

Community Life Communiqué #2 - March 2019

To: CWL Parish Community Life Chairpersons

From: Linda Maddaford, Regina Diocesan CWL Community Life Chairperson

This Convener-ship focuses on *Dignity & Rights of Persons, Social and Economic Justice, Refugees, Immigration & Citizenship, CCO Development & Peace, Developing Countries*

Dignity & Rights of Persons: I encourage you to read or re-read the Universal Declaration of Human Rights document. This eight page document contains 30 Articles or statements detailing rights we are universally entitled to. Please consider studying and discussing one or two of these articles at your council meetings as part of your monthly Community Life convener's report. A pdf copy is available for download directly from the United Nations website at: www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/index.html.

On a provincial level our Premier has taken an important stride. In January Premier Scott Moe apologized to the survivors of the Saskatchewan Sixties Scoop. A full report of the apology may be found at: <https://globalnews.ca/news/4822882/saskatchewan-premier-scott-moe-apologizes-to-60s-scoop-survivors/>

Social & Economic Justice: The National CWL 100 Year Centennial Committee has launched a special national project called H.U.G. Packages for 2019. H.U.G stands for Helping, Understanding, Giving. The goal of this project is to assemble and distribute 2,109 H.U.G. Packages to local women's shelters. All councils are encouraged to fill a small bag, purse or tote with toiletries, clothing items, socks, slippers, baby or children's items, and a gift card or two for a local grocery or general store. Women and children seeking refuge often arrive with only the clothing on their backs. A H.U.G. Package from a local council would provide them with immediate creature comforts and the means to purchase necessary items in a time of distress.

If you would like a copy of the H.U.G memo with more details please send me an email at lmaddaford@live.ca or contact the national office at info@cwl.ca, and ask for the Centennial H.U.G Project memo.

New CWL National Theme – Care for our Common Home. The new theme logo and PowerPoint have been posted to the national website. More information arrived in the winter edition of the League magazine. This theme resonates with me as it follows in the footsteps of the theme we are finishing and speaks to the concerns of Community Life. There is a need for study, awareness and immediate action to reduce the impact of human endeavors on the climate. The excerpts below are direct quotes from the Care for our Common Home PowerPoint:

“Strategies for a solution (to environmental and social crises) demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature.”

“The cry of the earth and the cry of the poor are one and the same.”

World Peace Initiative. In December 2018 the CCCB (Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops) representing all 26 denominations of The Canadian Council of Churches wrote a joint letter to the Prime Minister of Canada urging that the Government of Canada support the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The CCCB denounces the use and proliferation of nuclear weapons stating “Nuclear arsenals cannot defend against attack nor protect humanity or any part of God’s Creation. “

A full copy of this letter may be found on the CCCB website: <http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/>. I strongly encourage you to write to the Prime Minister and to the leaders and members of Parliament cc’d at the bottom of their letter. The address is: House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1A 0A6. Mail may be sent postage-free to any Member of Parliament. To write to the Prime Minister, address your correspondence to: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, Office of the Prime Minister, 80 Wellington Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

With God’s help may our actions today bring light to those around us. I pray for peace, dignity and justice for all.

For God and For Canada.