



The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Halifax/Yarmouth Diocesan Council
Community Life Communique #3
September 2019

Welcome back to another year of community, camaraderie and an opportunity to use our gifts in service for the good of our country and our world.

One item of pressing urgency is the need to examine the insidious dangers of 'Grooming' in the Sex Trade, which presents long – lasting negative effects on unsuspecting at risk females, caught up in a trapped lifestyle. Many are bullied into participating in the sex trade to provide financial stability for their 'boyfriend', who in reality is their pimp. They allow themselves to become convinced that the sex trade is something it is not, and by participating in it, it would reset the relationship to a 'honeymoon stage'. Unfortunately, the young women learn, to their detriment, that this new relationship that they pursued to flee from either a restrictive routine at home/or an abusive one sadly led to a jump from the frying pan into the fire. It is of the utmost importance to present this information to young women who will benefit from this information in such a way to teach them to be aware & alert them to the danger signs in a relationship, to avoid a very unhappy, possibly dangerous outcome.

Development & Peace – Caritas Canada announces the launch of **FOR OUR COMMON HOME** – a campaign focused on ecological justice, which dovetails nicely with Pope Francis' Laudato Si encyclical. The theme of the first year of the campaign – A future for the Amazon, a future for all – reflects the concerns that have led Pope Francis to convene a Special Assembly of the Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazonian Region for October to investigate a new method of developing the Amazonian face of the Church, and response to inequity in the region. The campaign was kicked off on September 10th with a webinar which reflected upon the spiritual imperative of preserving the Amazon and learning about the plight and fight of Amazonian peoples in present-day Brazil. There will be upcoming workshops in Churches and school in communities across Canada to raise awareness about the ecological significance of the Amazon rainforest, Canadians will be invited to sign a Solidarity Letter addressed to two Brazilian communities. In addition, the signed letters will be leveraged for advocacy. We are urged to write to the Canadian and Brazilian Governments and implicated companies to demand better protection for the forest and its people; better compliance with more stringent regulation and due regard for ecological concerns in the negotiation of trade deals. Inspired by the student climate strikes to preserve the planet for future generations, we will be invited to participate in an online pledge to encourage a lifestyle change through dietary changes, and effecting changes for the sake of the environment.

May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide and bless us in our continued efforts for God and Canada, through the actions of our League.

Respectfully submitted,

Ethel Jack
Community Life Chair