

Community Life Annual Survey - 2019

ID. Council Code (e.g. VC-020)
name

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 Apostolate of the Laity*)

Social justic and dignity is a human right that should be available to all His people. The community life standing committe 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.

Marie C. Rackley, National Chairperson of Community Life

About You

Q1

Parish Council Name:

Q2

Parish Council Registered Town:

Q3

Parish Council ID number:

Q4

Reporting to:

Q5

What is your name?

Q6 Is this position filled or vacant?

☐ Filled

☐ Vacant

Q7 If filled, were you elected or appointed as a standing committee chairperson?

☐ Elected

☐ Appointed

Leadership Profile

As the implementation committee begins its research into leadership in the League, your input into the profile of leadership is important. We invite you to answer the following three questions. (Note: Responses are voluntary.)

Q8 How long have you been a member?

☐ Less than 5 years

☐ 6-10 years

☐ 11-15 years

☐ 16-20 years

☐ 21-25 years

☐ more than 25 years

Q9 Have you held this position previously?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q10 What is your age?

☐ under 18

☐ 18-24

☐ 25-34

☐ 35-44

☐ 45-54

☐ 55-64

☐ 65-74

☐ 75-84

☐ 85+

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.

Q11 Are you familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights? Please skip this question if the position is vacant.

☐ yes

☐ no

Q12 What minority groups has your council supported, and in what ways?

	had a guest speaker	has 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"/>

Q13 As chairperson, have you:

	yes	no
become aware of the struggles of Indigenous women	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
invited Indigenous women to be guest speakers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
had Indigenous women lead workshops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
discussed bBill C-262 <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q14 As chairperson have you become aware of the laws and what is being done in the fight against human trafficking?

☐ yes ☐ no

Q15 If yes, have you shared this information with your council members?

☐ yes ☐ no

Q16 Have you discussed the topic introduced in "Dignity and Rights of Persons: Human Trafficking in Canada", an article published in the Fall 2019 edition of *The Canadian League* magazine? Give details.

Q17 Have you continued to review and monitor Resolution 2017.01 Full Implementation of the Supreme Court Decision in *R. v. Gladue* for Indigenous Defendants?

- ☐ We 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.
- ☐ We monitored the federal government's response to the request.
- ☐ We invited an Indigenous person who has come in contact with the correctional system to share his/her story.
- ☐ Our emphasis was on other topics this year.

Q18 Resolution 2018.01 Attestation Requirement on Canada Summer Jobs Program was adopted at the 98th annual national convention. Although there was a change in the 2019 application for the Program, the Canadian Council of Christian Charities reported that several of their members were refused funding. Legal action is now being taken. Organizations and church groups that depend on the federal grant were unable to fulfill their goals and objectives. What steps have you taken?

- ☐ We wrote letters to the federal government expressing our view on the Canada Summer Jobs Program.
- ☐ We wrote letters to our local provincial elected representative.
- ☐ We requested a copy of the 2020 application (out in late December) to review the changes.
- ☐ Our emphasis was on other topics this year.

Social and Economic Justice

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

Q19 In the Spring 2019 edition of *The Canadian League* magazine, an article appeared entitled "Anglicans and Catholics Together for the Love of the Community". A common declaration was signed by Pope Francis and Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby to work together on collaborative missions. Did your council discuss this article to see if a program could begin in your area?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q20 KAIROS is an international organization with partners in Canada. Its Indigenous Rights Circle is working to understand how to might work better with, rather than for, Indigenous, Inuit and Metis peoples. Have you discussed the works of KAIROS?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q21 Have you invited a guest speaker on any topic related to social and economic justice to your council meetings?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q22 Have you encouraged members to participate in the work of organizations caring for those in need?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q23 What types of local organizations does your council support, and how? Please do not provide the names of the organizations. Also, exclude overseas initiatives and pro-life organizations. These are reported elsewhere.

financial support

prayerful support

volunteer support

affordable housing initiatives

☐☐☐

anti-poverty foundation or campaign

☐☐☐

before, during or afterschool programs

☐☐☐

clothing drives

☐☐☐

drop-in centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
emergency shelters for homeless	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
emergency shelters 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 banks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
food hampers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
resource centres for single parents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
restorative justice programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
soup kitchens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
violence prevention programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
wish foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q24 Does your council support organizations geared towards assisting Indigenous peoples?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q25 Did your council celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21, 2019?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q26 If yes, how did you celebrate this event?

Q27 Are you familiar with restorative justice programs and prison ministry?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q28 In what ways have you promoted the Catholic Near East Welfare Association?

☐ distributed pamphlets

☐ My emphasis was on other topics this year.

☐ spoke at meetings

Q29 Since 2012, the League has had a financial partnership with the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. Has your council made a donation in 2019?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q30 Have members attended a pre-arranged workshop or seminar on topics related to social and economic justice?

☐ yes

☐ no

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

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

Q31 Have you become informed about Canada's official immigration and refugee policies so that you can explain them to others?

☐ yes

☐ no

Q32 How would you rate your personal understanding of the needs of immigrants and refugees in your community in terms of: (Please skip this question if the position is vacant.)

	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"/>

Q33 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

Q34 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 poppy campaign?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
wear red on Friday in support of Canadian troops?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

It is very important to remember Canadian troops who fight for the freedom of all peoples in all nations. Start wearing red on Fridays to support the troops.

Q35 Have you continued to review and monitor Resolution 2016.01 Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status, An Amendments to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act? In what ways?

	yes	no
Wrote letters to the prime minister, minister of immigration and your member of parliament.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Strengthened or established parish based outreach programs for foreign workers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Invited a guest speaker to a meeting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Monitored the government's response to the request.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace

The CCODP is Canada's official Catholic overseas development organization, launched by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Due to a review that is currently being done with programs that are related to CCODP, we are unable to fulfill our commitment to the 1% Program at this time.

Developing Countries

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

Q36 As chairperson, have you:

	yes	somewhat	no
become aware of conditions of child labour in developing countries and urged 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"/>

Q37 Canadian Food for Children, a nationally registered charity, was started in 1985 with a mission to feed the poor in developing countries. Donations reach the poorest of the poor. Has your council taken part in any projects or made donations?

☐ yes ☐ no

- Q38 Has your council supported any of the following organizations that focus solely on developing countries?
- ☐ Buy-A-Net Malaria Prevention Group
 - ☐ Chalice
 - ☐ Doctors Without Borders
 - ☐ Habitat for Humanity
 - ☐ Holy Childhood Association
 - ☐ Canadian Red Cross
 - ☐ Mustard Seed Project
 - ☐ Operation Christmas Child
 - ☐ Operation Eyesight International
 - ☐ Pennies for the Poor
 - ☐ Samaritans Purse
 - ☐ Save a Family Plan
 - ☐ Sleeping Children Around the World
 - ☐ World Vision

Summary and Final Thoughts

- Q39 Is there anything else you would like to share about your council's community life activities?

Q40 Does your council have a community success story that you would like to share with other councils? Please describe.

Q41 What is your biggest challenge with community life and do you have plans to address it?

Q42 Have you done any new projects, workshops or ideas that you would like to share?

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. Your council's initiatives will be added to the strong voice of Catholic women across Canada.

Before pressing the "submit" button, please "print" the survey responses for your records.

To "print", ensure that pop-ups are enabled. If you are unsure how to enable pop-ups, please contact Ingrid at national office for assistance.

WARNING: Once "submit" has been pressed, the "print" function is no longer available.