

COMMUNITY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE
Communiqué #2 (Sept22/15)

The federal election is fast approaching. What are we doing to learn what our political candidates think of the many issues and concerns surrounding “Community Life”? What is the plan of the political candidates to work to better the issues and concerns affecting Canada and the world?

“One needs to engage in an outgoing dialogue on major social issues with political leaders. We are called to exercise our vote. It is a right and responsibility. We are reminded that we are called to be responsible for one another, especially for the most vulnerable members of our society.”

(Excerpt from the 2015 Federal Election Guide which was issued in August 2015 by the Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace, *Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops*)

The following are examples of how Catholic moral and social teaching is to be applied. They do not constitute a political platform but a magnifying glass by which to analyze and evaluate public policies and programs.

- 1) Respect for life and human dignity, from conception to natural death
- 2) Building a more just society
- 3) The person and the family
- 4) Canada in the world: providing leadership for justice and peace
- 5) A healthy country in a healthy environment

What do the political parties say about these issues? What positions are the candidates taking?

See the website of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops <www.cccb.ca> for the complete Federal Election Guide.
<<http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/media-room/4243-guide-for-2015-federal-election>>

Development and Peace encourages us to make sure that international development and climate change are election issues. Communities in the Global South are being negatively affected by certain issues and policies that affect climate change. You are encouraged to access the website of Development and Peace <www.devp.org> for an excellent Electoral Guide, providing points for discussion with political candidates.

Let us make our voices be heard. Be well-prepared to vote October 19, 2015.

CCCB Federal Election Guide

http://www.cccb.ca/site/images/stories/pdf/2015_Federal_Election_Guide_EN.pdf

Development & Peace Election Guide

<http://www.devp.org/en/articles/lets-make-sure-international-development-and-climate-change-are-election-issues>

Canadian Council of Churches Guide

<http://www.councilofchurches.ca/social-justice/election-2015>