, they explored the theme, “Creating a Shared Future ... Now is the Time.” Sisters of Charity of Halifax hosted while Franciscan Sister Florence Hee facilitated. The gathering included inspiring prayer, contemplative dialogue and creative reports, with abundant food and fun! Guest entertainers reflected intergenerational, multicultural and interfaith dimensions of the Maritimes.

The three SCIC were Sisters Mary Beth McCurdy (congregational leader), Alice Keegan and Roma De Robertis, all of Greater Saint John, N.B. Sister Roma also engaged in the Federation NGO (non-governmental organization) meeting July 12-13. The Federation supports an NGO representative at the United Nations in New York to raise awareness about, and faithful response to global concerns. Each member community also offers an NGO liaison.

During the 2018 leadership gathering, Sisters of St. Martha of Prince Edward Island were welcomed as new Federation members and creatively expressed their 101-year-old story. Their Federation membership now brings the number of Canadian-based congregations to five. The North American Federation includes 12 congregations of Sisters of Charity, as well as two provinces of Daughters of Charity sharing the Charity charism, or founding and evolving gift for community life and mission.

For the first time, the Federation is focusing on a major Gathering of the Whole in 2019 in Chicago to include Sisters, Associates, archivists, communicators, vocation and formation directors, newer members and the NGO representative with liaisons.

Goals of both the 2018 and the unique 2019 Federation gatherings include nurturing relationships, increasing collaboration and creating a shared future. For photos and highlights of the 2018 gathering and more, please see [www.sistersofcharityfederation.org](http://www.sistersofcharityfederation.org) (*Graphic courtesy of Sisters of Charity of Halifax*)