

**Nova Scotia Provincial Council**  
**Catholic Women's League of Canada**  
**Community Life Standing Committee**  
**Fall 2011 Communiqué**

**To:** Community Life Standing Committee Chairpersons

**From:** Joan B., Provincial Community Life Chairperson

**Date:** November 15, 2011

*Let us touch the dying, the poor, the lonely and the unwanted according to the graces we have received and let us not be ashamed or slow to do the humble work. (Mother Teresa)*

Greetings to you as we draw near to Advent and Christmas. With Advent comes change with the Mass settings and responses according to the revised translation of the Roman Missal. You have probably noted the anticipation within the Church in the last several months.

With this communiqué, I am including a number initiatives and resources for your review regarding Community Life and please feel free to share with your Parish Councils. If at all possible, you may forward this communiqué by email to your counterparts at the Parish level. A pdf format will also be available on the Nova Scotia CWL website under the heading of Communiqués then 'Community Life'. Please promote this feature to your councils as well.

**Resolutions** in the area of Community Life are listed on the [National CWL website](#). The link will direct you to all resolutions approved by our National Council. Please encourage our Parish Councils to respond to the specific action plans by referring to the [personal letter writing guide](#), provide presentations at meetings or personal follow-up. A link to the personal letter writing guide is highlighted. [Resolution 2011.02 Children of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women](#) is attached by highlighted link as well. The requested members' action plans are ways to support our resolutions through member awareness.

**Development and Peace** are embarking on a five year program to promote ecological justice. This being the first year of the program entitled [Together, We Hold the Future in Our Hands](#) we are being asked to create awareness involving mining, water and land issues. The 2011 campaign is focused on [climate and environmental justice](#). Parish councils may be interested in appointing someone to serve as a Development and Peace liaison and hold an information session at a future monthly meeting or perhaps a separate event.

The **trafficking of women** continues to be a focus of the RCMP in Canada. The RCMP have released a [video "Human Trafficking is a Crime"](#). According to the RCMP website and since December 2010 there were approximately 34 domestic cases and two international cases

before the courts where human trafficking charges have been laid. There have been 7 human trafficking convictions under S. 279.01 of the Criminal Code of Canada. Convictions were noted in Ontario and Quebec. Workshops in human trafficking awareness/session have been provided to more than 34,000 people across Canada. Human trafficking victims have been found in cities and towns across Canada. Did you know that some victims of human trafficking are between the ages of 14 and 25, and Nova Scotia has been identified as an area of recruitment? (Source: [www.cacp.ca](http://www.cacp.ca) – [Presentation at National Conference – Moving Forward Together: An Integrated Approach to Human Trafficking – March 29, 30, 31, 2011 – Edmonton, Alberta](#))

The [Dignity for All](#) anti-poverty campaign continues to focus on a poverty free Canada. There are many [resources](#) available on line to create awareness and also includes a petition for presentation by your local Member of Parliament to bring to the Federal Government when second reading on [Bill C-233](#) takes place. The introduction and first reading was in June 2011. You may also be interested in a publication by Citizens for Public Justice publication, “[Living Justice: A Gospel Response to Poverty](#)”. I will be ordering a copy of this publication for review and will share some of its contents with you in a future communique.

Lastly, Kraft Canada is hoping to help families through donations to Food Banks in its [Kraft Assists program](#). Two food banks within Nova Scotia have been identified, Antigonish Food Bank in Antigonish and Rainbow Food Bank in Sheet Harbour. The goal is \$50,000. A further donation of \$10,000.00 will be awarded to the Food Bank with the greatest number of supporters. You can show support each day by clicking the Food Bank of choice as noted above. To date, approximately \$42,000 has been raised. This may be of interest to some members by signing up each day until January 31, 2012.

It will soon be time for **Annual Reports**. Please note that the deadline date for Parish Council reports to Diocesan is January 15, 2012 and Diocesan Reports to Provincial is February 15, 2012. The work of the League is manifested through annual reporting. Let us continue to encourage our parish councils to be part of our success story.

Ways in which the work of our Councils can be publicized include the League Magazine, Be League newsletter and our Provincial website. Please encourage councils to submit photos of interest to both the Provincial and National level. Don't forget to seek permission of those depicted in any photo prior to submission.

In **Citizenship and Immigration**, I refer you to the attached link to an article in the Catholic Register regarding the Government of Canada's [decision to limit refugee sponsorships](#).

In closing, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time. I pray that your efforts for faith and justice are abundantly blessed. I look forward to hearing from you.