

The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council

COMMUNITY LIFE ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Provincial Chairperson: Yvette F.

Diocesan Chairpersons:

Calgary	Vacant - Suzanne S. reported
Edmonton	Lynne C.
Grouard-McLennan	Denise K.
Mackenzie-Fort Smith	Cora B.
St. Paul	Florence Q.

DIGNITY AND RIGHTS OF PERSONS

Several Councils reported studies for women's rights, handicap rights, native issues and elder abuse. All councils were busy writing letters to MPs and MLAs on Bill C22 Child Protection, C510 Roxanne's Law, C384 Euthanasia and C268 Human Trafficking. Letters were also written to stop Government funding of International Planned Parenthood. There was support of Magdalene House Society: a Safe House. Some councils reported supporting "Inn from the Cold" for homeless people. Many others helped with drop-in centres, feeding the hungry, working at Meals on Wheels, St. Vincent de Paul Society and donations to the food bank. Members participated in the walk for "Take Back the Night." They lit candles for women who were massacred in Montreal. Some volunteered for the Drug Strategy group. Councils viewed the video "Not for Sale" about human trafficking.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Councils reported sending Christmas Cards to Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan, donating to Pennies for the Poor, support of Rita Rose Montour initiative, support of CHALICE, Haiti relief, Prison Ministry, meals for "Habitat for Humanity" build, Christmas bags for Spady Centre for homeless, and organized a "Toast Program" at school for children at school. Councils participated in helping to find employment for those in need in the community, gave socks for the Salvation Army and homeless, coats for kids, EDHO society and lay counseling, Santa's Elves, Friends for World Development, soup kitchen and Parent Link.

IMMIGRATION

Councils reported inviting immigrants to join CWL, fostering advocacy to foreign female workers and support to the Parish Refugee Program. Councils welcomed ladies from Mexico and India. They invited immigrants to parish gatherings and meetings and provided clothing when needed.

CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Councils supported the 1% Program for Development & Peace at meetings. Monies are being contributed for projects for Haiti, Guatemala, Canadian missions, Chile, First Nation missions, OMI missions, floods in India, ESK-OMI mission, foster children, Sister and school in Peru, Ivory Coast, Nicaragua, Dr. Comeau/Better World, MaterCare, Sae-A-Family Plan, Burundi, Salesian mission in Mongolia. A donation was made to Bishop Croteau's foundation. Members have purchased Fair Trade chocolate and coffee to support developing countries.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES/MISSIONARY SUPPORT

Councils supported priest missions in India & Philippines, educated members about injustices and needs through newsletters, pay for their WUCWO country and leader, and have guests from Mexico, India and Philippines visit councils. A council donated to a former priest now residing in India for flood relief and other causes.

ENVIRONMENT

Parishes encouraged recycling and made fabric grocery bags.

OTHER

Members support school breakfast and lunch programs, volunteer time and money to food banks, food drives, Thanksgiving Dinners for families, organize and serve a hunger supper, help with "kids are worth it" school nourishment program, and hold a fundraiser to help a family in need. Many councils have work bees to make quilts, knit toques, shawls, mitts and scarves to donate. Some have work bees also to make pies, perogies and baking for their bazaars.

Much work is done by a group of dedicated CWL members for the good of all Peoples.
Thank you to all ladies who do the work and to those who report it.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvette F.
Community Life