

The Catholic Women's League of Canada



Antigonish Diocesan Council

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*Here I am Lord, send me!*

TO: Parish Council Treasurers  
FROM: Diocesan Treasurer, Louise Campbell  
DATE: October 19, 2024  
SUBJECT: Voluntary Funds  
MEMO: # 1 (2024-2026)  
CC: Parish Council Presidents, Diocesan Officers, Life Members, Provincial Secretary (for distribution to provincial counterpart)

**Dear Sisters in the League:**

We all in our councils contribute to one or more Voluntary Funds, each of which hold a special place in our hearts. At the National Convention held in Saskatoon this August members heard from a representative of each organization that the League supports.

On the National's website there is a summary of those presentations (<https://www.cwl.ca/category/conventions/>).

Eileen Alma spoke of how the Coady Institute collaborates with communities for a "hand up" approach rather than a "hand out" approach.

Brenda Arakaza spoke on behalf of Development and Peace telling of the new 1% Program which has generated 40 hectares of forest and their impact on women to become peace builders.

A representative from Catholic Missions in Canada, Joe Gennero, spoke of how their organization helps to promote and extend the Catholic faith in dioceses experiencing insufficient funds by subsidizing Bishops who do not have enough resources to sustain their own territories.

Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) works where Christianity was born, in the Holy Land, such as funding a mother and baby hospital program in Jerusalem.

Lastly Linda Dudar spoke of the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation where women can apply to go on a journey of spiritual mentorship.

What organizations does your council support? Is it a local food bank or Women's Shelter? Why not ask a representative to come to one of your meetings so you can learn first-hand what your

contribution means to them? As always, we do what we can, when we can, recalling the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:40-45:

***Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.***

God Bless.

Your sister in the League,

M Louise Campbell  
Diocesan Treasurer