



Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Council of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Communique No. 6

Date: May 25, 2017

To: Chairperson of Community Life Committee / Parish President / Provincial
President / Provincial Executive / Life Members
National Community Life Committee

From: Barbara McGrath, Provincial Chairperson of Community Life

Dear Members of the League,

My term as **Provincial Chairperson of Community Life** is about to come to an end and I reflect on the work that has been accomplished during my term of office. I have enjoyed the work of the Committee and have learned so much about the issues and concerns that the League encourages us to become involved in. Hopefully, we have helped members of our councils to continue the important work of the Community Life committee and have provided some guidance as we continue to try and enhance the life of citizens throughout our province and the world.

Social and Economic Justice

We can never stop the work of advocating for seniors in our communities and working to ensure that each and every senior has an acceptable quality of life. There are many who are very vulnerable and need the voices of strong women to make sure their message is heard loud and clear. We must continue the fight for better living conditions for all citizens young and old. Social and economic justice is a right in our society.

Development and Peace: Strong Women Building Stronger Communities/Developing Countries

*The important work of Development and Peace continues and this year it celebrates its 50th Anniversary. I am sure that all councils will continue to support the great work of the organization as they continue the work in developing countries. The theme this year is **Women at the Heart of Change**.*

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

Refugees and migrants still need our support and prayers as they continue the fight for justice and human dignity. Many of our brothers and sisters in undeveloped and war torn parts of the world are suffering and it is our responsibility to keep abreast of what is happening and do whatever is possible to offer help, support and prayers. We should be continuing the discussions in our monthly meetings so that the issues remain at the forefront. Pope Francis encourages women to be the ones to make things happen.

Dignity and Rights of Persons

I am looking forward to seeing the quilts and prayer shawls that members of our councils have been completing throughout the year. The recipients of these quilts will experience the love and care that was put into every stitch and will be comforted by the generosity of "Strong women responding to the call of the Spirit." All members of society must be able to live with dignity no matter the circumstances of their living conditions. It is the right of every person to live with dignity.

Canada *is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year and our National chairperson, Betty Colaneri, has invited us to venture out into the community and participate in the many activities being initiated nationwide. I would encourage you to let her know the creative ways you are participating and she will create a list of ways the League will make a difference.*

There are many more issues that I am sure we will be discussing in the year ahead such as, human trafficking, the rights of Indigenous people, environmental protection, child labour, to name just a few.

The work of the Community Life Committee is very important and I would like to thank each and every member who contributed to this committee in any way in the past two years. Our voices have been heard!

Thank You!

God Bless,
Barbara McGrath