

Update

Christian Life Communities Canada

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Presidents' Letter – May 2000

Greetings to CLC Canada in this beautiful spring-time season of the Resurrection.

Highlights of General Council Meeting April 7-9, 00.

At our recent meeting the Regional Reps inspired us with their enthusiastic reporting of action across Canada: Council met over a very full weekend and a lot of ongoing business, started last September is beginning to show fruit:

New Representatives

Youth: Matthew Couture - 2nd Year student at University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.

- Will be remembered as Delegate at Winnipeg Assembly
- Reported in UPDATE (Oct.99) re Youth Action –Assembly Meal
- Involved in a Native project
- Enthusiastically accepts this role as Youth Representative for Canada. To support existing Youth communities in Winnipeg and Regina and to encourage and promote Youth CLC across Canada.
- Please pray for the International Youth World Days in Rome, August 14-16.
- Call to adult communities to encourage Youth CLCs – let's keep Matthew busy.

Ex Officio Councillor Geoff Bresch

- Long-time member Family Life CLC, Winnipeg
- One of our "Music Makers" at the Winnipeg Assembly
- Boating enthusiast
- Brings much needed Computer expertise to General Council so that the National Office be more efficient to facilitate better communication across our vast country
- First suggestion from Geoff is the need for email addresses from every CLC'er if possible – see more of this below.

Directory:

Much work done here by Regional Reps and Julie Dwyer-Young, National Community Coordinator.

To be used only by General Councillors for CLC business

Use of email will save money on Update distribution (and be more efficient for National Office to contact local communities. (This shorter version of Update is an example of cost efficiency in lieu of a regular Update mailing.)

Please contact Julie with any changes in personal information (and new email addresses)

Budget

- For year 2000 developed and accepted.
- Annual donation request Budget included.

Working Groups:

Three groups have been working since last General Council

Finance

- Based on recommendations from delegates at Winnipeg Assembly (**\$25.00, per member, yearly**) developed dues structure for CLC Canada which the delegates felt is just and enables CLC Canada to meet its national expenses – office expenses, Update costs (2 mailings), General Council meetings (transportation, twice yearly), promotion of adult and youth CLC:
- Developed formula for payment of due to World Secretariat (15% of annual \$25.00/member)
- Which fulfils Canada's responsibility to the World CLC to enable them to promote and maintain World CLC and to assist Third World countries.
- Financial Report accepted by General Council.

Survey from World Secretariat

- Contact made with all groups across Canada: Thanks for your speedy response.
- Requested for World Ex Co meeting in February.
- Strengths of Canadian CLC – Formation materials, use of Ignatian tools.
- Weaknesses – Communication across our vast country. Low profile in larger Church, Membership dips in 18-35 year old group – strong in older and younger people.
- Only 30% of Membership actually support National CLC – a few generous donors carry CLC.

Standard Operating Procedures For General Councillors

- Ongoing revision to facilitate the smooth operation of the National community.

World CLC Day:

- Reps reported on Wave of Prayer: some examples of action in regions:
- Atlantic: PEI protested closing of downtown Co-op store which serves needs of elder, low-income residents. Concern re Government's redirection of Child Tax Benefit.
- Central: Gatherings in Thunder Bay, Toronto, K.W. – where members met with Native Leader to discuss Fishing rights, and worked in local Soup Kitchen.
- Prairies: Gathering in Regina – where focus was Youth outreach
- Rockies: Gathering with Eucharist and information sharing on Third World outreach.

Jesuit/CLC Collaboration:

Local communities have been more active in collaborating with Jesuits on CLC/Jesuit projects.

Welcome to New Central Rep. Carol McKerral

- General Council ratified the appointment of a new Rep for Central Region – the first person to fill this position from Northern Ontario
 - Carol McKerral of *Friends of Galilee CLC*, Thunder Bay
 - Recently retired teacher
 - Trained in Chaplaincy and Senior Adult Ministries
- Welcome Aboard, Carol!

Farewell to long-serving members of Council

At our Saturday evening Jollification we bid farewell to Shirley & Bob Gatchene, past presidents, Susan Tomenson of Central region and Beulah Costain of Atlantic. Our very own Clown, Connie Shaw, and our Ecclesial Assistant helped to make a sad occasion into a joyful event.

News from the Presidents

(“Have sleeping bags will travel”)

- We'll be attending the Atlantic Assembly May 26-28 in P.E.I. (travelling by car enables presidents to meet CLCers en route and be billeted by them.)
- We'll take the opportunity while on vacation to meet with US CLCers in Detroit and the newly formed national community in Scotland.
- Central region, get ready for your community visit with the presidents!
- We'll continue liaison with US CLC, CVX Canada, and the Vietnamese Companions of Jesus re the 2002 International Conference.
- Congratulations to Central Region re Jubilee 2000 Pilgrimage, Midland, ON.

**Please keep us informed of Jubilee 2000 events in your area for future
UPDATES.**

GRATEFUL THANKS

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- Belated but sincere thanks to all communities who so creatively raised funds to send delegates to the National Assembly in June 99.
- To the community who was unable to send a delegate but so generously contributed the \$500 to the Travel Fund.
- To the General Councillor who donated airmiles for the flight to Winnipeg.
- For the donation of airmiles for presidents to attend US Assembly in July.
- To all those members in the Kitchener-Waterloo area who so generously open their homes twice a year to General Councillors from across Canada
- To those volunteers from Toronto who provide transportation to and from the airport for General Council meetings.
- To all those who so generously donate time and money to CLC Canada



† CLC is a way of life †

**Does your Community have
a Guide?**

Recommendation from National
Assembly in Winnipeg that ...

*Each CLC community in
Canada should have a Guide
by year end 2000.*