



Christian Life  
Community  
Canada

Vision Statement,  
Mission Statement,  
Goals and Deliverables  
for the Communications  
Working Group

Latest Update: September 2020

During the Summer of 2020, the CLC Canada Communications Working Group recognized a need to step back from the required daily tasks assigned to it and look at its own mission. Members across Canada met bi-weekly by videoconference to discern and lay out the documents hereby presented. We rejoice in the presence of the Holy Spirit during this process and in these documents, collaboratively written by the whole Working Group as a single voice. We pray these four documents will guide and inspire members of the Working Group (present and future).

AMDG

The National Communications Working Group - September 2020

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## Vision Statement for the CLC National Communications Working Group

With the Blessings of God and the work of the Holy Spirit, we discern the signs of the times. Communication is a sacred gift, fundamental to all creation. Our deepest desire is to do the will of the living God for the greater good. Grounded in the Ignatian tradition of Christian Life Community Canada, we aim to inspire and encourage a sense of our national body while planting seeds for the future and preserving our history.

## Mission Statement for the CLC National Communications Working Group

The Christian Life Community (CLC) National Communications Working Group is composed of members from across different regions who volunteer their gifts for the documentation and support of the life of our national body.

The continuing evolution of CLC as a national community calls forward a more intentional communication effort. We currently coordinate and maintain our three platforms: newsletter and mailing list, social media presence, and website. Using these platforms, we provide access to regional and national news, events and formation materials.

Our core mission is to discern, facilitate and provide appropriate communication media that enhances, supports, and assists communities. To achieve this, we collaborate with all CLC Canada members.

We embrace the communication technologies available to us and are grateful for these gifts freely given by God.

## Our Goals

Using the most recent and relevant communication technologies, we work to

### 1. Support the life of our individual communities

- By providing useful materials related to the Spiritual Exercises, formation, discernment, and mission, so as to build and connect the body of CLC together in spirit.

### 2. Encourage others to explore CLC as a way of life.

- By providing information about the purpose and Ignatian gifts of CLC communities,
- By providing information about CLC Canada's national priorities through the overarching themes,
- By providing reflections on the gifts we have received (the spiritual inheritance), so that others can discern their call to community.

### 3. Be an instrument of unity

- by collaborating with CLC Canada's leadership to meet national communication needs and
- by providing documents from national and world sources which support an awareness of CLC's graced history, Ignatian tradition and evolving organizational structures.

## CLC Communications Working Group Deliverables

We are aware that these deliverables will continue to evolve. We intend to evaluate them on an ongoing basis (at least once a year) and revise them when needed.

Goals	Newsletter	Website	Facebook	Virtual Meetings and Webinars
<b>Support the Life of our individual and communities</b>				
Provide members with means for social connection and CLC meetings			✓	✓
Provide access to CLC formation materials to assist members' spiritual growth, sharing, and reflection	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provide additional resources and links for members in deepening their faith and spiritual journey.	✓	✓	✓	
Promote and provide news about National and Regional Events	✓	✓	✓	
Assist members in using new technologies as needed		✓		✓
Publish 'Update' Newsletter 4 times per year with extra bulletins as needed	✓			
<b>Encourage others to explore CLC as a way of life</b>				
Provide open access to Ignatian resources		✓	✓	✓
Provide an introduction to the CLC way of life		✓	✓	

Provide a contact point for non-members (Needs attention to improve the current system)	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Be an instrument of unity</b>				
Differentiate access to information directed to leadership, members, and general public.		✓	✓	✓
Archive CLC Canada leadership materials and graced history		✓		
Connect with CLC World Family and Ignatian Family		✓	✓	
We will have one representative from our WG on the National Implementation WG	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Others</b>				
Help CLC Canada to discern technical and communication choices	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain up-to-date contact information to our members.	✓	✓		





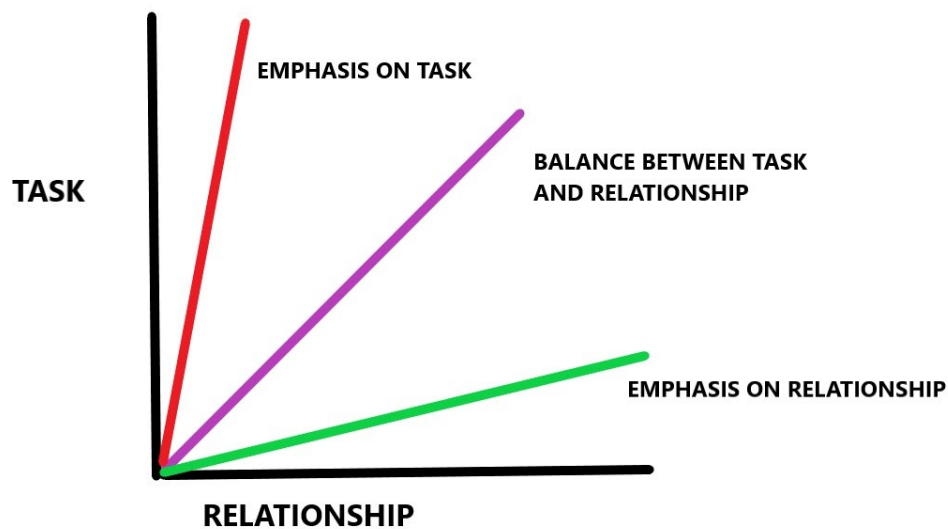
## The Task – Relationship Grid

As a Working Group, we must concentrate on our tasks. However, our tasks are better done when we can grow in relationship with one another by sharing our interior life and our spiritual journey. Below is a simple graph of the importance that groups place on the group's tasks and the relationships within the group.

The facilitator will encourage our relationships in Christ by including the following or similar processes during our meetings:

1. A round of "How do I come to this meeting",
2. A round on sharing our interior lives in the light of a scripture reading,
3. Several pauses to reflect on the movements of our spirits as we work through our tasks,
4. A round at the end, sharing our awarenesses of the meeting.

The result of these processes is a growing of our relationships in Christ and with each other.



## The Doubts Associated with the Life, Death, and Resurrection Cycle

We have followed the Life, Death, And Resurrection Cycle Chart from the Leaders' Manual to discern our Vision, Mission, Goals and Deliverables as a Working Group. These documents form the empowerment ("uphill") part of the chart, but we recognize that during the implementation of these documents, doubts may arise at different levels, causing disempowerment (the "downhill" part of the chart).

We have received guidance from ISECP and others, for discerning and addressing several kinds of doubt that inevitably arise in any community. We share part of their wisdom in this document. This awareness helps us navigate, over time, the "troubled waters" of disempowerment that may arise. We are reminded of St. Ignatius' invitation in the exercises to, during consolation, take strength for the desolation that may come after (SE [323]).

There are 5 kinds of doubt that arise in groups, each one related to a step in the "Power Generating" uphill of the LDR. Below is some simple guidance to the doubts as they apply to the Communications Working Group. The Leaders Manual has a broader and more in depth description of each level of doubt.

### SUSPENDED DOUBT

**WHAT IS IT?** Doubt about a **specific action concerned with implementing specific deliverable**. An example could be: "Are we spending too much effort right now on providing archived materials for CLC leadership?"

### OPERATIONAL DOUBT

**WHAT IS IT?** Doubt about the **way things are done**, with regards to deliverables, and also, how our ZOOM meetings are structured.

**RESOLUTION:** When either of these two doubts arise, go back to the relevant deliverables, modifying them to resolve the doubt.

These doubts may also arise during working group meetings, and we can go back to the process of our meetings to resolve them.

### IDEOLOGICAL DOUBT

**WHAT IS IT?** Doubt about the deliverables in general. An example might be: "The deliverables we have no longer meet the needs of CLC and I don't want to work with them anymore."

**RESOLUTION:** Drop back to the goals and work from them to restate the deliverables.

### ETHICAL DOUBT

**WHAT IS IT?** Doubt about one or more of our goals. An example might be: "We argue about how to meet our three goals. Two of them are useless, they need revision."

**RESOLUTION:** Go back to our vision and mission statement and consider the goals in this light in order to revise them.

**ABSOLUTE DOUBT**

**WHAT IS IT?** Fundamental doubt about the working group's vision and mission statement. "Let me out of here, I no longer believe our vision and mission statements."

**RESOLUTION:** Alas, there may be no resolution of absolute doubt. However, there is a way to let a colleague with fundamental doubt leave the WG. It is a ritual of missioning the person to go with the blessing of Christ and in gratitude for what they have contributed to the WG.