

# Community Life Annual Report Survey - 2017

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## Introduction

*Wherever there are people in need of food and drink, clothing, housing, medicine, employment, education; wherever (people) lack the facilities necessary for living a truly human life or are afflicted with serious distress or illness or suffer exile or imprisonment, there Christian charity should seek them out and find them, console them with great solicitude, and help them with appropriate relief. This obligation is imposed above all upon every prosperous nation and person. (Decree on the Apostolates of the Laity)*

Social justice and dignity is a human right that should be available to all His people. The community life standing committee provides the opportunity to promote restorative justice programs and organizations. It then documents all the inspirational works being done by your councils as incentive to our current members as well as a means of recruiting new members to join us as we help our sisters at home and abroad. It is essential that these wonderful works be recorded for our history and as a reference for members to use in presentations and correspondence. The survey will give us a better understanding of what your council is doing and what your members choose to focus on. It will also serve as a method of highlighting all your amazing works.

Thank you for completing this annual survey. Your diligence in filling it out is very much appreciated.

Betty Colaneri, National Chairperson of Community Life

### 1. Is this position vacant? \*

- Yes  No

### 2. Are you completing this survey on someone else's behalf? \*

- Yes  No

### 3. On whose behalf are you completing this survey for? Please enter the name of the chairperson. \*

## Dignity and Rights of Persons

It is our responsibility, as Christian women and members of a national organization, to play an active role in opposing discrimination wherever and in whatever form it appears.

**4. Are you familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?\***

- Yes  No

**5. What minority groups have your council supported, and in what ways?**

	Had a guest speaker	Had a workshop	Provided a donation	Volunteered
Those incarcerated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Those suffering from bullying	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Those suffering from domestic violence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Those suffering from homelessness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Those suffering from human trafficking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Those suffering from poverty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Those suffering from racism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**6. As chairperson, have you:\***

	Yes	No
Become aware of the struggles of our Indigenous sisters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Have you invited Indigenous women to be guest speakers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Have you had Indigenous women lead workshops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**7. As chairperson, have you become aware of laws and what is being done in the fight against human trafficking?\***

- Yes No

**8. If yes, have you shared this information with your council members?\***

- Yes No

**9. At the 97<sup>th</sup> annual national convention, national council adopted Resolution 2017.01 Full Implementation of the Supreme Court Decision in R. v. Gladue for Indigenous Offenders. The resolution was directed to federal government to direct the courts in Canada to ensure Gladue reports are provided to all judges before sentencing Indigenous offenders. How has your council supported this resolution?\***

- Wrote to the prime minister, minister of justice and local member of parliament urging them to become aware of the need to fully implement the decision and to ensure that judges, lawyers and legal personnel ask for and use these reports in correctional decision making.
- Invited an Indigenous person who has come in contact with the correctional system to share his/her story.
- Monitored the federal government's response to the request.
- We haven't acted on this resolution.

## Social and Economic Justice

We must be active in making sure the most vulnerable members in our society are protected with love and justice.

**10. Have you encouraged members to participate in the work of organizations caring for those in need?\***

- Yes  No

**11. What types of local organizations does your council support and how? Please exclude overseas initiatives and sanctity of life organizations. These are reported elsewhere.**

	Financial support	Prayerful support	Volunteer support
Affordable housing initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anti-poverty foundation or campaign	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Before, during or afterschool lunch program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothing drive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drop-in centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emergency shelter for the homeless	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emergency shelter for those experiencing domestic abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employment and skills training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food bank	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Food hamper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resource centre for single parents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restorative justice program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soup kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Violence prevention program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wish foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**12. Does your council support organizations geared towards assisting our Indigenous Peoples?**

- Yes
- No

**13. Are you/have you become more familiar with restorative justice programs and prison ministry?\***

- Yes
- No

**14. In what ways have you promoted the Catholic Near East Welfare Association?\***

- Distributing pamphlets
- I haven't.
- Speaking at meetings

**15. Have council members attended a pre-arranged workshop or seminar on topics related to social and economic justice?\***

- Yes
- No

**16. In June, I shared information on the Canada Poverty Reduction Strategy, an initiative of the Dignity for All Campaign. The campaign was requesting individuals and organizations to fill in a form found at [dignityforall.ca/sign-on-to-dignity-for-all](http://dignityforall.ca/sign-on-to-dignity-for-all). Did your council take this opportunity to assist in the consultations?\***

- Yes
- No

## Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

Canada and the League have a long standing tradition of welcoming new citizens

### 17. How did your council celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday?

### 18. Have you become informed about Canada's official immigration and refugee policies so that you can explain them to others?\*

- Yes  No

### 19. How would you rate your personal understanding of the needs of immigrants and refugees in your community in terms of:\*

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Availability of employment services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Availability of English language courses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial assistance for food and rent that is offered	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Countries of origin of immigrants and refugees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Number of immigrant and refugees in the community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 20. If you were asked what the difference is between a temporary foreign worker, immigrant and refugee, would you be able to explain it?\*

- Yes  No

### 21. Did you or your council members:\*

	Yes	No
Participate in citizenship ceremonies?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participate in Remembrance Day services?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support the Royal Canadian Legion's poppy campaign?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wear red on Friday in support of Canadian troops?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 22. At the 96th annual national convention, delegates adopted Resolution 2016.01 Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status, An Amendment to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act. Has your council implemented the action plan?\*

Yes No

- |  |                          |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Write letters to the prime minister, minister of immigration and your member of parliament | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Strengthen [or establish] parish based outreach programs for foreign workers               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Invite a guest speaker to a meeting  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Monitor the government's response to the request   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace

The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace is Canada's official Catholic overseas development organization, launched by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

### 23. As the community life standing committee chairperson, have you promoted:\*

- |  | Yes                   | No                    |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| CCODP's education and fall action campaign?                                      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Individual and council participation in the League's 1% national voluntary fund? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| The 50 <sup>th</sup> Share Lent Campaign, "Women at the Heart of Change"?        | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

## Developing Countries

To help a family become economically independent is to help a community become economically independent.

### 24. On March 13, 2017, National President Margaret Ann Jacobs wrote to the prime minister on our behalf to express concern about the 650 million taxpayer dollars provided by the federal government to support sexual and reproductive health programs, including abortion, to developing countries.\*

- |  | Yes                   | No                    |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Were you made aware of this letter?                                | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Was the letter read at a general meeting or circulated to members? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Did your council also write to express concern?                    | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

### 25. As chairperson, have you:\*

- |  | Yes                   | Somewhat              | No                    |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Become aware of conditions of child labour in developing countries and urge independent study of codes of conduct? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

- |  |                       |                       |                       |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Become aware of the implications of trade laws and practices in the global economy?  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Become knowledgeable through study about the economic difficulties of developing countries?                                | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Criticized structures that put profits before people and pressure governments to change these structures?                  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Invited guest speakers from developing nations, or other people who have visited or lived in these countries, to meetings? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

**26. Has your council supported any of the following organizations that focus solely on developing countries?**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buy-A-Net Malaria Prevention Group     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mustard Seed Project               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canadian Food for Children             | <input type="checkbox"/> Operation Christmas Child          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Near East Welfare Association | <input type="checkbox"/> Operation Eyesight International   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chalice                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Pennies for the Poor               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doctors Without Borders                | <input type="checkbox"/> Samaritans Purse                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat for Humanity                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Save a Family Plan                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holy Childhood Association             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Children Around the World |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canadian Red Cross                     | <input type="checkbox"/> World Vision                       |

## Summary and Final Thoughts

**27. Is there anything else you would like to share about your council's community life activities?**