

Vincenpaul-Canada

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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CANADA

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"UNITY IN DIVERSITY"



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Mission

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a lay Catholic organisation 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 is anyone who suffers
- come together as a family
- have personal contact with the poor
- help in all possible ways

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Penny's Piece

DEAR BROTHER AND SISTER VINCENTIANS

I do hope that all of you enjoyed the Christmas Season celebrating our Lord's birth with your family and friends, and the beginning of a New Year. I know that each new year brings out resolutions, resolutions, resolutions! Firm promises! Well, I have another couple of resolutions to offer for your resolve, and these involve our bodies and souls. I would like you to consider the life-giving elements of the birth of the church—Easter Season, and the sustaining events of the SSVP National Council AGA!

As we move toward another Easter Season and another National Council Annual General Assembly in June 2012, we have the opportunity to see these events as sources of renewal, both for the spirit and for the body. The Easter Season provides the nourishment our souls and spirit require to help our faith stay fully alive. The Annual Assembly provides the nourishment our bodies and minds require for us to stay fully human and engaged in our Vincentian Family.

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full"

Uppermost in our activities of being "People of the Water and the Towel" is the mindset that is cited in Matthew 25:40, "Truly I say to you, as you did it to the least of my brethren, you did it to me,"

Further, John Paul II adds to this by saying that Christ himself is present in this suffering person, since his salvific suffering has been opened once and for all to every human suffering. As Vincentians we can certainly relate to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual that exists around us and in us.

The Easter season and the AGA are two events that provide opportune times of renewal that will assist us in our mission and values to "see Christ in all who suffer" and "come together as a family".



"Christ has no body now but yours...

You are the eyes with which

He looks compassion on this world...

Yours are the feet with which

He walks to do good..

Yours are the hands with which

He blesses all the world."

Attributed to St. Teresa of Avila

Penny's Piece

As well, we come to the Annual Meeting to nourish our spirit, to feed our souls, to enjoy each other as families do, but as well, to learn. The AGA workshops become a very special time for sharing and discussion. It is the time we learn that we are not alone in facing the joys and trials of serving the poor in our back home areas. We need the tangible experience of having shared and learned to that we can go back home to minister to each other so that we can more lovingly serve those in need, bringing that Jesus/Vincentian relationship to those we serve.

Frederic Ozanam did not call his confreres to a service devoid of meaning. Rather, he sought to live the reality that each and every human person is of worth and dignity, created in the image of God. Don't forget, that also means you dear brothers and sisters!

On the Business Side – National Council of Canada Strategic Planning

On the business side, we have enjoyed various successes in our Strategic Planning process in the last several years. I know Jim Paddon has been diligently working at strategies around identifying new strategic issues that the National Council should identify and implement a plan to deal with these issues.

As you may know, strategic plans are only as good as the grass roots part of the organization makes them. Please plan to assist in the identification and redevelopment of issues by completing and sending back questionnaires from the conference and council levels. Your input is so important. At the AGA, town hall meeting will be held where verbal input and feedback can be shared by anyone interested in attending. Certainly, come and have your say!

One of the challenges we now must consider is the dovetailing of our strategic directions with those of the International Council General Strategic Directions. ICG directions are not far from those we have already identified for our own council, but we have to think on a wider scale.

National Council of Canada Presidential Election

Of important note, please remember, that it is with deep prayer and spiritual reflection that we must consider the next leader of the ministry of administration of the National Council of Canada. As Immediate Past President of the NCC, Michael Burke is chair of the election committee. Information was printed in the Fall 2011 issue of the Vincenpaul magazine. I know we will enjoy meeting and hearing from the candidates in June.

I do pray that all of you enjoy the life-giving experience of the Easter Season, and I will indeed look forward to welcoming everyone to the next meeting in Halifax as well.

May your charity be a beaming light!

“all one in truth and charity!”

Penny Craig
National President

Council General International

CGI VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

The Peace and Love of Christ be with you.

The CGI Board at its meeting on September 6, 2011 has approved the following VISION and MISSION statements of CGI. Those countries that have their own Vision and Mission statements are complementary to that of CGI and those without may consider using that of CGI.

Vision Statement

As a Catholic lay organisation, we will embrace the world in a network of charity, serving Christ in the suffering, poor or marginalised, bringing them love and respect, aid and development, hope and joy, in a more just society.

We also seek to deepen our spirituality and the mutual love and support amongst members, so that, seeing how we serve those in need with one mind and heart, people are attracted to the Society and to Christ who animates it.

Mission Statement

Our mission, inspired by the Radiant Flame of Christ's Love, is to grow spiritually through seeking and finding individuals and families who are forgotten, suffering or deprived and through personal contact, to offer practical help to anyone in need. We share their burdens and joys as true friends, sowing seeds of hope, encouraging self-sufficiency and respecting their values and beliefs.

As a reflection of the whole family of God, we do this as men and women drawn from every ethnic and cultural background, age group, and economic level, working together in local Conferences to serve Christ in the poor, to grow spiritually and to support one another.

Members are closely united as one worldwide family, nourished by prayer and reflection, faithful to a Rule and Statutes reflecting the traditions of our principal founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam, and patron, St. Vincent de Paul.



*"I would like to enfold the world
in a network of charity."*

Frederic Ozanam

We also seek to identify the causes of poverty and work with the Vincentian family, the Catholic Church, other Christians and all people of good will, to shape a more just and compassionate society, which promotes the rights, responsibilities and development of all people, a culture of life and a civilization of love reflecting the Kingdom of God.

Let us unite in prayers in Vincentian solidarity and seek the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit to guide us in our mission and vocation in our apostolate.

In our Blessed Mother Mary, St. Vincent and Blessed Frederic, we pray. God bless you all. Yours fraternally in the service of Christ.

Dr. Michael Thio, D.H
President General

Prison Ministry

CELEBRATION 2012

Since 2008, we, as members of the Society of a larger Vincentian Family have had special reasons each year to celebrate and rejoice in who we are. Last year in 2011, we chose to celebrate the year of the Spiritual Advisor. I have heard from many that September 27th was the special day that many chose to install their Spiritual Advisors.

It is, and will always continue to be a time to recognize the special role they play in assisting all of us to a greater awareness of the privilege we have of making Gospel-based decisions. Those special decisions that affect all those we serve at all levels of the Society.

It is hoped that we will continue to recognize the importance of this special position through installations and prayerful experiences.

At the 2011 AGA in Victoria, we heard a wonderful presentation from our key note speaker, Bishop Gary Gordon from Whitehorse YT, regarding Prison Ministry. It seemed that his presentation had touched the hearts of many. This is a ministry that is not as well known as it could be.

The Canadian Statutes and Rule Book 2.7.5 highlights Prison Ministry thusly:

This is a key directive from Christ to act with compassion and love for those incarcerated. In cooperation with the prison authorities including the prison chaplain, Vincentians may receive permission to visit jails. They arrange opportunities for Eucharistic prayer services, the sacrament of Reconciliation, and Spiritual Counseling.

I will separate out the following:

Walking the hallways and ranges of the prison, and inquiring about the physical and spiritual needs of the inmates as well as those of their loved ones are some of the ways that Vincentians may serve.

This is indeed a challenge and it is recognized that Prison Ministry may not fit for all, but where there is a need, this need should be met in some fashion. Remember, “No work of Charity is foreign to the Society”.

We will be presenting a plenary session on Prison Ministry at the AGA in Halifax that will further develop the practical aspects of what prison ministry can and should be about in local areas that have jails or prisons.

Therefore, I am declaring 2012 the year of:

Celebrating the graces of prison ministry.

Penny Craig
National President



“I was in prison and you visited me.”

Matt 25:37

UNDERSTANDING LEADERSHIP

When I was rector of Notre-Dame Cathedral Basilica in Ottawa I experienced one of the restorations of the Cathedral organ. Originally installed by Joseph Casavant in 1849 the organ had several restorations over the years. It has over 4,000 pipes.

It is a true marvel when a good organist marshals all the power of the organ to produce music that is indeed heavenly. The essence of an organ is internal mechanical cooperation and harmony. This of course is brought about through the talents of the organist.

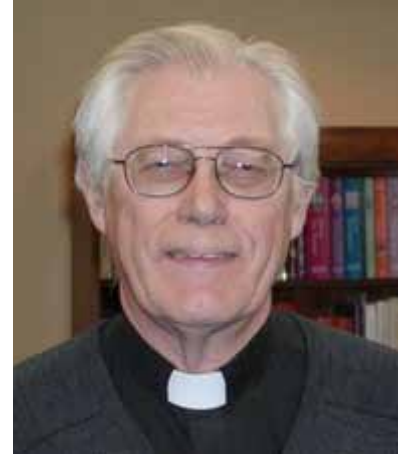
This symbol can help us reflect on the human truth that the talents of the great and the humble are needed to bring about good success in any enterprise. But leadership is needed to bring about order and organization along with supportive encouragement.

On the occasion of Thanksgiving the Catholic High School in my parish gave wonderful assistance to our SSVP Conference by amassing over 8,000 food items. It was a school-wide effort but would never have happened without the tireless efforts of the outstanding pastoral assistant assigned to the school.

All this leads us to reflect on a difficulty that plagues the SSVP. Too few members seem to want to volunteer for the required leadership roles of the Society. While it is true that the strength of the SVP Society resides in the dedicated work of the many, this very work is possible when good leadership is exercised. It may be more satisfying to be in direct contact with the poor but the Society's on-going capacity to provide such service where needs are, requires experienced Vincentians to appreciate the importance of leadership at the various levels of the Society.

A final word of gratitude should be directed to those who are currently giving top-class leadership to the Society.

Msgr. Peter Schonenback
National Spiritual Advisor



*"When I am accomplishing some good deed,
I shall develop the habit of calling to mind
the belief that God and His angels
are watching me."*

St. Louise de Marillac

Spirituality

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST



Today's world is one where a number of us take for granted how simple things have become. We know, for instance that we can plug in the toaster and make toast for breakfast; we only need to push a button and turn on the stove to prepare meals, bake cookies. We can store our foods in the refrigerator, turn on the heat in the winter to keep warm and turn on the air conditioner in the summer to stay cool.

We can turn on our computer and communicate immediately with family and friends anywhere in the world. When we want to relax, we turn on the TV or settle ourselves in our favorite chair, turn on the light and read a book. All this we are able to enjoy because of electricity.

Suddenly we are struck with a blinding snowstorm and the power goes off. We can't cook our food, turn on the heat, talk on the computer, watch TV or read a book. It is even difficult to maneuver from room to room as we don't have any light. The whole house, indeed the entire city is in darkness. We have all experienced the difficulties that can occur when we have no light. We are struck with feeling helpless and out of control. We are afraid because we can't see where we are going without the lights. We are lost and can't find our way in the dark.

Jesus is our "spiritual" light. Because of Him, we have the Eucharist we have the Eucharist to feed us. We have His arm around us to keep us safe and warm and He helps us find our way in the dark because, in Him, there is no darkness. We never need to feel that we are lost because we know that He is the way.

It is a blessing that, as Christians, we are part of His light. This blessing doesn't make us better than others around us. It makes us more responsible. The faithful followers of Jesus are the salt of the earth and a light to the world. Being true Christian-bearers we become an example for others.

In Matthew 5.14-16 Jesus tells us *"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to the whole house. In the same way, let your light shine before human beings, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."*

This is what we are called to do as Christians. As Vincentians, this calling has a more profound meaning because we believe that those we serve are the human face of the Suffering Christ. We always try and see the face of Christ in those we serve and we strive to be the face of Christ to those we serve. We desire to love and serve our brothers and sisters as He showed us and the Lord also promises that those who share their food with the hungry and their clothing with the naked shall find favor with God. A light shall shine for them.

God has revealed to us in Isaiah 58. 6-10 how He wants us to be. He tells us:

Is this not the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see them naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness.

We are not God - we are humans and humans are not perfect as He is perfect. We sometimes have difficulty being the light that He calls us to be. When that happens, take a few minutes of quiet and talk with Him. Imagine that you see Him coming toward you. His light is magnificent- bright and strong, but at the same time, soft and comforting. He reaches out to you and takes you in His arms. Rest quietly in His arms and feel the love and compassion that He has for you. When you are ready, step back and watch as He walks away. Then, take the strength, love, compassion and light that He has given you and do the same for you brothers and sisters in need.

Maureen MacIsaac
Spirituality Committee

EXTERNAL TWINNING

We have many available conferences waiting to be twinned with Canadian conferences and councils from :

Peru

2 Conferences and the Superior Council

Dominican Republic

8 Conferences, and one Zonal Council

Nicaragua

3 Conferences

Haiti

7 Conferences

Colombia

8 Conferences, 4 Particular Councils, 1 Central Council, 5 Departamental Councils, and 2 Zonal Councils

Guatemala

1 Conference

If your conference or council is interested, please fill in the application form available on our website: www.ssvp.ca or by our administrative assistant: twinning@ssvp.ca, tel: 1-866-997-7787.

If you have an interest in a particular country with whom I hold application forms, please indicate it on your application form.

Kathy Weswick
twinning-chair@ssvp.ca



Strategic Planning

We're in the process of developing a revised strategic plan and we feel it is essential to provide an opportunity for input from all regions of Canada. At this year's AGA in Victoria, BC we provided a review of the history of previous goals of the National strategic plan that was also included in the 2011 annual report.

What are the next steps in the development of a revised strategic plan? It starts with and is dependent upon on your assistance.

Part One

We would like to begin by listing four goals that we believe are very important areas to be addressed in the next five years. We would invite your comments on any actions taken so far to address these goals by commenting on the following questions.

Do you think the goal has been achieved?

Are there suggestions on what more can be done to achieve this goal?

Do you believe this goal is an important issue?

Do you have any comments on this goal and its relevance to the future of the Society?

Please ensure a full explanation is given regarding any comments you submit.

Part Two

Proposed Goals:

Goal One - Spirituality - To increase the observable spirituality within the Society

This was an original goal that resulted in the creation of the National Spirituality committee. While this committee has done some wonderful things, we'd invite your comments on the results to this point and whether there are other objectives that should be addressed.

Goal Two - Communications

This was also an original goal that has seen a number of improvements. Once again, what do you think of these improvements and are there other objectives that could be included in this goal.

Goal Three - Public Relations/Image

This is another original goal that stated there is an overall lack of public awareness of the Society. Our National Council has created a committee to address this issue

but we'd welcome all comments on how we best achieve this goal and what the objectives should be.

Goal Four - Systemic Change

While the need for Advocacy was a previous goal that resulted in the creation of our National Voice of the poor committee, the notion of systemic change is a fairly new concept that is being promoted within the entire Vincentian Family (VINFAM) as evidenced at last year's VINFAM meeting in Belleville, IL, USA, and our 2011 VINFAM meeting being this October 19-23rd in Indianapolis, IN, USA.

While all Vincentians are familiar with Charity as being the act of helping people meet their present needs by supplying material assistance, Systemic Change is about making fundamental change in the system so that people can help themselves. It's about making changes that address the root causes of barriers for those in need to escape the cycle of poverty. It is probably the most spiritual work we can do as Vincentians, as it includes an intimate relationship with those we seek to serve, and in turn, with Jesus Christ.

Part Three

We'd like to invite your suggestions for any other strategic planning goals by submitting up to a maximum of FOUR additional goals to be considered for inclusion in the revised strategic plan.

Please include an explanation of these additional goals that describes why you feel this is an important goal.

Who should be involved in this process? I'd request that you distribute this request to all Central and Particular councils as well any selected conferences or individual members as you deem relevant. Let's make this as much of a "grass roots" exercise as possible.

All replies should be returned to the attention of your Regional President so that he/she could review and compile a summary of all responses before sending on to my attention.

Part Four

Now, to the timeframe. In order to achieve our goal of having a revised strategic plan ready for our 2012 AGA (June 2012 in Halifax), we'd ask that you send your replies in by the end of February, 2012.

If you need further information please contact Jim Paddon by email: jpaddon4@cogeco.ca or by phone at 519-397-2298.

Yours sincerely

Jim Paddon
Chair, Strategic Planning Committee

INTERNAL TWINNING

Are you a conference who is struggling to find funds to keep the works of your valued Vincentians going?

There are many Conferences from our family of Vincentians who would dearly like to help you.

If you send in an application **to be a recipient of internal twinning**, you would make the Vincentians in these donor Conferences very happy, some of whom have been waiting years to help.

Please consider sending the National Office a twinning application.

The application form is available on our website: www.ssvp.ca or by our administrative assistant: twinning@ssvp.ca, tel: 1-866-997-7787.

Kathy Weswick
twinning-chair@ssvp.ca



Emergency Relief

FAMINE RELIEF IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

A famine is affecting many countries in the Horn of Africa, particularly Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. Several conferences and councils made inquiries this past summer about relief assistance by the Society.

Millions of people have sought refuge in large camps supervised by the United Nations, tens of thousands have perished, mostly children, as a result of a severe drought which has destroyed crop and livestock, civil war (Somalia) and deficient assistance by local governments.

The Society has either no presence or not enough Conferences in most of the countries affected, except Uganda, to propose any important relief assistance project. Nevertheless, the International Council General (ICG) does not want to abandon the victims; an E-mail message was received from the ICG on September 14, 2011, stating it would seek the collaboration of other Vincentian Family organisations and other Catholic charities to bring relief assistance to the famine victims. Donations were requested from all councils and conferences world-wide.

Our National President, Penny Craig, immediately forwarded the appeal to the Regional Council Presidents advising that conferences or councils wishing to send funds for famine relief pass them up to the National Council of Canada via their next higher council. Contributions will be forwarded to the ICG when received.

Your generosity and prayers are requested for this large scale human catastrophe.

Clermont Fortin,
Chair, International Emergency Relief Committee



*"I was thirsty and you gave me
something to drink."*

Matt 25:36

UNITY AND DIVERSITY OF IT ALL WE ARE ONE BODY, A FAMILY IN CHRIST

It doesn't matter where we are from or what we do we have the same unity of serving Christ in those who live in poverty. We are diverse in the jobs we have and the homes and families we have, but we worship the same God and belong to the same family of Christ and the same Vincentian family and so comes our unity.

With our education and formation we hope to continue with that unity in our diverse country and will be preparing for you a special weekend for trainers in the spring. Wet your appetite for it and be prepared to come to Ottawa for TNT it will be a blast! You will hear more from the Regional Presidents on the dates and location details. We are hoping that at least two people from each Regional will attend. We will share with you many tips and tools to take back and train others to go forward to serve those in poverty in unity. You will share with us things that you are doing. So we on the Education/Formation team can also learn. We know there are good workshops happening and we need to gather this info and share it. Just like we share everything we have. We share all the haves with the have nots and that goes for our knowledge as well. So come to the TNT and show us what you got.

Systemic change is the wave of the future and seems to be more than a ripple across the world. In many ways it is putting into practice some of the things we already know and have heard from St. Vincent, Frederic and Jesus. We are challenged to lift people from poverty. We are challenged to find that way.

What we have been calling Advocacy is just a small part of the Systemic change. This is the "Never do for others what they can do for themselves part. That does not mean we dump them and say, "Do it yourself!" We work with them to help them lift themselves out of poverty. Isn't that what we are called to do? We still play the Good Samaritan Role.

First of all we have to change our language. "We are not poor!!!" Cry out those we help. "We are in poverty!!!" Our situation is poor. Our living standards are poor and when you call me poor, I feel like that is my lot in life. I am living in poverty now, but I can change that with a little help."

Systemic change is not for those living in poverty it is us.

We are called to serve Christ who is in poverty. Somehow when poverty comes in the door, love goes out the window. We come to the door and we pray before coming and somehow our love isn't always there, we judge. Oh, maybe not by words, but our body language is so loud. It isn't what we say; it is what we don't say. We really want them to be like us. So we ask the questions and they give the answers we want to hear. (Don't you want to be like me?)

We need to find the root cause of why they are living in poverty. We don't answer that question, but give those we visit the opportunity to answer that question or at least ponder on it. Remember one size does not fit all. Everyone is not going to fit into the same programme

So, we need to learn and our education/formation on systemic change is another small part of how we serve Christ and all who are in poverty around this diverse world.

"One cannot improve human beings but one can improve systems. And the same flawed human beings with a better system will be able to produce better results." SYSTEMIC CHANGE.

In this magazine you will see a call to the upcoming AGA and a call for workshops. We want to give you workshops you want. There are some suggestions we already received and we know there are some very talented people in your neck of the woods, so if you would like to present a workshop please fill in the form and send it to me or email me with your details. Love to hear from you.

Blessings All.

Lynn L'Heureux acting Chair
Education/Formation Committee
calgaryssvpadm@gmail.com

Canada's Councils in Action

ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Systemic Change in Action - Marillac Place

Throughout Canada, there are countless young mothers who are homeless, have little support and are being put in unimaginable situations that most of us will never experience in a lifetime. Under the guidance of the Kitchener Particular Council in the Ontario Regional Council, there is one special place that is working hard to alter the lifelong outcomes for young mothers and their precious babies. That place is Marillac Place.

Marillac Place is a shelter located in Kitchener, Ontario established as a Special Works Conference, of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, Kitchener Particular Council in the Ontario Regional Council. We opened our doors over 20 years ago with a vision to help women in need. Marillac Place continues to this day to fulfill its mission of providing chances for brighter futures to mother-led families and ultimately helping them to



break the downward generational cycle of homelessness and poverty.

From the outside, Marillac Place looks just like any other home on the street; a three story brick, Victorian home. However, the story behind the walls is very different. Its behind these walls that hundreds of young mothers have found support, guidance and love at a time when they need it the most. Most importantly, they have found a community of like minded people who want nothing but the best for themselves and their infants, while asking nothing in return.

It can be hard to comprehend the struggles that each of the mothers who come to Marillac Place has faced throughout their lives; abandonment, disappointment, violence and soul-numbing loneliness, which only just scratch the surface. Truly, the human spirit is hard at work helping these women persevere in the toughest of situations.

Marillac Place is here for:

- The young woman who fell in love with her boyfriend who promised her the world - only to find him absent and no longer taking her calls when he found out that she was pregnant.
- The young woman, whose mother passed away when she was 18, found out she was pregnant & moved back in with her stepfather. She was afraid to tell him she was pregnant and for good reason - when she finally worked up the courage, he responded by telling her that she had a few weeks to find somewhere else to live.
- The mother who called from the hospital delivery ward because she had no address to put down for her home.
- The mother who lost care of her child and is working hard to get her child back.

Our mission is to provide mothers with the tools they need to become effective parents and self-supporting, responsible members of the community.

Living at Marillac Place is a life-changing experience. The mothers work very hard to achieve their goals, whether it is to parent alone, parent with the support of

Canada's Councils in Action

family or to place their child up for adoption. Our role is to support the mothers as they make these important decisions and prepare them with the skills and resources they need to support their decision. However, it takes hard work and commitment from each mother. If they haven't completed High School, they are required to continue their education. All mothers are responsible for cooking, cleaning and maintaining the home, not only for themselves, but for everyone else in the home.

The mothers also learn to budget. Each month, their Ontario Works cheques go directly to Marillac Place and a portion goes towards rent. The remainder of the cheque is returned to them for their personal needs, so that they can budget for items such as diapers, formula, school supplies, cell phone bills, bus tickets and miscellaneous items for themselves and their little one. As their time at Marillac Place continues, they learn to effectively budget their money and use what they have wisely.

While living at Marillac Place, there are rules and consequences but most importantly, there is praise and reward.

It takes a strong team at Marillac Place to help each mother. Marillac Place is fully staffed 24 hours a day. Our staff and caring volunteers provide support in times of struggle, hope in moments of despair, insight in times of uncertainty and guidance on the path to productive parenting.

Our team includes a Program Manager, who spends time each day with the mothers, helping them to gain valuable life skills. She provides mandatory weekly on-site programming, catered to meet the proprietary needs of the mothers in the house. These programs cover topics such as caring for your child, parenting, breastfeeding, healthy versus unhealthy relationships and body image, to name a few.

Additionally, we have a Resident Counsellor who works closely with each mother, acting as a support system, helping them to identify, plan for and ultimately achieve their goals. She liaises with community support groups and systems to ensure mothers are getting the help they need and meets monthly with the supports involved

to review the mother's accomplishments and setbacks, evaluating her progress towards meeting her goals.

What is very clear to us on a daily basis is that there is a great need for Marillac Place within our community. Currently all 10 bedrooms at Marillac Place are taken with 10 mothers, 3 babies, a toddler and several moms expecting their little one in the next few months. The mothers are able to stay at Marillac Place for up to 12 months and we accommodate children up to 24 months of age. This unique mandate gives our team a chance to really help make positive changes in these young women's lives.

The consequences that can come if something isn't done to help these mothers now can be heartbreaking and negatively life altering.



Canada's Councils in Action

ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCIL

What they need is support, guidance, education and someone they can count on.

If Marillac Place ceased to operate, there would be mothers who without the skills, means and support would be at great risk of not being able to parent their child. We would see an increased number of homeless mothers and see more children in an already overburdened foster care system. Marillac Place provides hope in a safe, supportive environment for at-risk mothers to prove that they can parent.

In 2010, 35 mothers and 21 children called Marillac Place home. With stays ranging from a few days to 12 months, we were there for each mother in need. After their time at Marillac Place 9 of the 35 mothers moved into subsidized housing, 6 were able to move in with family and friends and 5 mothers moved into market housing. Our staff answered more than 782 outreach calls from families and we provided 17 food hampers to mothers in need of assistance. 5 mothers were able to regain care of their child through our Plan to Parent Program.

Marillac Place was named after Saint Louise de Marillac. Louise de Marillac was born near Meux, France on August 12, 1591. In 1625, she met Vincent de Paul, who became her spiritual adviser. She devoted the rest of her life to working with him and helped direct his Ladies of Charity in their work of caring for the sick, the poor and the neglected. I feel confident that Saint Louise de Marillac would be very proud of the work done at Marillac Place. I think she would be honoured that the Society of St. Vincent De Paul Particular Council Kitchener had the insight to open Marillac Place and name it in her honour.

Marillac Place has had its share of struggles!

Sadly, there have been several times since our doors opened that we have faced closure. With regional and provincial funding covering roughly half of our operating expenses, we rely heavily on donations to stay open. There are a lot of people who care about Marillac Place and contribute what they can so that we can continue our mission. With all of the struggles we've gone through over the years, I believe its Louise De Marillac's

gentle spirit that has always guided us through. If she were around today, I would be privileged to welcome her to Marillac Place and witness the works done in continuation of her efforts and her name!

As a mother of a five year old with another one on the way, I can appreciate the depth of knowledge, skills and help required by these young mothers. While an affluent society around them goes about its business with individual goals - perhaps to grow a company, buy a bigger house, a nicer car, designer clothes or the latest electronic devices - our mothers have goals too. Their goals are as simple as a better tomorrow, a roof over their heads, food to eat - and at the heart of each of them is the goal for a better life for their child.

To learn more about Marillac Place please visit our website at www.marillacplace.ca. If you would like to help or get more involved in helping us to fulfill our mission, please do not hesitate to contact me at Marillac Place.

**Angela Murdoch, Business Manager
Marillac Place**

109 Young Street, Kitchener, ON N2H 4Z2

519-571-3772

angelam@marillacplace.ca - www.marillacplace.ca



Canada's Councils in Action

ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Good news from St. Kevin's Conference in Val Caron, Ontario

Our Conference in Val Caron, Ontario has just opened the Sr. Frederica Harvest House to be used to serve those in need in our community.

On September 28th Sr. Frederica Harvest House was officially opened by the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

The first nations were represented by Angela Recollect who smudged the house and offered a blessing song.

Father Michael Williams, the Pastor of St. Kevin's Parish offered a blessing and prayers for the house and all the future endeavours of the Society.

The Sisters' of Saint Joseph were invited to be in attendance as Sr. Frederica was a member of their order and a founder of the Society in Valley East. Chinese food was provided by Chop Stix restaurant and was enjoyed by all.

In future the house will be opened on Thursdays between 10:00am and 2:00pm and all are welcome for coffee/tea.

**Gord Jenkinson, President
St. Kevin's Conference**



Canada's Councils in Action

ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Great Guignolée 2011 in Orleans, Ontario

The huge Guignolée (Christmas drive) organized by the Conference Jesus-Marie-Joseph of Orléans, was held on Sunday afternoon December 4th. Following a solid tradition, several hundred volunteers took to the streets of the city to collect non-perishable food, clothing and money. Monsignor Peter Schonenbach, Pastor of the Saint Joseph Parish and Spiritual Advisor to the National Council, sent out the guignoleux – guignoleuses on their mission with a blessing at the 11:30 AM mass. The volunteers, composed of approximately 50 Full Members supported by Auxiliary Members, youth members of the Scouts and Girls Guides, Knights of Columbus, members of various groups active at the 4 local Catholic parishes, a few families served by the Conference, as well as a large number of parishioners assured the success of the annual Campaign held during Advent.

The National President, Sister Penny Craig, had extended her stay at the National Office in Ottawa to be part of the community event. It was her second experience of participating at a Guignolée. She joined 1st Vice President Clermont Fortin, a member of the Conference, to walk the streets of the city in a joyful and fraternal ambiance. The citizens of Orléans showed, again, their generosity as the results showed the best ever collection for all those less fortunate of their neighbourhood: 2 cub vans filled with used clothing were sent to the Ottawa SSVP Store, a large amount of dry (canned) food will fill the Christmas hampers, with surpluses stored in the large food pantry for distribution during the coming year to low income families, as required. As well, approximately \$24,000.00 was collected. The Christmas drive exceeded the objectives of Conference members. In addition to the collection, 24 large low income families have been sponsored by groups of employees and individuals wishing to offer their generous support to the disadvantaged.

The Conference, led by President Bro. Ronald Leduc, covers the territory of 4 parishes: Sainte-Marie, Saint-Joseph, Notre-Dame-des-Champs and Divine Infant, located in a suburb in the East of Ottawa. Home visits constitute the main activity of the Conference. Food is the main item provided to those living in poverty. In 2010, Conference members served 320 families, or 1190 persons with 39% being children. The Guignolée is the major fund raising and food/clothing collection of the year. The Feast of Thanksgiving is also important as a collection of canned food takes place at several primary and high schools of Orléans at that time.

Members of the JMJ Conference are deeply involved in their community by the service to those living in poverty; they are fully engaged in the spiritual dimension of the Society's mission to deepen one's Faith by works of charity. The Guignolée is an annual community event, with social and charitable elements demonstrating the generosity and solidarity of the people of the area towards the less privileged.

Thank You to all the volunteers and artisans for another successful campaign.

May the Infant of the Crèche accompany all members of the Conference and those they serve by giving them peace and joy.

Clermont Fortin
Member, Conference Jesus-Marie-Joseph
December 13, 2011

Canada's Councils in Action



Charmaine Savage, Raymond Marcil, Yvon Bédard



Clermont Fortin and Penny Craig



Canada's Councils in Action

ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCIL

2011 Scholarship of the SSVP Store In Ottawa

In 2010, the Ottawa SSVP store Board created two scholarships worth \$5,000 each. Offered to students from both the French and English Catholic school boards in Ottawa, the scholarships are called respectively "*Bourse Saint-Vincent de Paul*" and "*Saint Vincent de Paul Bursary*". The 2011 recipients of these scholarships are now known.

On the Catholic French-speaking side, the eligibility criteria included aptitude at work, proof of perseverance, abilities showing in concrete school results, stimulating social engagement, and the wish to continue studying at the post-secondary level. The French recipient is **Patrick Ladouceur**, a young graduate from the Samuel-Genest College. He has been active in several different ways: he has been a volunteer, has engaged in many humanitarian causes, was class president, and always present in the recitation of prayer at school. Patrick is now studying at the University of Ottawa.

On the Catholic English-speaking side, the criteria focused on demonstrated involvement and commitment to the practice of the Catholic faith and to social justice in both the high school environment and in a parish. The winner is **Samantha Kosierb**, a recent graduate from Sacred Heart Catholic High School. Samantha was involved in, among other things, "The Well" religious youth group; she travelled to the Dominican Republic to engage in social justice activities there; and she participated in parish activities. She has recently entered the human relations and spirituality program at St. Paul University in Ottawa. Her goal is to eventually be a teacher or a school chaplain.

Pierre J. Hubert, Secretary
SSVP Store Corporation, Ottawa



Presentation of a \$5,000 bursary provided by the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Ottawa for a student of the Conseil des écoles catholiques du centre-est (CECCE) of Ontario.

From left to right, Paul Chénier, President of the SSVP store's board (Ottawa), bursary recipient Patrick Ladouceur, and the board President of the Council, Diane Doré.



Presentation of a \$5,000 bursary provided by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Ottawa for an Ottawa Catholic School Board student who will be attending St. Paul's University.

From left to right, school board trustee John Curry; Dr. Chantal Beauvais, rector of St. Paul's University; bursary recipient Samantha Kosierb; Patrick O'Donnell of the Society; and Rev. Ross Finlan, pastor of Holy Spirit Catholic Parish, which is Samantha's home parish.

Canada's Councils in Action

BC & YUKON REGIONAL COUNCIL

St. Patrick Conference begin the centenary celebration of SSVP in BC

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Vancouver is gearing up to celebrate 100 years of service “West of the Rockies.” In the early months of 1912, the first conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in British Columbia began to meet at St. Patrick’s Parish in the Mount Pleasant area of Vancouver. Within the next few years, two more conferences opened, with all three being aggregated on March 1, 1915. To celebrate the centenary of the presence of the Society in Vancouver, the Vancouver Conferences joined forces to host the kick-off celebration for our 100th year.

The event was actually a fund raiser for Vancouver Central Council’s Outreach Program. A buffet Roast Beef and Yorkshire Pudding dinner was held on September 18, 2011. Children from a local Irish Dance School started the entertainment in honour of St. Patrick Parish’s Irish roots. They were followed by a St. Patrick’s parish Filipino dance group who performed a traditional Filipino folk dance, honouring the current ethnicity of our parish. Father Terry Bileski (Central Council Spiritual Advisor and a St. Patrick vocation) gave the keynote address on his 2 year work in the Yukon. Rounded out with raffles and a 50/50 draw, the evening was enjoyed by all and also raised \$4,000 for Central Council.

The success of the evening was due to the collaboration of all of the Conferences in the Vancouver Particular Council, and the strong support of all the member Conferences under Vancouver’s Central Council. The

Conference Presidents met regularly to plan the evening, obtain needed licenses, promote ticket sales, gather raffle baskets and door prizes, sell raffle and draw tickets, manage the bar, coordinate the dinner music, and many other tasks. The Saint Patrick’s Parish Seniors, CWL, and auxiliary SSVP members also pitched in to help the caterer prepare the meal and man the buffet line. The event was sold-out, with Vincentians travelling 40 kilometres and more to participate in this kick-off event.

Despite all the time and effort the evening required, it was amply rewarding both in the results of the evening and the fraternity it inspired. We are looking forward to next year’s 100th Anniversary celebration, and hoping it will become an annual event.

Sr. Rhonda Brown,DSMP
Spiritual Advisor
St. Patrick Conference



Canada's Councils in Action

QUEBEC REGIONAL COUNCIL

SSVP Week: outcome

The third edition of SSVP Week ended on October 1st. Awareness raising activities towards poverty took place simultaneously in several regions of Quebec and made the SSVP known as an indispensable organization, part of Quebec philanthropic culture for over 100 years.

Harvest Tuesday was the occasion for beneficiaries, as well as, volunteers to spend a wonderful day in the fields, and come back with an armload of fresh vegetables, an activity that the SSVP is planning to renew next year. Rummage sales were held almost everywhere, we visited schools to promote the Opération Bonne Mine program, open door days allowed people to become acquainted with services offered, and some groups even organized discussions in colleges and universities. In brief, there was quite a range of activities that made that week a dynamic and rather inspiring time! Earlier on, a whole campaign had been organized in order to refresh the Society's image.

A week under the sign of change!

SSVP Week was an opportunity for the Society to update its image by proposing a **vivifying multimedia campaign** that somehow gave life back to its young founder, Frederic Ozanam who, at 20, in 1833, founded what was to become the largest lay aid society in the world. The Week was also an occasion to explain the Society to the X and Y generations, and to invite youths to join. The ad "Ozanam's Dream" may still be viewed on the **web**

(<http://ssvp-mtl.org/divers/splash/Ozanam/>), and a few chains will continue broadcasting it all year. "We want to ensure continuity until the next edition, and we have therefore created the "Mosaic of Ozanam's Friends" that will welcome Ozanam's new friends all year round", says Louise Larivière, Director of financing at the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Montréal, who directed the 2011 edition of the Week. The members of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of Québec gathered for a conference on September 29-30th were the first to join that mosaic of brotherhood and mutual aid. The Mosaic of Ozanam's Friends is on-going, and the general public will be invited to join as soon as it becomes interactive. We will keep you informed! In the meantime, the first ones to join can be seen at http://www.ssvp-mtl.org/divers/amis_ozanam/.



Canada's Councils in Action

QUEBEC REGIONAL COUNCIL

165 Years... That is Worth Celebrating

On November 12, 1846, in the sacristy of the Québec Cathedral, a young doctor, Joseph-Louis Painchaud, and a few companions founded the first conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada.

On November 12, 2011, 165 years later, more than 400 Vincentians and guests gathered in that same cathedral to celebrate the anniversary, and express their gratitude for all the blessings received.

The mass was presided by Monsignor Gérald-Cyprien Lacroix, Archbishop of Québec, assisted by Monsignor Maurice Couture, emeritus Archbishop of Québec and Religious of Saint Vincent de Paul. Attending were Vincentians from the Québec diocese, as well as the Montréal, Joliette, Trois-Rivières, and Saguenay dioceses. Mrs. Penny Craig, National President, had come from Windsor, Ontario, to grace us with her presence.

The mass that was celebrated by anticipation was the mass of Christ the King, which gospel is such in line with our mission: *I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was thirsty... I was a stranger... I was naked....*

For the occasion, the French CBC was on site to record the mass that was broadcasted from coast to coast on November 20, 2011, as part of *Le Jour du Seigneur*. The broadcast allowed us to reach Vincentians across the country.

After mass, a fraternal reunion took place at the Musée de l'Amérique française, located next to the Cathedral. During the gathering, Mr. Louis Painchaud, Theology Professor at Laval University, and descendant of the founder, spoke to us about his ancestor and his family.

As well, on that occasion, four *Joseph-Louis Painchaud Awards* were presented: one was presented posthumously to Mrs. Marie-Claire Gingras-Letarte, the first woman to hold the position of President of the National Council, and the other three were presented to Mrs. Sylvie Paquette, of the Mouvement Desjardins, for her contribution to the Québec Central Council, to Monsignor Maurice Couture, all-time friend and collaborator of the Society, and to Mr. Paul Sylvestre,

President-Founder of the St-Louis Conference in Sainte-Foy.

Finally, Mr. Réjean Lemoine, historian, launched his book, entitled *Nourrir son âme et visiter les pauvres* (Feed One's Soul and Visit the Poor), recounting the history of the Society in Québec, from its beginning until today. It is a mine of information on the activities of the Society, its evolution through the years, and the considerable influence it had on Québec and region. Let us highlight a few facts: the Society is at the very source of the *Patros* (community centres) and of the arrival in Canada of the Religious of Saint Vincent de Paul. The Society in Québec also contributed to the founding of the Congregation of the Bon-Pasteur Sisters of Québec, and distributed *Direct Assistance* in the 1930s.

Special thanks to the organizing committee: Mrs. Léda Simard-Bouchard, Chairwoman, as well as Mr. Pierre Morissette, President of Québec Regional Council, Gilles Veilleux and Gilles Roy, members of the Notre-Dame Conference in Québec.

To use our National President's expression, it was a wonderful family celebration.

**Jean-Marc Vaillancourt, Interim President
Québec Central Council**



Canada's Councils in Action

WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Slave Lake Disaster Recovery Project

Most of the victims of the Slave Lake fire are continuing to live in summer trailers or doubling up with friends. The temporary housing project is behind schedule with merely one of the three temporary home sites open for occupancy and at that site only approximately 30 of the 60 temporary homes currently occupied. Infrastructure for the 3 parks is still under development and housing units continue to be shipped north from the manufacturers.

Some replacement home construction has begun but merely a few foundations have been poured and only these few will be able to continue through to completion over the winter months.

The residents here, whose needs increase significantly as they move into their temporary homes, appreciate the assistance from the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. They express thanks and support for this project, as well as, future activities that the Society may initiate in their community. There has been exceptional support from the Parish Priest, Fr. Jeyapaul, who is anxious to start a SSVP Conference in the parish.

A Highway Van/Distribution Centre has been set up and is opened daily in the afternoon. It consists of a 52 ft. highway van which has been equipped with shelving. The initial inventory of back to school needs has been replaced with dishes, bedding, children's reading materials, handyman tools and small furniture.

The van is sufficiently large for SSVP to service the pressing needs of the community if inventory is continuously restocked for the needs that are identified at the specific time over the next several months. The cold is making it difficult to attend to the Highway Van/Distribution Centre but arrangements have been made for some heating capacity.

The community disaster recovery program in Slave Lake has some unique features. Many of the residents have left the community. Those with low income or no jobs are being serviced well by the government agencies. Many who have jobs have been doubling up with other families living 2 or 3 families in a home. Temporary semi-permanent homes have been promised by the government as transition facilities. These will house



Canada's Councils in Action

residents for about 2 years as the burned out neighbourhoods are rebuilt. None of these temporary homes are available as yet. It may be that this project will need to be extended for more than 3 months to satisfy the needs of the community as families go through the transition housing.

Other groups have joined in to help; they include the parishes, the Edmonton Catholic School Board, several schools as well as the SSVP Conferences. All have been collecting tools, dishes, kitchen gadgets, children's reading materials, bedding/blankets and winter clothing.

All these activities have produced an increased awareness of the SSVP in the Slave Lake community and it continues to grow through the interfaith community as well as both school boards. The Youth who now have an awareness of the works of the Society are getting involved through donation drives to assist their fellow youth in Slave Lake. It also seems that the establishment of a Conference in Slave Lake is apparently well seeded.

REMINDER

**The name of our organization is
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
and the acronym is
SSVP.**

**Certain conferences and councils
omit a word in the name
or change the acronym.**

**It is important for the image of
our Society that it be identified
the same way by all.**



Canada's Councils in Action

ATLANTIC REGIONAL COUNCIL

Hand in Hand

Hand in Hand is a special works of Halifax Particular Council. The store provides second hand clothing, small household items and a minimal amount of furniture. Although the store is located in Spryfield which is in the western part of Halifax, assistance is given throughout the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Hand in Hand was started over twenty years ago in the basement of St. Michael's church in Spryfield. Very quickly the operation became too large for the basement and Hand in Hand moved across the street to a larger facility. There was a great need and the response for donations was overwhelming so that very soon the second facility became too small.

It was at this point that Halifax Particular Council decided that they would purchase a small two story house in the hopes that this would not only solve the space problem but give us the opportunity to expand the work of Hand in Hand. Under the guidance of Sister Alice Mailman, the Director, the store became a place for training and advocacy in addition to the store. Sister Alice presented courses/workshops on a variety of topics from Sign Language training to Assertive training to cooking classes. Whenever a need for training was brought to the attention of Sister Alice, she would try and accommodate the request.

Sister Alice strongly believed that those who came to Hand in Hand should be treated with love, compassion, dignity and respect. Although she understood that people who came to our door may have little or no money, she believed that it gave the person a sense of pride when they paid for what they needed. The prices were marked very low so the cost would not be a burden on the person. Needless to say, if the person was unable to pay, the clothes were given freely. It is the intention of the board that this will always be the philosophy of Hand in Hand. We are very grateful that Sister Alice was there to guide us at the beginning of Hand in Hand. We have been blessed with many special and caring benefactors and volunteers over the years,

It was not long before we ran out of space. Donations took up so much room that we were unable to carry out the training and advocacy courses that Sister Alice had started. There was a double vacant lot next to Hand in Hand which belonged to the city. The Board of Hand in Hand began negotiations with the city to purchase this vacant lot. After many years of delays and difficulties, the difficulties were overcome and Halifax Particular Council purchased the lot and construction began on the current building. The new building was opened November 2010 and it is large enough to house the store, a large sorting area and a second floor with room enough for office space, a boardroom and a kitchen area for the staff and volunteers. In addition, the previous store is temporarily being used for storage.

The past twenty years have been a challenging but rewarding time for those of us involved, but we always felt that the challenge was worth the effort as we knew the need was great. To this day we maintain Sister Alice's and Halifax Particular Council's philosophy of paying a minimum amount if you can but there is no charge if the person is unable to pay. The cost of operating the new building is much greater than our previous building, but the Board of Hand in Hand hopes to find ways that we can off-set the costs so that we do not need to raise our prices. It will certainly be a challenge to make sufficient money to cover our operating expenses without raising prices. However, we are confident that He will find a way so that we can continue to serve His people with the same love, compassion, respect and dignity as we have for the past twenty-one years.

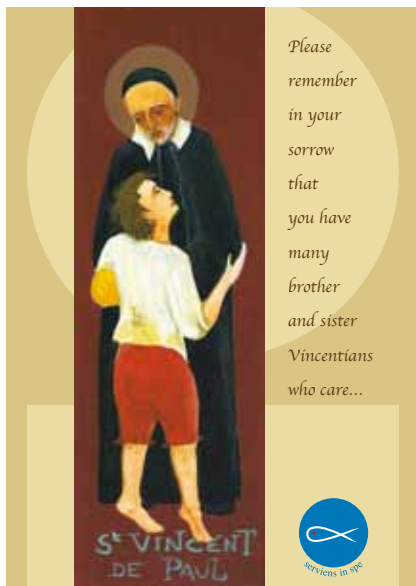
Maureen MacIsaac
Hand in Hand Chair

What's new?

GREETING CARDS

The National Council now offers greeting cards. There is a sympathy card, and two “Thinking of you” cards. Both “Thinking of you” cards are also available blank on the inside. The cards can be ordered from the national office at a cost of \$1 each, or in packs of 12 for \$10, prepared to your specifications.

Sympathy card



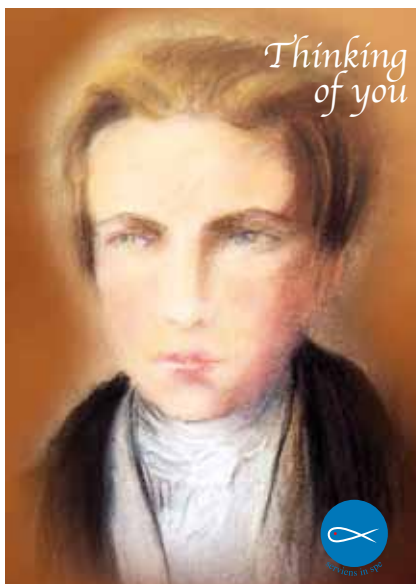
Cover

*Please
remember
in your
sorrow
that
you have
many
brother
and sister
Vincentians
who care...*

Inside

*You and yours
are very special
to our Vincentian family.
Please know that
all of you
are in our thoughts
and prayers
at this sorrowful time.*

Thinking of you cards (also available blank)



Inside

*May you find rest and
strength in God's love,
and be comforted by
the thoughts and prayers
of your Vincentian
Family members.*

AGA 2012 - Halifax NS



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
National Council of Canada
Annual General Assembly
Halifax, Nova Scotia

“THE LIGHT OF CHRIST”

Dear Brother/Sister Vincentians:

Our theme for the 2012 AGA is “*The Light of Christ*”. St. Paul continually reminds us that we are light and specifically in Ephesians 4:8-9 “*So you must live like people who belong to the light, for it is the light that brings a rich harvest of every kind of goodness, righteousness, and truth*”. As the Pope challenges us in the New Evangelization, what better way to fulfill this challenge than to be a beacon of light to all the world by our good works.

We are pleased to invite you to the upcoming National Annual General Assembly of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, June 6-10, 2012.

You will find information for registration, accommodation at St. Mary's University and a program in this magazine.

Should you need further information, please contact us at 902-477-7891 or email us at : ssvp.aga.2012@gmail.com.

We look forward to welcoming you next June.

Yours in Christ

Carol Horne and Maureen MacIsaac
Co-chairs of the AGA 2012 Committee

AGA 2012 - Halifax NS

PROPOSED WORKSHOPS

The Light of Christ

Presidents: For new presidents and not so new presidents. A time to learn! – A time to share!

Secretaries: More than just taking minutes, confidentiality – annual reports –an important part of keeping the conference running.

Treasurers: Where does the money come from? Whose money is it? Annual reports, Vincentian stewardship- Don't let the ship sink!

Spiritual Advisors: What is the role? Are we using them? They play a valuable part in our family.

Meetings: Why bother? Yawn! How to take the sting out! Make meetings a family gathering where everyone gets their say, the message gets across, we pray and we are out of there in an hour or so.

Vincentian Prayer/Vincentian Spirituality: It is the master that leads us and we need the guidance of our prayer and that of others.

Systemic Change: If it's to be, it's up to me! Make it work in my community. Let's help those living in poverty to lift themselves from their situation.

The Poverty Game: What our friends in poverty really go through. We will reenact a life in the day of living in poverty and dealing with it all.

Advocacy: When we can help. We walk along side of those in poverty, teaching them the way.

Communication: Getting our information to our Vincentians is one thing. If we can't do that, how do we get it to the public? Public Communication, making it work to our advantage

Succession: Who's Next? Take that seat. Grooming a leader for the future, the role belongs to all of us.

Where's the Beef? What do you want to Know? Question and answer time.

Theme Developed: The light of Christ and all its richness broken open by Father Quinn/Msgr. Schonenbach.

Please fill form to present workshop

Title of Workshop: _____

Length: _____

Language Presented: English _____ French _____

Presenter Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Biographical Data: : _____

Topic Content Summary: _____

How does the topic tie into the AGA theme?

Handout Materials:

Required Room size/type

Required AV Materials

Associated Costs if any

Please send to

Lynn L'Heureux Chair, Education/ Formation Committee

15 Grafton Dr. SW Calgary AB T3E 4W1

calgaryssvpadm@gmail.com

Approved by National Council Education Committee:

Date: _____

AGA 2012 - Halifax NS

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6		ACTIVITY	ROOM
9:00 AM	- 8:00 PM	Registration & Hospitality	
9:00 AM	- 4:00 PM	National Council Committee Meetings (as per requests)	
1:00 PM	- 5:00 PM	Tours of Saint-Vincent de Paul Programs	
7:00 PM		Regional Meetings	
		Evening on Your Own	
THURSDAY JUNE 7			
7:30 AM	- 8:30 AM	Breakfast	
8:00 AM	- 4:00 PM	Registration & Hospitality with sales table	
9:00 AM	- 10:30 AM	National Council Board Meeting	
8:45 AM	- 10:15 AM	Workshops	
10:15 AM	- 10:30 AM	Break	
10:30 AM	- 12:00 PM	Workshops	
12:00 PM	- 1:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00 PM	- 2:30 PM	Workshops	
1:00 PM	- 2:30 PM	National Council Committee Meetings	
2:30 PM	- 2:45 PM	Break	
2:45 PM	- 4:15 PM	Workshops	
2:45 PM	- 4:15 PM	National Council Committee Meetings	
4:30 PM	- 5:15 PM	Rosary & Mass	
6:30 PM	- 9:00 PM	Wine & Cheese Reception	
7:30 PM		Official Welcoming	



AGA 2012 - Halifax NS

FRIDAY JUNE 8		ACTIVITY	ROOM
7:30 AM	- 8:30 AM	Breakfast	
8:00 AM	- 4:00 PM	Registration & Hospitality with sales table	
8:45 AM	- 9:30 AM	Parade of the Banners - Official Opening	Auditorium
9:30 AM	- 10:15 AM	Keynote Speaker - Sister Marie Poole, Sister of Charity	Auditorium
10:15 AM	- 10:30 AM	Break	
10:30 AM	- 12:00 PM	President's Round Table (with voting members)	Auditorium
10:30 AM	- 12:00 PM	Workshops	
12:00 PM	- 1:00 PM	Lunch	
12:00 PM	- 1:30 PM	Spiritual Advisors' Luncheon	
1:00 PM	- 3:00 PM	Plenary - Ed Keane/Clermont Fortin/Youth	Auditorium
3:00 PM	- 3:15 PM	Break	
3:15 PM	- 3:45 PM	Presentation of candidates for President	Auditorium
3:45 PM	- 4:30 PM	Regional Reports	Auditorium
4:45 PM	- 5:45 PM	Rosary - Memorial Service - Mass	
6:00 PM		Pub Night with Downeast entertainment	
SATURDAY JUNE 9			
7:30 AM	- 8:30 AM	Breakfast	
8:00 AM	- 1:00 PM	Hospitality and sales table	
8:45 AM	- 9:15 AM	Spiritual Reflection on the theme	Auditorium
9:15 AM	- 10:15 AM	National Committee Reports	Auditorium
10:15 AM	- 10:30 AM	Break	
10:30 AM	- 11:45 AM	Statutory Meeting	Auditorium
12:00 PM	- 1:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00 PM	- 3:30 PM	Statutory Meeting cont'd - Presentation Next AGA	Auditorium
3:30 PM		Refreshments & Free Time	
5:30 PM		Mass & Commissioning	
7:00 PM		Banquet and dance	
SUNDAY JUNE 10			
7:30 AM	- 8:30 AM	Breakfast	
		Possible Youth meeting or Committee meetings	

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CANADA 41ST ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
CONSEIL NATIONAL DU CANADA 41^E ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE

Wednesday, June 6 to Sunday, June 10, 2012 / Mercredi 6 juin au dimanche 10 juin, 2012 - Halifax, NS

Early Registration deadline: April 30, 2012 / Date limite pour inscription à tarif préférentiel : 30 avril 2012

☐ Correspondence in English / ☐ Correspondance en Français

Please print clearly / Prière d'écrire en lettres moulées

Name / Nom:		Tel / Tél:
Address/ Adresse:	Apt / App:	Email / Courriel:
City/Ville:	Prov:	Postal code / Code postal:
Conference / Conférence:	Council / Conseil:	
Contact in case of emergency / Personne à contacter en cas d'urgence:		Tel / Tél:
Spiritual Advisor/Conseiller Spirituel:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes / Oui <input type="checkbox"/> No / Non	
Arrival date & time / Date et heure d'arrivée:	Departure date & time / Date et heure de départ:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bus / Autocar	<input type="checkbox"/> Car / Auto	<input type="checkbox"/> Plane / Avion
Arrival number / Numéro d'arrivée:	Airport and Carrier / Aéroport et transporteur:	
Departure number / Numéro de départ:	Airport and Carrier / Aéroport et transporteur:	

Would you like a volunteer to meet you at the airport? ☐ Yes / Oui

Souhaitez-vous qu'un bénévole vous rencontre à l'aéroport? ☐ No / Non

From Tuesday to Sunday / De mardi à dimanche

Do you require transportation back to the airport on **Sunday**? ☐ Yes / Oui

Dimanche, voulez-vous être conduit à l'aéroport? ☐ No / Non

Do you have any special mobility needs? _____

Avez-vous des besoins spéciaux en matière de mobilité? _____

REGISTRATION FEE / FRAIS D'INSCRIPTION

Before April 30, 2012 / Avant le 30 avril 2012 \$ 245 Student rate / Taux étudiant : \$ 150

After April 30, 2012 / Après le 30 avril 2012 \$ 260 Student rate / Taux étudiant : \$ 150

This amount covers conference registration, Wine and Cheese, Friday Pub Night and Saturday Banquet.

Ces frais couvrent l'inscription au congrès, le Vin et Fromage, Soirée Pub du vendredi et le banquet du samedi.

Registration fee, per person / Frais d'inscription, par personne :	_____ x \$245 / \$ 260 = \$ _____
Youth Registration fee, per person / Frais d'inscription jeune, par personne:	_____ x \$150 = \$ _____
Additional welcome tickets / Billets supplémentaires réception bienvenue :	_____ x \$ 40 = \$ _____
Additional Pub Night tickets / Billets supplémentaires pour Soirée Pub::	_____ x \$ 40 = \$ _____
Additional banquet tickets / Billets supplémentaires pour banquet:	_____ x \$ 50 = \$ _____
	Total A \$ _____

One Day Registration Fee / Frais d'inscription d'un jour

Registration fee, per person, per day / Frais d'inscription, par personne, par jour: \$ 55

_____ days/jours x _____ person/personne x \$ 55 day/jour= **Total B \$ _____**

MEALS / REPAS

Do you have any dietary concerns or allergies? Please specify. _____
Avez-vous des allergies ou intolérances alimentaires ? Prière de spécifier. _____

*Breakfast vouchers are included as part of the accomodation package.
Des bons de déjeuners sont inclus dans les frais de séjour.*

Select desired meals / Sélectionnez les repas désirés:

	Thu/Jeu	Fri/Ven	Sat/Sam	Sun/Dim	Number of meals / Nombre de repas			
Breakfast/Déjeuner	\$ 9,75	\$ 9,75	\$ 9,75	\$ 9,75	_____	x	\$ 9,75	= \$ _____
Lunch/Dîner	\$ 12,50	\$ 12,50	\$ 12,50	\$ 12,50	_____	x	\$ 12,50	= \$ _____
Total C								\$ _____

Please note that bags and big purses are not permitted in the Dockside cafeteria. Please see that you make arrangements to secure your valuables prior to entering the cafeteria and/or place your items in the storage area provided.

Veuillez prendre note que les sacs et grands sacs à main ne sont pas permis dans la cafétéria. SVP prévoir des arrangements pour sécuriser vos items de valeur avant d'entrer dans la cafétéria ou placer vos items dans la zone prévue à cet effet.

TOTAL PAYMENT / TOTAL DES FRAIS:

(A + B + C) = \$ _____

Payment must be sent with completed application (cheque only)

Accommodation arrangements to be made directly to St. Mary's University

Le paiement doit accompagner l'inscription (uniquement par chèque).

Pour l'hébergement, veuillez contacter directement l'Université St. Mary.

Make cheque payable to / Faire le chèque à l'ordre de: SSVP AGA 2012

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Halifax Particular Council AGA 2012

440 Herring Cove Rd.

Halifax NS B3R 1W4

Tel: 902-477-7891 - Fax: 902-422-2345 - Email / Courriel: ssvp.aga.2012@gmail.com

LODGING ON CAMPUS / HÉBERGEMENT SUR LE CAMPUS

Room Type / Type de chambre

Single Dorm style Room / Chambre pour une personne: \$49,95

Double Dorm style Room / Chambre pour 2: \$79,95

Bedroom apartment (sleeps 3) / Appartement chambres pour 3: \$119,95

Bedroom apartment (sleeps 4) / Appartement chambres pour 4: \$119,95

The above rates include taxes, breakfast, parking and a pass to the Tower Athletic Facility for guests over the age of 16.
Les prix mentionnés ci-haut incluent les taxes, déjeuners, stationnement et une passe pour la salle athlétique pour les invités de 16 ans et plus.

For more information and to book accommodation / Pour plus d'information et pour réserver un logement:

Tel: 902-420-5589 - Fax 902-496-8107 - email: Summer.Residence@smu.ca

PLEASE NOTE: A confirmation of registration will be sent to you by email (or regular mail if no email address given).

Cancellation: Please note, refunds, less \$50, will be made for cancellations. No refunds will be given for cancellations made without notice.

VEUILLEZ NOTER: Vous recevrez la confirmation de votre inscription par courriel (ou par la poste si vous ne donnez pas d'adresse courriel). **Annulation:** Vous avez droit au plein remboursement, moins 50\$. Aucun remboursement ne sera consenti sans avis d'annulation.