

Community Life Annual Survey - 2020

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 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.

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+

The Catholic Women's League of Canada has experienced a completely different year for 2020 due to COVID-19. This has changed the way the League conducted weekly council meetings. Members have not experienced the sisterhood of exchanging reports etc. at diocesan or provincial conventions and the cancellation of the 100th anniversary national convention in Montreal. This year the community life annual report survey will be different.

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"/>
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 Public Safety Canada released the 2018 Human Trafficking Consultation Report on January 14, 2020 *Building a Safe and Resilient Canada*. Did your council have the opportunity to read and review this report? Please give details.

Q17 The Holy Father declared February 8, 2020 as International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking. Did you council take part? Give details.

Q18 The Canada Summer Job (CSJ) 2020 applications were available from January 1 to February 29, 2020. Due to Covid-19 the CSJ were changed due to the disruption of programs with the government. CSJ were released mid-May and were given a start date of June with an extension to October 2020. Members must continue to monitor the wording of these applications which are to support all organizations.

- 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 spoke to organizations and asked if the CSJ applications were acceptable for 2020 to their organization(s).

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 Due to Covid-19 how did your council help and support Social and Economic Justice? Give details.

Q20 Was this different than in previous years?

- yes no

Q21 Where you able to assist those in need with supplies, etc?

- 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	<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 programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
clothing drives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 Due to Covid-19 was it possible for your council to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21, 2020?

yes

no

Q26 If yes, how did you celebrate this event?

Q27 **Orange Shirt Day:** Did you wear orange on September 30th to promote awareness in Canada about the residential school system and the impact it had on indigenous communities for over a century, an impact recognized as cultural genocide?

yes

no

Q28 Due to COVID-19 was your council able to participate in the prison ministry or with the restorative justice program? Please explain.

Q29 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

Q30 To celebrate the second year of the national theme *Care of our Common Home* it was approved by the national executive that councils would work with CNEWA on raising fund for one of its projects. Pieta Bhavan, India was chosen, and councils donated funds to repair the well cover which was destroyed by a major storm. The cost was \$7,500. Did your council participate in this project?

yes

no

Q31 Did your council support the second project of CNEWA which was to fund the school children of Adigrat Diocese in Ethiopia with food for the children?

yes

no

Q32 The CWL Day of Prayer for Christian sisters and brothers in the Holy Land and Middle East is celebrated each year on September 21st, the World Day of Peace. Did your council take part? If so, please give details.

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

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

Q33 Have you become informed about Canada's official immigration and refugee policies so that you can explain them to others?

yes

no

Q34 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"/>				
availability of English language courses	<input type="radio"/>				
financial assistance for food and rent that is offered	<input type="radio"/>				
countries of origin of immigrants and refugees	<input type="radio"/>				
number of immigrant and refugees in the community	<input type="radio"/>				

Q35 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

Q36 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.

Q37 Did you and your council read the article in Winter 2020 edition of *The Canadian League* about Fr. Charles Okechukwu Udeh being called from Nigeria to New Brunswick, Canada to serve the Lord?

yes no

Q38 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"/>

Monitored the government's response to the request.



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 (CCCCB).

Q39 Did your council take part in the annual 1% Program?

yes

no

Developing Countries

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

Q40 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"/>

Q41 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

Q42 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

Q43 Is there anything else you would like to share about your council during Covid-19?

Q44 Does your council have a community success story that you would like to share with other councils? Please describe.

Q45 What is your biggest challenge with community life and do you have plans to address it?

Q46 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 Marion at national office for assistance.

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