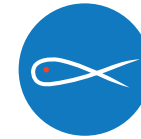


# B.C. & Yukon Regional Council Edition



The newsletter of the  
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul  
National Council of Canada  
ISSN 2560-824X  
**Volume 5 no. 3 - March 2021**

**CLICKABLE!**

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**Safe, Secure and  
Affordable Housing  
is a Human Right**



NATIONAL HOUSING CAMPAIGN

**Saint Luke's Conference in Maple Ridge B.C.  
Father Edwin Kulling and a family representative (page 5)**

# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## I'LL JUST TAKE A PICTURE FROM THE INTERNET!

These words could be very expensive, as this could be the beginning of a copyright infringement situation. There are companies that specialize in recovering sums of money around such situations. I lived through it with my parish where a law firm under the Copyright Enforcement Group, representing Agence France-Presse, filed a lawsuit for \$20,000 for the use of a photo of Pope Francis that the parish secretary had searched and found on the Internet to put in the parish bulletin, which later ended up on the website. With the help of the archdiocese, and the intervention of lawyers, the situation was settled for \$500 plus legal fees.

Extracting a picture, an image from the Internet can seem harmless! Social media, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, etc., can expose the organization to liability for violating the intellectual property rights of others.

Copyright and trademark are forms for individuals or organizations, including charities, to protect their intellectual property. For the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, the International Confederation of the Society (CGI) protects the name and logo by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) through its International Trademark System - Madrid. By extension, in our country, it is the National Council of Canada, through the Canadian Intellectual Property Office, that protects this property.

Reproduction of the intellectual property of others may violate the rights of the owner if these rights of use are not well established. This type of infringement allows the owners of intellectual property rights to have recourse against those who have infringed on their intellectual property.

Protecting intellectual property and obtaining user rights is the responsibility of everyone -- volunteers, employees and subcontractors.

As stated in the Canadian Intellectual Property Office's Guide to Copyright in Canada:

[www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cipointernet-internetopic.nsf/eng/h\\_wr02281.html](http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/cipointernet-internetopic.nsf/eng/h_wr02281.html)

*In the simplest terms, "copyright" means "the right to copy." In general, copyright means the sole right to produce or reproduce a work or a substantial part of it in any form. It includes the right to perform the work or any substantial part of it or, in the case of a lecture, to deliver it. If the work is unpublished, copyright includes the right to publish the work or any substantial part of it.*

Trademarks are probably the most important part of branding and one of the most powerful forms of intellectual property, as they protect an organization's image.

In the same way that we are asked to protect the intellectual property of others, we also ask for respect and protection for the intellectual property of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. This is the reason why we find in the Rule and Statutes, and also in documents published by the National Council of Canada:

*Unless otherwise indicated, the content of and the materials available from this document are protected by copyright and the intellectual property rights, pursuant to Canadian and international laws, of SSSVP Global and SSSVP Canada, as the case may be. All rights reserved. Any use or reproduction not authorized in writing by SSSVP Global and SSSVP Canada, as the case may be, is prohibited.*

In the institutional Branding Guidelines found in the Operations Manual on the national website, it states how to use the Society's name and logo in Canada in advertising, promotions, website and other marketing and communications vehicles:

[www.ssvp.ca/sites/default/files/8.10\\_ssvp\\_national\\_council\\_branding\\_guidelines\\_2017.pdf](http://www.ssvp.ca/sites/default/files/8.10_ssvp_national_council_branding_guidelines_2017.pdf)

Please note, to complement the institutional image, the document Terminology and Spelling must be used; this document was developed with the help of official tools:

[www.ssvp.ca/sites/default/files/8.10.1\\_terminology\\_and\\_spelling\\_v1.0\\_-2018-06-18.pdf](http://www.ssvp.ca/sites/default/files/8.10.1_terminology_and_spelling_v1.0_-2018-06-18.pdf)

Using the correct shade of blue for the Society is also very important; in the colour palette, the coding for Red is set to 0, Green to 122 and Blue to 194.

*Richard Pommerville*  
*Executive Director*

**HERE ARE SOME WEBSITES WHERE YOU CAN  
DOWNLOAD FREE AND ROYALTY FREE IMAGES**

- [pixabay.com](http://pixabay.com)
- [picspree.com](http://picspree.com)
- [unsplash.com](http://unsplash.com)
- [flickr.com](http://flickr.com)
- [gratisography.com](http://gratisography.com)

# SSVP ON VANCOUVER ISLAND - NORTH ISLAND FOOD DISTRIBUTION

## THE TAHSIS PROJECT – 2017 TO PRESENT

In 2017, Bishop Gary Gordon, having ministered to the parish in this remote, isolated village and fished their local waters, witnessed the great need of so many of its residents. He urged a call to Vincentian action at a Vancouver Island Particular Council meeting, and action soon followed. A committee was formed and a trip to the village followed.

Tahsis is a small village of approximately 276 people at the end of a very rough 63.5 km forestry road (1.5 hours north of Gold River and 3 hours from Campbell River). Many residents live in makeshift trailer parks, outbuildings, and sometimes tents. Some don't have internet, cell or landlines. Residents without reliable transport or credit cards wait on rides to Campbell River or have a friend pick up what they need, as there is no supermarket in Tahsis.

The creation of the St. Vincent de Paul – Tahsis Community Cupboard (basement of the rectory in back of the church) has allowed for storage and food distribution each month to an average of 97 individuals in 44 homes, and 24 pets. In 2020 nearly 19,000 pounds of donated food, personal and household items and pet food were shipped to Tahsis, along with monthly shipments of SSVP purchased non-perishable basic food staples.

## The Gold River Project: 2020 to Present

A forestry strike lasting a great many months in 2019 had a devastating effect on the economy of many north island communities, including the village of Gold River, on northwest Vancouver Island. After hearing of the loss of their grocery store, and learning of the great need of many of its residents, we reached out in partnership with Vancouver Island Health Authority, first with food gift cards in early 2020 and starting in April with monthly shipments of food, household, personal items and pet food. In 2020 food distribution helped a monthly average number of 80 individuals in 25 homes, residing in Gold River and on the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nations Reserve in Tsaxana (just outside of Gold River).

In 2020 nearly 18,000 pounds of donated food, personal, household items and pet food, along with monthly shipments of SSVP purchased food were distributed.

For both the Tahsis and Gold River projects we owe a great debt of gratitude for the ongoing partnerships we have made with the Campbell River Food Bank, Nanaimo's Loaves and Fishes Food Bank, and the Campbell River Branch of the BC SPCA. These organizations, along with the support and prayers of SSVP's administrative staff in Victoria, our Vancouver Island Particular Council and Island conferences, and our island parishes have brought much help and hope to so many.

God bless you all

In Vincentian spirit and service,

*Paul Bertrand, President*

*Sheila Keats, Vice President*

*Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference*

*St. Patrick's Parish, Campbell River BC*

## NORTH FRASER OUTREACH IN A PANDEMIC

We would all agree that the COVID-19 pandemic has been a challenge in the past several months. BUT.... It has also resulted in many blessings and affirmations of our Vincentian spirit of kindness and caring for our families and friends. Some projects had to change and others had to be dropped. Some conference members are not able to be active due to restrictions. However, over the Christmas season, parish and community supporters were generous, with new partnerships formed and old ones maintained.

North Fraser continued its support and was able to increase its quarterly donations to our Twin in Guatemala that has been extremely hard-hit by two hurricanes, massive flooding, and the absence of some family members stranded in Canada or the USA due to COVID-19.

Thank you to all our members in the North Fraser Particular Council for continuing to reach out to others during these challenging times. All Saints Conference serving Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam, Saint Joseph's Conference serving Port Moody, Our Lady of Fatima Conference serving Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam, Saint Francis de Sales serving Burnaby, Saint Peter's Conference serving New Westminster and Saint Luke's serving Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge.

We have learned so much and received such great ideas from reading about what others do. We hope our 'ways of helping' will help others to be creative, too! Following is a summary of our activities.

- Christmas Hampers were delivered to 146 households across the region. These included generous gift cards, a few turkeys and hams, gifts for children and, in Maple Ridge, gifts for all family members.
- With the help of parish volunteers, 84 families in New Westminster received generous gift cards and gift bags tied with Christmas ribbons that included a beautiful Christmas card with our logo and name printed on it, a Christmas card prepared by the PREP students from St. Peter's Church, face masks made by several parishioners, and a small bag of Christmas chocolates and candy, shortbread and other Christmas cookies.
- The Indigenous students of Suwalk'h Alternative School received financial support for their lunch program groceries and Christmas cards with Tim Hortons \$20 gift cards.
- Gift Cards were donated to Centennial School for their program for needy families.
- Christmas gifts were given to the residents of Belvedere and Foyer Maillard Care Homes. These included special gifts for 12 residents who would not be receiving family gifts.

- Socks, t-shirts and underwear donated by parishioners or bought with SSVF funds were delivered to The Door is Open, a drop-in ministry that provides shelter services, along with a sizeable donation to help them with daily meal costs.
- Significant funds were donated to St. Anne's Ministry at Star of the Sea Parish to help pay for insulating fabric used in their Comfort Coats that they give to people who are homeless.
- Gift Cards were donated to the Share Society in place of gifts that would normally have been donated by parishioners via the Giving Tree.
- Deacon Greg of All Saints Parish was given gift cards to purchase supplies for distribution to people living on the streets.
- Financial support was given to Archdiocesan programs, including the Sisters of Charity Sandwich Program in the DTES (Downtown Eastside in Vancouver).
- Grocery money was given to the National Youth Evangelization Team presently at Archbishop Carney High School.
- Donations were given to other charities, including Apostleship of the Seas, Birthright, Covenant House – Youth Program, Door is Open Women's Group, Luke 15 House, Our Lady of Good Counsel Domestic Abuse Program and the Talitha Khoum Society.
- Emergency groceries and hampers were put together and delivered across the region.
- Transportation was provided to a senior for a local hospital appointment.

Conference members continue to phone their families and individuals regularly every three to five weeks.

Please see next page for activities that took place at the Saint Peter's and Saint Luke's conferences.

Thanks to all our members in the North Fraser Particular Council for continuing to reach out to others during these challenging times.

*Norah Wilsdon, President  
North Fraser Particular Council*

## NORTH FRASER OUTREACH IN A PANDEMIC WORLD ... continued

### SAINT PETER'S REACHES OUT TO PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS OR EXPERIENCING EXTREME POVERTY

Saint Peter's is well known in New Westminster for its Friday Night Sandwich Program. The pandemic resulted in many changes but the program is again running, with COVID-19 guidelines in place. No indoor seating and chats, but a smile is allowed.

On Friday, December 18, Saint Peter's Conference volunteers served up sandwiches, coffee, hot chocolate and sweets, and gave out gift cards to Tim Hortons to each person as they came for a sandwich.

On Friday, January 1, our conference opened our sandwich service to all those in need. People who stopped by were so grateful (and surprised) that we were there. We also gave out both Tim Hortons and McDonald's gift cards. We thought many of these same people probably had been served lots of turkey during the Christmas season, so we served hot dogs as well as egg salad sandwiches. The hot dogs were a great hit.

Saint Peter's is the first conference to become actively involved with **Extreme Weather Response Shelters**. They have been volunteering with Lookout Housing and Health Society at the EWR shelters in Burnaby. The shelters are open to both men and women, who are provided with a warm place to sleep, given a light meal (usually soup and a bun with coffee and tea). As volunteers, we help prepare the food, coffee and tea and set up tables for the people using the shelter. Volunteers stay at the shelter until the Lookout staff arrives. Lookout provides paid staff who deal directly with the clients. Lookout operates two EWR shelters at present and is looking at opening another shelter in Burnaby. They have requested our help with that shelter as well.

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### ALL WERE FILLED IN MAPLE RIDGE AND PITT MEADOWS!

SSVP Saint Luke's Conference in Maple Ridge is excited to be partnering with the Parish of Saint Luke in the Vancouver Archdiocesan Project Advance Project ALL WERE FILLED. Saint Luke's Conference joins a growing number of Vancouver Central Council Conferences who are partnering with their parishes to get food to as many families as possible.

The first trial run of picking up and distributing for 3 families was on January 15th and SSVP member Bob left Maple Ridge at 3 PM to meet and pick up at St. Mary's in Vancouver and was back to the parish property at

4:30 PM. The company that prepares and donates the boxes of pre-packaged frozen entrees provides an information sheet for each meal, including reheating instructions and all the ingredients. A great experience and after a few minor glitches due to Friday afternoon traffic, St Luke's repeated the process for 38 families and a total of 131 people, on February 19. This ongoing bi-weekly drive-by pickup activity also includes bread and buns donated by Cobs bakery.

For more information go to [www.rcav.org](http://www.rcav.org) and search for All Were Filled. Maybe you can get one going in your Archdiocese!

SSVP members Bob Ross from St. Luke's Conference and Richard Lange from Saint Mary's Conference

## VANCOUVER CENTRAL COUNCIL

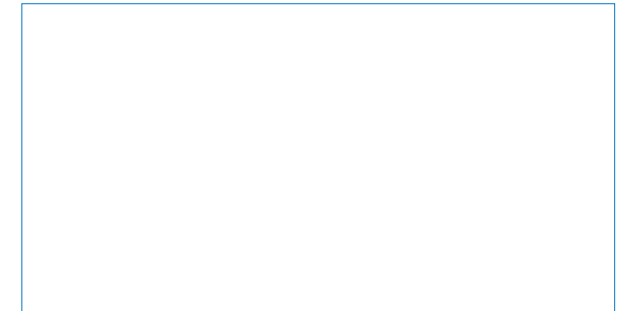
### THE GRADE 2 CLASS FROM ST. PIUS X SCHOOL

The grade 2 class from St. Pius X School in North Vancouver stands in front of the Saint Vincent de Paul delivery van with some of their food donations.

The students earned money and then went grocery shopping to purchase food for people in need.

They were filled with joy to be able to give this food to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul to distribute to the community as they are learning to practice "we before me". The Church never stops.

*Robin Newton, President  
Vancouver Central Council*



# CHOOSING A PATRON SAINT OF THE SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL IN CANADA

The National Spirituality Committee has conducted a search for nominees in order to choose a **Patron Saint of the Society in Canada**, a distinctly Canadian saint to reflect our Canadian history and character within the international Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. The decision will be made by membership voting, so we need your participation. It is hoped the selection will be made in time for the **175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society in Canada**, when we would consecrate the Society in Canada to the chosen Patron Saint.

Nominations were open until September 30, 2020 and we have received four wonderful nominees. They are (with short biographies shamelessly lifted from Wikipedia):

## Saint André of Montreal

- He was a lay brother and a significant figure of the Church among Quebecers, credited with thousands of reported miraculous oil healings.
- He was canonized on October 17, 2010, the first Canadian saint who lived after Confederation.

## Saint Kateri Tekakwitha

- She was an Algonquin-Mohawk laywoman born in 1656. She contracted smallpox, which left her face quite badly scarred. At 19, she was baptized and took a vow of perpetual virginity.
- She was known for her virtue of chastity and mortification of the flesh. She was canonized on October 21, 2012.

## Saint Marguerite d'Youville

- She was a French Canadian widow who founded the Order of the Sisters of Charity of Montreal in 1737, commonly known as the Grey Nuns of Montreal.
- She was canonized in 1990, the first native-born Canadian to be declared a saint.

## Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

- She was a French nun and founder of the Congregation of Notre Dame of Montreal in the colony of New France.
- She travelled to Fort Ville-Marie (now Montreal) in 1653. There she developed the convent and educated young girls, the poor, and children of First Nations until shortly before her death in early 1700.
- She was canonized in 1982, the first female saint of Canada.

All of the nominees are models of Catholics committed to furthering God's work through actively living their faith in the world – just like we try to do as Vincentians. Their examples of selfless devotion to God is an inspiration to us all in our Vincentian works. In these times when many are quick to point out the undoubted historic and current failings of the Catholic Church in our society, we may not spend enough time studying and considering the positive effects of these holy men and women of God in our own history. Let us take some time to consider and appreciate their examples.

The information package for voting (introduction, voting instructions, and a brief biography of each nominee) are posted on the national website under Spirituality Resources, [www.ssvp.ca/spirituality-resources](http://www.ssvp.ca/spirituality-resources). The original nominator has been asked to prepare a brief written case for the Saint they have nominated to be the Patron Saint of the Society in Canada, for your consideration. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about some of our Canadian Saints.

**Online voting is accessible from the [webpage](#), and will be open until March 31, 2021.** The results will be reviewed by the Committee and announced by April 15, 2021 on the national website. Being a vote for a patron saint, we will assume that there will be no cheating, like multiple voting.

While you are visiting, please take some time to review some of the additional spirituality resources available – we hope that you will find it to be a repository of thoughtful Vincentian spiritual material for you to use. The National Spirituality Committee is currently reviewing our presence on the webpage and throughout the electronic universe and we plan to be posting some new material soon, so keep an eye on it! We are always open to feedback, suggestions, and constructive critique - feel free to contact me at [john.carey@ssvp.ca](mailto:john.carey@ssvp.ca). Feedback would be timely now, as we are already considering our future.

Remember, we at higher council are here to serve you, the servants of the poor. You do the sacred work of helping the poor in His name, we are but your helpers. Please pray for us and the poor we all serve in His name.

*John Carey, Chair  
National Spirituality Committee*

## CALL FOR WEBINAR TOPICS AND PRESENTERS

Formation and information sharing is very important for the work of all Vincen-tians. Unfortunately we had to cancel the Annual National Formation (ANF) in Calgary in 2020, and because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not be having an in-person meeting this year.

**HOWEVER, THIS MUST NOT PREVENT US FROM CONTINUING TO LEARN  
AND WE MUST LEVERAGE THE TECHNOLOGIES WE HAVE.  
THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY AS WELL TO REACH MORE VINCENTIANS  
FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY.**

In January the National Formation Committee started a series of webinars that are being well received with some very good feedback. **The Committee is soliciting topics and presenters to create and deliver these webinars.** The target length of the webinars is 75 minutes, with 40 to 50 minutes of material presented followed by a Question & Answer period. This is a similar concept to the workshops at the Annual National Formation.

The content to be delivered would need to be related to the following areas:

- Innovative ways of serving the poor and vulnerable in our communities, including new ways to build relationships during the COVID-19 pandemic (includes home visits).
- Leadership development within the Society.
- Spirituality at the core of our work.
- Fundraising strategies to build essential resources.
- Social Justice, equity and diversity.
- Special Works as a key component of outreach.
- Challenges of a changing SSVp and a changing population that we serve (culture within and without).

[Online submission form available here](#)

*Deborah Joyce, Chair  
National Formation Committee*



You are invited to visit our [Formation and Ressources page](#) on the national website [www.ssvp.ca](http://www.ssvp.ca), where you will find these webinars:

- [The Four Pillars of Commitment](#)
- [Rejuvenation Webinar](#)

as well as training modules and documents such as:

- Introduction to our Society
- The Conference
- Home Visiting
- Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment Prevention Policy and Program
- Governance, Special works and Incorporation
- Fundamentals of Meeting Management-Parliamentary Procedures
- Financial Handbook for conference treasurers
- Handbook for conference president
- Starting a SSVp Store.



## MISSION

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a lay Catholic organization whose mission is:

To live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy.

## VALUES

The mission of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul implies that as Vincentians we:

- see Christ in anyone who suffers
- come together as a family
- have personal contact with the poor
- help in all possible ways

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Fax: 613 837-7375  
Canada Revenue Agency  
Charity Registration No. 132410671RR0001**

**Official publication of the  
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul - Canada  
ISSN 2560-824X  
Made with the collaboration of:  
Mary Baskin, Ghislaine Du Nord and  
Denise Miron.  
Editor : Nicole Schryburt  
Graphic Design: Nicole Schryburt**



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