



The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Halifax/Yarmouth Diocesan Council  
Community Life Communique #1  
September 22, 2018

Welcoming the crisp, cooler weather of the fall, we will be invigorated and renewed as we pick up our collective energies and begin to focus upon those issues which are of such import to our communities. This is my premiere communique, as Community Life Chair, and having never served at this level before, I will be grateful for your forbearance as I learn the ropes.

There is an ongoing concern at the National CWL level regarding the funding for Development and Peace in light of the concern that some pro-abortion organizations are receiving funding from our organization. Since the CCCB are still in the process of reviewing the organizations, the National CWL office is withholding funds pending resolution. In the interim, Councils are still encouraged to participate in the 1% program. Upon resolution of the issue, the funding will be forwarded.

Supporting Canadian values, Canadian law welcomes refugees/immigrants fleeing wars and persecutions, or even just wanting to pursue a new life, with the opportunity to live productively in peace. We are but upholding basic principles of law and humanity by processing persons who arrive on our territory, in search of safety. Over 4000 new immigrants called Nova Scotia home in 2017. An increased population in the province can only serve the residents of Nova Scotia in a positive way, with immigrant – started businesses flourishing.

"Where technology helped spread the word about important issues like homelessness, it sadly has increased problems like pornography and human trafficking." [Betty Colaneri, former National Community Chair]. With 50 charges of human trafficking being laid across NS in 2017, it must be noted that there have been only 5 convictions between 2012 and 2017. Lia Renaud, found of Caring About Change, says the system needs to change. Hfx Regional Police Sgt. Kathryn Willett, head of the Human Trafficking and Missing Persons unit, encourages an emphasis on victim management, a stance that she encourages communities and families to embrace. Proactive education of our youth is a much needed positive step. 'Let's raise our sons not to think that it's normal to sexually exploit someone. That's the long game.' As members of the League, it behooves us to use our collective voice and continue to have contact with all levels of government, and inform our law and policy makers that this practice must be eradicated.

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