LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT, MICHELLE



Logo: Pembina Hills School Division, Barrhead, Alberta

Dear CLC Friends in Christ,

This will likely be my last reflection/Update as CLC in Canada President. Having made my Permanent Commitment to the CLC Way of Life in 2003, I won't be leaving my vocation but it is time to step away from this role. As of now, there is no Interim President as we had hoped but there is a very positive move toward ongoing collaborative leadership circles, which we will be working on this summer.

This last month has been horrific and has taken its toll on all of us. I still feel hope as I begin my Sessions with the Jesuit Forum tonight on 'Listening to Indigenous Voices' to dialogue and learn so that I can do better. For those of you who are feeling called to 'do better', please consider revisiting the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action as well as the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Children Report which can both easily be found on Google. There is still so much to be done. In the meantime, the Council of Elders has been asked to present us with some actions as we look toward September 30th, Orange t-Shirt Day. We are also glad that Canada has finally signed Bill C-13, the UN Declaration regarding the Freedom and Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Please also consider ordering your copy of 'Listening to Indigenous Voices' through the Jesuit Forum for Social Faith and Justice and send the receipt to Bill: wlg@aol.com for re-imbursement. At the same time, think about subscribing to the Forum for free. contact@jesuitforum.ca

This way you will receive their Webinars and Resources without waiting for me, especially if you don't use our Facebook page.

As another way of collaborating with Jesuits on social justice you could subscribe to Canadian Jesuits International who also have up to date and informative webinars cji@jesuits.ca . Most recently they sponsored an excellent webinar on the Global Inequity of Covid-19 Vaccines. I am also attaching the link to that since it brings to light a grave injustice with ideas as to how we can make a difference. You can access the recording of the event via this link: https://www.canadianjesuitsinternational.ca/vaccine-equity/ . More news and resources on vaccine equity can be found here: https://www.canadianjesuitsinternational.ca/campaign-for-vaccine-equity/

As president, I have been privy to receiving information from these 2 organizations and have been passing their announcements forward to the best of my ability. Many are already members. Another organization for those who are called to working with Ecology is the Global Catholic Climate Movement of which World CLC is also a member.

Of course, it is impossible to attend and belong to everything which is why communal discernment is so important.

There are many things that I have not been able to accomplish in my term as president but, if nothing else, I hope that I have played a small part in stressing the importance of Communal Apostolic

Discernment (including 3 rounds of Spiritual conversation) and a collaborative approach across Regional and National borders. As was said at our GC meeting, we do not have a shortage of CLC leaders. We have to be creative in finding new ways to connect and collaborate.

In line with ongoing collaboration across borders, please be aware that the Retreat booklet; 'The Gift of Ignatian Community in a World of Crisis' has been sent out. We have been invited to attend an Event sponsored by the Jesuits on September 25. Please contact your Reps for any further information that you might need to be re-sent. As well, there has been a generous offer to attend the Prairie Region Reflection hour: **Summer Dreams-CLC Prairie Reflection Hour-** Tuesday August 17th @ 7PM CDT (time to be confirmed) Contact us at clcpr3@gmail.com

It has been a privilege and honour to serve CLC Canada in this role. I am deeply grateful and humbled by the generosity of so many of you. Let us each stay connected and keep each other in prayer as the Spirit moves us forward and together as CLC in Canada.

May it be a summer of abundant blessings and joyful moments.

AMDG

Michelle