

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
ALBERTA MACKENZIE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
COMMUNITY LIFE**

COMMUNIQUE #1 (September, 2015)

Welcome! My name is Carol S. and I have the pleasure of serving you as your Community Life Standing Committee Chair on the Provincial CWL Council for the current term.

It is also my pleasure to announce that I have one Sub-Committee Co-Chair (*there may be future additions*). Doreen T. from Airdrie, AB, who is Co-Chair and Treasurer for Development & Peace in Calgary, has graciously accepted the position and will be a great asset to our committee. Adding to our team are the five Diocesan Community Life Chairs - Dorothy C., Grouard-McLennan; Gloria D., Edmonton; Julia F., Mackenzie-Fort Smith; Kelsey G., Calgary; Rita K., St. Paul. AND - all of our CWL Parish Community Life Chairs.

We are called to ACTION! Our role - to love, care, serve, educate, inform, speak out for those who have no voice, to share and do so with great JOY!

National Convention news from our National Community Life Chair, Doreen Gowans

Development & Peace - League members have supported the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development & Peace since 1969 through the 1% Program. Contributions benefit current programs supporting economic development, literacy and education, helping women escape domestic violence and more in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Haiti. CWL member donations for the period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 totalled \$64,691.48. Donations are down \$4,000 from last year and are the lowest we have raised in the last 5 years.

Going Forward Action Plan:

1. Do you as a CWL member donate 1% of the cost of ALL luxury and personal items that you purchase towards the CWL 1% program?
2. Does your CWL parish council donate 1% of ALL funds raised to the 1% program?
3. Now that you see the importance of the 1% program will you ask your CWL parish council or community life chair to have a bowl, or a jar at each CWL meeting for the members to donate to the 1% program?
4. On an annual basis each parish council treasurer is to send their 1% donation to the National Office, marked 1% program for Development and Peace!

Challenge: to increase our 1% donations by 15% next year or 11 cents per member. Let's see if we can increase our donations by \$10,000 next year! To help with this challenge you can find an updated slide presentation on the CWL National website <www.cwl.ca> path: Resources >Programs and

Workshops >Community Life OR directly via
<<http://cwl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/The-One-Percent-Program-Update-2015.pptx>>. Use it in your councils.

1% may not seem like a lot of money, but collectively it adds up and WE AS CATHOLIC WOMEN OF CANADA, CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. WILL YOU HELP? THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

(Note: I encourage all to read the convention report from our National Community Life Chairperson which will be published in the Fall League Magazine. You can also access more information on how 1% Can Make a Difference on the CWL national website: www.cwl.ca.)

National Convention presentation on Catholic Missions In Canada

by Kathleen Anker (Development Director) and Patricia Gyulay (Outreach Officer, National Development)

Catholic Missions In Canada (CMIC) - has been a voluntary fund of the League since 2000.

In the past 14 years members have donated \$345,000 towards the CMIC as it struggles to “keep the faith alive across our great country!” In 2015 CMIC hopes to provide \$3,500,000.00 in grants to assist 26 dioceses across Canada. The assembly watched a moving short film called “Great Need, Great Hope” which demonstrates the amazing work the CMIC is able to do thanks to members’ generosity. The film is available through CMIC - contact General Inquiries - info@cmic.info .

My dear Sisters, although more challenges have come our way, some of our work has not changed from the day we united as The Catholic Women’s League of Canada to help refugees and immigrants in our country. Homelessness and poverty is a constant struggle for many. The fight against trafficking continues.

Pope Francis in his encyclical on the environment is calling us back to the job God gave us when He created the universe - to care for His creation.

As we review our committee guidelines, we know our work is cut out for us. What will your project be?

United in One Heart, One Voice and One Mission - we can make a difference!

Blessings!

Community Life websites:

CWL National	www.cwl.ca
Hope for The Sold	hopeforthesold.com
Red Light Green Light	www.redlightgreenlightfilm.com
Refugee Sponsorship - CCS	www.cathcrosscultural.org/
CCODP	www.devp.org/en
Devp & Peace commentary on Pope Francis' "Laudato Si' (Praise Be)" encyclical	https://www.devp.org/en/encyclical