



Christian Life Community CANADA

President's Summary Report – CLC Canada August 2013 – October 2013

This executive summary follows from the detailed President's Report Fall 2012 to Fall 2013.

It was August of last year (2012) with St. Ignatius Feast Day just celebrated , Provincial Fr. Jim Webb passed from this life for the one he was awaiting with our Lord Jesus. With honorable memories of Jim's magnanimous generosity, CLC has since picked up the cross. We journey **in support of one another with General Council leadership:** Sharon Baker-secretary, Karen Dysart-Chuba – treasurer, Pat Bremner - Rockies Rep , Mariette Terowski – Prairie, Juidth De Witt – Central, Gerri Tingley –Atlantic, Gilles Michaud – Elder, Mary Balfe and Peter Chouinard co-Presidents, Fr. Charlie Pottie our National Ecclesial Assistant on behalf of CLC Canada. Fr. Peter Bisson s.j. became the new Provincial.

Celebrations!: In November of 2012, **Pam and Yves Daigle of the Atlantic Region were presented with the MAGIS AWARD** in Saint John. Fr. Charlie attended this wonderful celebration, acknowledging lay members of CLC for their outstanding contributions to Ignatian spirituality.

The Constitution revisions by the Constitution Working Group: Peter Chouinard is enduring a most difficult year with his wife Terri's passing. While Peter wisely stepped back from the day to day working of National CLC he heroically continued to coordinate the CWG: Leah Michaud, Gerri Tingley and Betty Poley and input from many of you who were part of offering a community response. Following a lengthy process of GC diligence and final approval it was officially sent, according to the Constitution, to all communities *one year prior* to the National Assembly to be held in Saint John, New Brunswick 2014. **An awareness of the Elder role on the Council became more evident** as the Constitutional Article and SOP's were researched and reflected upon by a number of communities across Canada. **The roles and responsibilities of the Active Elders continues to be envisioned and presented to GC for approval and formally introduced at the national assembly.**

The Website research came to fruition through the GC discernment process coordinated by Gerri Tingley our webmaster with years of prior CLC research to encourage the project. The new website was online as of January 2013 with General Council approval. This ongoing labour of love is supported by Reps in each region and proves to be increasingly the means of communication now and for the future. **The electronic newsletter sent monthly to members and those who wish to subscribe is an amazing addition,** building our national apostolic body while keeping pace with communications that demand current information 'bites' and is actually money saving! **If you are not receiving the e-newsletter, please contact Gerri through the CLC website. www.christianlifecommunity.ca**

When a year of World Assembly comes along there is of course travel expense for delegates to attend. Your World Assembly Preparation Team: Pat Bremner, Mariette Ternowski, Gerri Tingley, Judith De Witt, Leanne Salel Fr. Charlie and Mary Balfe met 3 times to assure a well-rounded preparation for the World Assembly in Lebanon. Leah Michaud offered valuable experience and encouragement to the team. **Together we discerned an image to depict the 5 year journey of CLC Canada since Fatima : a striking kaleidoscope fractal in motion...featured in the e-newsletter.** Banners of the image were ordered for each region to continue to build our Apostolic body as a 'national '. Preparing our "National Profile" documents, sharing world assembly preparation letters and financial documents, e-mail conversations with USA –CLC , visa and travel arrangements were some of the tasks. CLC Canada was about to join the World CLC-CVX in Lebanon at a tenuous time in Middle East history yet a time of celebration of 450 years of lay communities. **We do have a story to tell... Leanne Salel, Fr. Charlie**

and Mary Balfe are preparing a tool to share this good news with your community and region. More than ever you need to hear how the World Body is transforming in tangible family ties, being knit together by the Holy Spirit. Elaine Nightingale made us proud as she led the Assembly as Process Guide.

CLC Manuals continue to be a grace in the journey of CLC members in Canada and in other parts of the World. With increasing costs of postage the **research to put our Manuals on line for purchase is underway.**

Karen Dysart-Chuba has continued the immense task to overhaul our national treasury in the last 2 years to reflect the requirements of Canada's Revenue Agency. Her term is completed as of June 2014. Last year a reminder letter was sent to those members with a 'late' request for annual 'donations to CLC Canada. Of 100 national members receiving the letter 35 responded. Together, let's encourage all our membership to take responsibility with gratitude for the CLC way of life by making a contribution! **A letter will once again be sent this year; donations to CLC Canada are tax-receiptable and conveniently made on line.**

In the Spring of 2013 there was considerable e-mail conversation at national with concern expressed in emerging native issues of poverty and environmental practises destructive to lands and ALL peoples now and in the future. There was distinct need expressed by native leaders for education of all sectors regarding the history and context of our First Nations' peoples. Are we listening?

An historical movement to eventually merge the French and English Jesuit Provinces brought CLC together in Montreal with Jesuit Apostolates *to listen to the context of the missions across Canada and to begin a process of eventual discernment of common mission as one Province* at the invitation of Provincial Fr. Peter Bisson (May 2013). Mary Balfe attended. **September 2013 Fr. Charlie Pottie N.E.A. and Mary Balfe joined the English Directors of Jesuit Apostolates representing the CLC Ignatian lay Apostolate in Guelph.** In preparation each Apostolic Director was to memorize their mission statement and be prepared to advocate succinctly and with passion their apostolic purpose with one another. CLC Canada is invited to once again join Canada's Jesuit Apostolates September 2014 as the Jesuits proceed with a lengthy process of discerning common mission that will impact 30 – 50 years in the future. **As a World Lay Apostolic body standing more securely on its feet CLC Canada is indeed being called to prepare to serve at the frontiers!**

General Council has mandated the National Assembly Coordinator Gerri Tingley and sub-committees to continue to prepare the logistics in **Saint John, May 31 –June 2, 2014**, for our membership (hopefully one from each community across Canada). The Assembly finance sub-committee has informed us **that \$720.00 is the equalized amount that each delegate will pay towards assembly travel and registration, no matter what region you are coming from.** CLC Canada can get ready for down east hospitality! Please pray for all the work done behind the scenes out of the generosity of members like you and me.

As we begin this new season with the Trinity in community may we pray to more clearly envision the frontiers for CLC Canada. Together this year we will conclude the 450 years of celebration of lay communities worldwide. **With grateful thanks GC says good bye to Mariette Ternowski and Judith De Witt and welcomes in turn Kwan Sui Crowe of Thunder Bay for Prairie Region and Magee McGuire for Central Region.**

Peace+ to each of you as we journey to the frontiers together.

**Mary and Peter
for General Council**