

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul National Council of Canada



Annual Report



2010
2011



Table of contents

National President	3
Quebec Regional Council	6
Ontario Regional Council	8
Western Regional Council	10
BC and Yukon Regional Council	12
Atlantic Regional Council	13
Education/Formation Committee	14
Voice of the Poor Committee	15
Human Resources Committee	16
Finance Committee	16
International Emergency Relief Committee	17
National Emergency Relief Committee	17
Twinning Committee	18
Strategic Planning Committee	20
Spirituality Committee	23
Youth Committee	24
Statistics	25
Vincentian activities across Canada	26
Presidents of the Council General International	28
Presidents of the National Council of Canada	29

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.

National President

God has truly blessed the National council of Canada again over the past year. He has enabled so many life-giving experiences and avenues of growth. As always a tremendous amount of thanks goes to the members of the administrative team for their assistance.

As we move forward in bringing the National Council into the “modern age” of technology, it seems that we open doors to more and more things to address. The members of the Board of Directors continue to take up the challenges to move the Society forward in so many ways and on so many levels. I am so pleased to share the following report.

Administration

As you may remember, we hired Sandra Melo as Administrative Assistant in the Ottawa office in October of 2008. She then went on maternity leave intending to return in October of 2010. However, based on her needs, she made the decision to remain home with her children, she thus resigned. This left us with the challenge, once again, of searching for a new administrative assistant for the Ottawa office.

We are very fortunate to have found **Josée Lemieux**, who is now in place and doing very well. Her background is teaching, and she lives in Orleans with her husband and three children. She is working 21 hours per week. We will meet and welcome her at the 2011 National Council AGA in Victoria BC. She will be working with Nicole to learn the protocols of the AGA. She is highly skilled in the area of electronic information and is always on the alert for ways to streamline office activities so that we have timely information at our disposal.

During the period between staff changes, the office was managed by **Clermont Fortin** in Ottawa and **Nicole Schryburt** in Montreal using call forwarding. We owe a great debt of gratitude to both Nicole and Clermont for their diligence in both administrative work and overseeing the maintenance operations of the home.

Aggregations and Institutions

We continue in our efforts to facilitate the audit of our Canadian Conferences and Councils. This has been a tremendous undertaking. Our thanks to the regional

presidents for their assistance in this process. We have definitely arrived to a point where we can now monitor, revise and trust the information we have on electronic record. I have sent our Canadian report to the International Council General who were very pleased with the accuracy of the Canadian report.

The applications for aggregations and institutions are moving through the system very well and in a timely manner. We have instituted forms to assist conferences and councils with the clustering and closing of conferences and the request to CGI for new names for their conferences or council.

A quick reference form has also been designed for those conferences and councils that are applying for CRA charities numbers.

The process to follow and the forms for both of these are on the web-site.

Board Orientation Day

As a follow up to last year's report, part of the day this year was spent paying a great deal of attention to the public relations/media aspects of the National Council of Canada. Everyone took part in small group work to share their perspectives about: a) what our messages should be, b) our look and tag lines, c) how we should deliver the messages both to our members and the public at large, and d) how to gather the information required, especially the statistical data about the Society in Canada.

The information was gathered into a document for designing our work plan. If we are to announce a SSVP Week across Canada, it is important that we have correct and up to date information. The Board continues its endeavours to research best practices and fiscal feasibility especially where they relate to Public Relations/Media strategies. These strategies are important in relation to the commencement of a nationally announced Society of Saint Vincent de Paul week as directed by the members at the 2010 AGA.

Board Retreat Day

In May, the Friday is spent as a day of retreat/spirituality. The time is spent reflecting on the importance of who

National President

we are as stewards and members of the board and the members of the administrative team. We celebrate the gifts each of us brings to the ministry of administration and within the Society. The day begins with prayer and recitation of the rosary and ends with the celebration of Mass. This provides a source of spiritual nourishment for the administrative team that assists them in their work both at the national council level and back home assisting their administrative team.

Standing Committees of the National Council of Canada

Education, Strategic Planning - VP Carol Horne – on leave at the moment. These committees have been chaired by: Education- Lynn L'Heureux WRC, and Strategic Planning – Jim Paddon ORC

Advocacy (Voice of the Poor) - VP Clermont Fortin

Youth - Caroline Gilbert, Youth Representative

Twinning - Kathy Weswick, Chair

International Disaster Relief - VP Clermont Fortin

National Emergency – VP Clermont Fortin

Finance - VP Marcel Tremblay

Spirituality – Maureen MacIssac

Human Resources/Personnel –Clermont Fortin

Property Management – Clermont Fortin

These Standing Committees have been diligently engaged in their activities. We are moving forward in so many positive ways. A great deal of thanks goes to the chairs and members of each region that work tirelessly on our behalf. They will provide their own comprehensive reports.

Website and Vincenpaul Magazine

Nicole Schryburt continues to manage the web site aspect of communications. She has made great strides with entering the information onto the web-site that will be timely and useful for members and the public.

The Vincepaul got a new look as well. **Nicole and Caroline Gilbert** worked together to redesign the “Look” of the magazine. Many compliments received. **Ellen**

Schryburt assists with the editing. **Please again... Updating addresses can never be over emphasized!**

We are getting less and less returns, but we must continue to work to ensure that every president and address is correct.

Promotional Items

A host of promotional items have been assembled for members of the National Council to purchase. These are available on the web-site for viewing and ordering.

Translation Services

Our deepest thanks again to **Ghislaine Du Nord** for her continued diligence. With her help we have moved our documents eg minutes, agendas etc into a side by side bilingual documents. This makes it so much easier for dissemination of one document information. As always she is so diligent in her task of assisting the National Council to function. What a lady!!!

As one can see, everyone shares their special gifts to make the Society in Canada a true reflection of the Gospel Message in Canada.

Spiritual Advisor

It is so important that I recognize and thank our **Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Peter Schonenbach**. He has truly been there for us as members. His opinions and guidance have proven fruitful when decisions are being made. His inspirational talks before each meeting and his willingness to provide sacramental such as prayer, Mass and commissioning etc that are such an important part of Vincentian life. Yes, of course business decisions are required, but the essential reason we come together is to enhance the spiritual life of each other and those we serve, and Msgr Peter helps to remind us of that aspect.

Spiritual Advisors all over Canada also need to be given a big “thank you” for the role they play as important persons in the daily life of any conference or council. They assist each conference and council to make “Gospel based” decisions that enable and empower us to “serve” those in need. Thank you to each one of you! As all of you know I always look for things to celebrate

National President

each year. In 2008 we celebrated 175 years of SSVP, in 2009, we celebrated 160 years of SSVP in Canada, in 2010 it was the 350th anniversary of St. Vincent de Paul and St Louise de Marillac's death.

For 2011, I would like to celebrate the year of the Spiritual Advisor! I wrote about this in the winter issue of the Vincenpaul outlining what this ought to be about. I am truly looking forward to celebrating the volunteer work that Spiritual Advisors do for the Society at all levels.

Public Relations/Media

As per the request of the voting members of the 2010 AGA statutory meeting the board of directors were asked to determine the feasibility of declaring a national SSVP Week of celebrations. This indeed requires that the information and data that is provided to the media is of the highest quality.

I have mentioned previously that as a National Council we must now move toward a more professional approach in sending our profile and messages to those in need and the public. This is especially important in light of emphasis on advocacy. We must know who we are in each region and across Canada if we are to have any credibility. We must be able to speak with some authority about such things as a) how many conferences and councils we have in Canada, b) how many members we have, c) how many stores we operate, d) the number of soup kitchens, the number of summer camps, e) how many employees are employed because of these entities, f) how many people we have served and helped across Canada etc. etc. There is a lack of credibility and embarrassment when no one can provide accurate information when required to do so.

New National Council of Canada Annual Reports

The new report involves both the statistical data form and the financial reporting form. They are one comprehensive form with guidelines designed for both. We have begun using these forms for the 2010 reporting year. As with all new or revised documents, some growing pains are to be expected. Of significance at this time is that a request has now been made to design an electronic data base for use by all conferences and

councils that will correspond to the report. Statistics may then be collected

Summation

The National Council of Canada has moved forward in so many positive directions all of which have been so life giving for each member and those that we serve. The growth in stability and diversity of actions has made the Society and its members a valuable entity to both the community and its members and those we serve as members of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

We can only become better and stronger if we keep our spirituality and efforts pointed in the direction of the Gospel message.....we have to really focus on becoming true "people of the water and the towel". This is our identity. This is what sets us apart from other "community service agencies". Our name means "charity" as the Gospel meant it to be. As Vincentians, we are the people of the Gospel, brothers and sisters in Christ, learning and striving to serve as Jesus served.... one person by one person – face to face seeing the face of Christ in all who suffer! No other agency has such a beautiful mission.

We must never forget or compromise our mission and values!

As always, I will continue to assist my brother and sister Vincentians to continually move forward in sharing their gifts in the ministry of administration. We need your prayers as well as your support and encouragement. We look forward to another Spirit-filled and Spirit led year for 2011!

I pray that "we may be all one in truth and charity!"

May the radiance of your charity be a beaming light!

● Penny Craig, President

Quebec Regional Council

This message will be my last one as President of the Quebec Regional Council. It is with great pride that I held that office.

I had the opportunity to work with inspired people, people filled with love for others, faithful to the mission of the SSVP. They live an active faith, such as Jesus taught us to live, working with the hope of better conditions for the most disadvantaged in our society. Partly because of today's media, I have the feeling that our members are becoming more aware of the misery in every region of our planet.

During those past years at the service of Quebec councils and conferences, we identified various issues that had to be addressed to lead our association towards a concrete future. The main issues identified have remained the same for a while:

- Recruit actively to rejuvenate and increase membership.
- Revise our spiritual discourse, and adapt for better understanding by our younger members.
- Show that our mission is contemporaneous and our faith is active.
- Communicate efficiently with our members, all councils and the outside world.
- Train, train, train. Use new formulas to encourage and motivate members to improve their Vincentian life.
- Quickly offer training to new members.
- Respect our Rule's intentions.

Our mission should not change, but we must change our vision in our way of doing things.

Already, several conferences have quit doing home visits: needy people are met on SSVP premises. SSVP stores are becoming more and more the SSVP showcase. We must prevent profit-seeking becoming more important than generosity, free giving, and generous hospitality.

Superior Councils must continue focusing on orientations for our spiritual and temporal practices. We live at a time when religious practice is decreasing, but at the same time, this is a period during which many

people are looking for ways to give a meaning to their interior life.

I wish much success to the members of the national committee that has to develop a strategic plan for our Society. They have a great responsibility. May the Spirit accompany all members of that committee.

Increasingly, we have to create an atmosphere of collegiality among us, Vincentians. *(I strongly suggest reading the going away speech by José Ramon Torremocha.)*

I would like to wish the best success possible to the new President of the Quebec Regional Council, Mr. Pierre Morrisette. I am convinced that with his attachment to the SSVP, his experience and his youth, he will be able, with his team, to steer the Quebec Regional Council towards activities that meet priority needs of the most needy in our Quebec society and elsewhere.

In 2010, all council and conference members have continued to work generously for the wellbeing of disadvantaged people and at the same time, to help improve their interior life and become better persons by practicing an active faith (is that not what our young founders had chosen as a mission?).

Following are a few of our major activities in 2010:

- The traditional Guignolée, the Guignolée of the media, and the distribution of Christmas hampers.
- The Opération Bonne Mine (OBM) is becoming more and more important.
- The publication of 3 bulletins Voix et Voie (paper version)
- The publication of 3 bulletins Voix et Voie (electronic version)
- Setting up of a *Spirituality Committee*, with the enthusiastic and constructive participation of 10 of our members. A summary of their work will be published in the Vincenpaul.
- The organization of a second "SSVP Week", in September 2010, with the increasingly active participation of our members.

Quebec Regional Council

- Constant work by everyone to encourage **recruitment** of new members. That is **priority #1**.
- The Montreal Central Council has developed an extensive plan to encourage recruitment. That document is available to all.
- That council also updated their training plan.
- The Québec Central Council is organizing several activities to celebrate its 165th founding anniversary.
- That council has also performed a thorough analysis of management practices and secretariat functions. An extensive report was published.
- The two central councils in the Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean area have established a dialogue to discuss the possibility or merging into only one council. It is a wonderful gesture of collegiality and trust.
- The St-Jean-sur-Richelieu Particular Council received a donation of a few hundred thousand dollars to relocate and furnish their food bank.
- During the 2010 SSVP Week, the Gatineau-Hull Central Council distributed 70,000 advertising inserts to the population. What a fantastic initiative!
- Training courses were given in various councils and conferences. Unfortunately, in spite of the importance of training and the quality of those courses, we note that several members remain reluctant towards that type of activity.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to all Vincentians that I have met and whom I have worked with in various councils and committees, and in my St-Viateur Conference, in Joliette.

You have helped me considerably in improving my interior life. You have also motivated me, not only to reflect on our guiding values, but also to give life to those values by serving the poor.

Thank you to all of you.

● Jean-Claude Bienvenue, President



*Official poster of the
Vincentian Week.*

*"See volunteering
otherwise"
"Dignity every day"*

Ontario Regional Council

This year our Ontario regional Council has faced many challenges. From the disaster in Haiti to the expansion of our many outreaches there is a lot of work to do. This spring we plan to visit Thunder Bay and surrounding Conferences and Council. We are blessed with an energetic and hardworking Council.

Spirituality

We are very pleased to have Bishop McGratton as part of our Executive. The Spirituality of our Society is our main focus. Bishop McGratton as the past Rector of St Peter Seminary in London, Ontario, has amassed a vast wealth of experiences and knowledge. He has readily shared his insights at our meetings. His friendly mannerisms and demeanor have made it easy for our members to relate with his message. We are blessed to have a Spiritual Advisor with such piety and understanding of the Values and Mission Statement of our Society. He is our Shepherd, the answer to our prayers.

We are planning to create a Spirituality Committee which will develop projects to enhance our Spiritual works.

Stores

We have 44 stores in Ontario that act as an extension of our mission to serving Christ in the poor. We offer quality used items at reasonable prices while also providing free items by referral voucher from our conferences. We are also planning to have all stores celebrate the Feast day of St. Vincent de Paul (Sept. 27th) by having a week of special sales and events. Our stores are our face to the public and we can have a very positive influence on our image.

Voice of the Poor

Our main goal is to introduce the concept of systemic change as it relates to poverty in Ontario. Systemic change seeks to help change the lives of those living in poverty while also addressing the systems that contribute to it. We must realize that charity without justice is not sufficient. The need to include those living in poverty in the discussion and possible solutions is a necessity to be addressed. We will be holding a very special workshop on Systemic Change on Saturday, May 14th in St. Catherine's Ontario and would like to invite all Bishops to attend or their representative. The presenter at this workshop will be father John Freund, CM. For further information, please contact Jim Paddon at 519-397-2298 or by email at jpaddon4@cogeco.ca

Strategic Plan

The Ontario Regional Council is working on the development and implementation of our first ever strategic plan. One of our goals will be to develop more formal and productive means of collaboration with other Catholic groups and agencies. The ACBO and diocesan levels are certainly part of this initiative and we welcome any opportunities to discuss this topic with the ACBO. We are planning to approach the CWL, Catholic School Boards and K of C.

Financial Status

We are still in a relatively healthy position at this time. Conferences and Councils are passing monies up to Regional Council. In addition, we have received funds from "Canada Helps". Monies were passed down to 2



Ontario Regional Council

Councils in need. Our approximate Bank Balance is \$149,140. Our financial books are currently with our accountant who is working on our compilation for our Annual General Meeting.

Twinning

Twinning is Conferences and Councils with money and resources and to share these gifts with Conferences and Councils that have little or none. The Ontario Regional Council has twin Conferences and Councils through out South America. By sending money, correspondence and video conferencing, we are able to maintain a healthy dialogue.

After much confusion and concern things are finally getting back to normal with our Twin Council in Haiti. The problem was to make sure the monies were going to their proper destination. This has been resolved.

Youth

Raising funds and organizing for World Youth Day in Spain is our main focus. In addition, we are planning to send representatives to our National Council Annual General Meeting in Victoria B.C. Our students visit homes with food and vouchers. They assist conferences in all possible ways. Once a week students make lunches for the local food bank and high schools with lunch programs. They also visit senior citizens at their home or nursing homes.

Communications throughout the past year

Website: Our www.ssvp.on.ca website was accessed by 26,290 visitors compared to 17,331 last year, representing a 51.6% increase. We received 218 requests for assistance, and 180 donation offers of furniture, clothing and many household items from all over Ontario. These items assist us in carrying out our mission by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy. Twelve financial donations were received for a total of \$2865.00 dollars.

Quick Notes: 14 Various Quick notes were sent out to Vincentian members - year ending 2010.

They keep members informed on various changes and news received from National Council, Revenue Canada, Health and Safety, Provincial and Federal

government issues which will affect the poor as well as our own policies and many other items of interest. Such as 2011 World Youth Days and International Vincentian Youth Gathering along with application forms.

New Home page design.

New Youth Webpage: <http://ssvp.on.ca/PCyouthinfo.html> completely designed by Jason Hunt and monitored by him as well.

Store

New store opened in Cambridge: January 31 2011

Upcoming Events

Annual General Meeting in Victoria British Columbia and World Youth Day in Spain.

Quick Facts

- 394 Conferences
- 37 Particular Councils
- 5 Central Councils
- 87,662 Home visits to the poor
- Number of people helped: 151,143
- 3594 members
- 10 new aggregated conferences
- 2 new particular councils
- Total Receipts-\$8,073,084
- Total Expenditures-\$7,710,242

Special Works

- 46 stores
- 2 Affordable Housing Buildings
- 14 Transitional Homes
- 21 Supportive Homes
- 2 Summer Camps
- 8 Prison Ministries
- 98 Twinned Councils and Conferences
- 14 youth Conferences and one Particular Council

NOT INCLUDED:

- 1 Particular Council
- 5 Isolated Conferences

● **John Staley, President**

Western Regional Council

I am honoured to present the 2010/2011 annual report of the Western Region Council.

I begin with thank you. To all the wonderful hardworking Vincentians across the Region. You have made a difference in so many lives. To all the outgoing conference and council presidents for the perseverance and great work. Thank you for all your support and the midnight oil you have burned. Rest for awhile and refresh yourselves. To our benefactors for their selfless giving that enabled us to serve our friends, the poor.

Alberta

Edmonton has filled their positions at the councils and I welcome the new faces. Through a generous donation the Edmonton Council is able to buy a new delivery truck to add to their fleet. They held their annual meeting at the beginning of April and every conference was represented, many conferences had several people in attendance. I would like to point out the fabulous work Rita John, the council secretary has been doing. She definitely has the "and then some" spirit. I know Bernie feels very blessed to have her to assist him. There are so many talented people it is hard to mention all of them. Daryl Dittrich, the distribution manager, took some time to go up to Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories to work on the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Store...more about that later.

Edmonton council's newest conference in Red Deer already has a new president. The past president, Wanda Lehman and her husband Orville are moving out of the area. When Wanda called me she said she wasn't sure what to do, but consulted the Rule and had an election. That's just how it's done! Nicole Zimmerman is the new president at St. Katherine Drexel conference.

Calgary Central Council has received funding to start wholesale food buying and to hire two people to help with the food storage and distribution. Byron Price has completed his term as Central Council President. Under his leadership, as the first Central Council President in Calgary, he has made great inroads into communication, awareness of the Society, overseeing their first housing project, and many more important roles. We came into

our leadership roles together and I will miss our many phone calls to run ideas past each other - which almost always ended in laughter. His sense of humour was never wasted on me.

When Terry Hurst became the president in Medicine Hat, he gave me the pleasure of a phone call to get me up to speed with the conferences in the deep south of Alberta. He has some very good ideas.

Saskatchewan

St. Francis of Assisi conference in Prince Albert continues to serve their friends in many ways, one of which is with furniture. They were given a large amount of boxsprings and mattresses from a very nice hotel... our friends have better beds than some of us do. They also build tables to give with chairs. Henry Siwak has received an invitation for us to go to North Battleford for a presentation in May. We were also excited to learn of a youth group being started in Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan by former Windsor youth Sara Latouf, who is now teaching there.

St. Josephine Bakhita conference in Regina is another small but hard working conference. I don't hear much from them but have a promise of communication soon.

Manitoba

St. Timothy's Conference in Manitoba continues to stay strong and is inviting parishes in the city to see what the Society is about.

North West Territories/Nunavut

St. Patrick conference in Yellowknife, NT has a new president. We welcome him and will miss seeing Gerda's smiling face at our meetings. She has become a very good friend and I hope that friendship endures.

I haven't heard much from Mary Immaculate Conference in Gjoa Haven NV this year. I do know they are continuing to serve the poor with visits and food hampers. With food prices rising here, I can only imagine what they are like in the far north.

Western Regional Council

St. Joseph Conference in Tuktoyaktuk was the recipient of a government grant to renovate the Father's House which the diocese gave to the church there to use for the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. Daryl Dittrich of Edmonton went up to oversee the work and really did most of it with the help of a few. The grant was to renovate so that the second floor could be used for a drop in centre for the elders. Daryl also rebuilt the main floor interior so that it was more organized and safer. It is also much warmer in there without the drafts. Thanks to all who worked on the house, Stanton's, Gruben Transport, Northern Transportation Company Limited, Government of Canada New Horizons for Seniors Program, RTL Robinson Enterprises Ltd., Aklak Air, Canadian North, and Alberta Container Services Inc. for all your generosity to the people of Tuk.

Twinning

The Western Region enjoys a twinning relationship with North Particular Council of Haiti and National Council of Dominican Republic. We have shared communication and keep them in our prayers.

Spirituality

Local retreats have been held through the region and we have a prayer group led by Lynn L'Heureux who meet weekly by email to have a day of prayer and fasting.

Statistics

We have **1042** reporting Vincentians this year.

We have **56 Conferences, 8 Councils**. We served Christ in our **25,066 friends** (men, women and children) with **10,892** visits to our friends who were lifted up with food, clothing, furniture, financial aid, shelter, job search, budget planning, tutoring and much more in the gift of ourselves.

We received a total of **\$ 1,200,861** in to our accounts from donations, grants and fundraising. We disbursed **\$ 1,172,482** to the poor. This does not include monies received as transfer to conferences for tax receipts.

While the number of Vincentians is down the number of friends helped is up.

We continue to be good stewards of all God gives us. Less than 5% of our budget is used for administration and a bare minimum is left in our accounts from one year to the next with the excess funds being passed up in true Vincentian spirit. We trust in God to provide for our needs and the needs of our friends, whom we serve in Christ.


Respectfully submitted

● **Patricia Bennetto, President**

6TH ANNUAL
**LAST DINNER
ON THE TITANIC!**

Join us for a fun-filled evening
dedicated to helping those in need!


- **SAVOUR** an 8-course dinner
from St. James Corner chefs
Brian Van Nieuwkerk &
Jonathon Turner
- **FIND TREASURES**
in our Live and
Silent Auctions
- **WIN** Costume
and Door Prizes
- **ENJOY** Great Entertainment
- **TICKETS: \$75/person**
(tax receipt available)



FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2010
COCKTAILS 6:00 PM • DINNER 7:00 PM

At St. Michael's Catholic Community
4716 Worcester Dr. SW, Calgary AB

For tickets or Auction Donations, contact Byron or Lynn:



286-2468 • 607-7638 • bp123@telus.net
A fundraising event with proceeds going to
SOCIETY ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
for its ongoing work with those less fortunate

BC and Yukon Regional Council

My first year as Regional president has been filled with extraordinary blessings as I have witnessed the many Vincentians fulfill our Mission Statement *“to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, and joy.”*

Board:

Our Board is still not complete and still looking for National committee reps.

Communication

The website needs a complete overhaul and Victoria has generously started the process as well as offered to host it for us at a very reasonable cost.

Extension:

St. Mary's, Van, Christ the Redeemer, West Van, and St. Peter's, Mackenzie all received aggregations in 2010. Williams Lake waiting for aggregation and St. Nicholas, Langley formed in Nov 2010.

We are looking at another conference in West Bank (Kelowna) Our lady of Lourdes and Duncan, Ladysmith and Chemainus on the Island.

Spirituality

We are still seeking a Spiritual Advisor for Regional

Prince George & Mackenzie (Northern BC):

Prince George continues to perform extraordinary ministry in the downtown area and along with Mackenzie have hosted our Regional AGA at the Domano Centre. Mackenzie has submitted their CRA application.

Kamloops & Williams Lake Isolated Conferences:

Kamloops operates a Thrift Store, drop in centre, and Out of the Cold shelter and continue to answer the needs of the area.

We welcome Ken McCarvill as the new president of Williams Lake. They are continuing their Lunch in the Park program once a week.

Okanagan Valley PC Area:

5 conferences (4 in Kelowna and 1 in Penticton) facilitate Ozanam House for men recovering from substance abuse.

Vancouver Central Council Area:

24 conferences: 3 Particular Councils: 2 Thrift Stores: Outreach to Downtown Eastside three times a week serviced by volunteers.

Victoria & Northern Island PC areas:

11 active conferences: 2 Particular Councils: Filled over 23,835 requests for emergency assistance through the Social Concern Program: Housing Program for 43 tenants: Frederic Ozanam Program for adults with disabilities: 5 Retail Thrift Stores: Provided a work training program, a women's day program, a family support program, life skills training, a free income tax program, and advocacy for those in need.

Respectfully submitted

● Nora Criss, President

Atlantic Regional Council

BC & Yukon Statistics:

Central Councils	1
Particular Councils	5
Non instituted Particular Councils	1
Number of Aggregated Conferences	42
Number of Non Aggregated Conferences	2
Number of Inactive Conferences	25
Number of Homes visited	4762
Number of visit to these homes	7325
Number of adults served	11184
Number of children served	6557
Number of visits to sick home/hospitals/homes for aged	2149
Number of friendly visits to persons	1210
Prison Ministry visits	100
Conference membership	
Number of full members (age 36)	571
Number of young adult members (18-35)	26
Total number (includes screening)	666
Number of youth members	8
Number of auxiliary members	667
Store outlets	9
Soup kitchens	3
Drop in Centres	2
Housing	43
Special works: Christmas Dinners, Senior Dinners, Outreach truck of Sandwiches to street	
Twinning: 12 outside & 2 inside Canada	
Financial:	
Receipts:	\$5,589,172.00
Disbursements:	\$5,543,621.00
Surplus:	\$ 45,551.00
Total Assets:	\$10,104,467.00
Total Liabilities:	\$5,638,171.00
Total Liabilities & Surplus:	\$10,122,712.00

This third report of the president's term finds us with 56 conferences, 43 in five Particular Councils and a further 13 in Isolated conferences. We have 54/56 conferences aggregated and 47/56 conferences with a Canada Revenue Agency Business Number (BN). There are still 5 non-aggregated conferences in New Brunswick, 2 of which actually have a BN, that are not included in our numbers because they do not wish to be a part of our national structure. There are two Special Works in the Region: Hope Cottage and Hand in Hand, both in Halifax Particular Council jurisdiction.

Several conferences/councils celebrated the Feast Day on September 27, 2010 with a Eucharistic celebration and a dinner or gathering in fellowship afterwards. One conference, Mary Queen of the World in Mount Pearl, celebrated its 25th Anniversary of Aggregation with a Dinner/Dance. Several benefactors and special guests attended and deceased members were respectfully and fondly remembered.

We have difficulty with adherence to the RULE where a conference president does not leave office at the end of the second term of three years. Each conference president has a duty to find a successor. Reluctance to follow the RULE leads to a weakening of its effect on other Vincentians. We should all strive to follow the RULE since it embodies why we all work together in this vocation we have each chosen. Respect for The RULE will lessen stress at meetings and its guidance is there to help us follow our task uniformly in the footsteps of Frederic Ozanam and his friends.

We attended the Annual General Meeting in the region at Belcourt Centre, South Rustico, Prince Edward Island May 6-8. Not all conferences/councils used the new reporting format for financial and statistical information. Also, not all councils summarized the results for their own conferences and there was great difficulty getting a true picture of our financial and statistical positions for the National published Report.

There were too few conferences/councils which responded to the call for Financial and Statistical Reports. Consequently, the Region was unable to compile enough information to fairly represent the region's results.

● David Grant, President

Education/Formation Committee

(This report will reflect the work of the committee since June of 2010 when I became acting chair.)

This committee puts in many hours and we share our information by email. When we get together it is a writer's sweatshop, starting early in the morning with some continuing into the evening.. We met before and after and during the AGA 2010 and set priorities for modules.

The first three modules, now field tested and completed will be launched at the 2011 National AGA. They are meant to be presented as a full day workshop, but can also be presented one at a time. The three modules: Our Society (who we are, history, mission and structure); The Conference (roles, responsibilities, and activities); The Visit (the call, response, accessing the need, action)

These modules will be put on the web site for presidents to download for orientation and the screening process. We hope to also have simple tools available (a game like Jeopardy, skits and role play ideas) at the AGA to enhance presentations.

During our meeting in January, we finalized the above modules making the suggested changes brought forward from the regions. We created a power point from the material we have been working on related to the Role of Officers. Initially it was for Presidents and will be field tested starting with this AGA.

We also worked on a train the trainer's module which will be given in the fall to representatives from each region. The goal of this two day workshop will be to arm the trainers throughout Canada with material that will be uniform, while still having the ability to include the uniqueness of each region.

Modules to be developed include: Treasurer's Module, Secretary's Module, Spiritual Advisor's Module, and President's Module (this will likely include officers). These will be looked at based on the AGA workshops and presented to National for approval.


Upcoming development: Recruitment; Starting a new conference; Extension and Retention of Members Modules.

We appreciate your feedback and indeed thrive and grow on constructive criticism. The Education/Formation team is a dedicated varied group of Vincentians who work tirelessly to present good material for you to serve Christ in His poor better. Michel Olivier Quebec, Nora Criss BC, William Graham Ontario, Gerald Croteau (Advisor Quebec) , Fr. Joe Quinn (Spiritual Advisor Ontario), Carol Horne Atlantic, Margaret MacDonald Atlantic, are the good servants who give their talents to us and I am very proud to be a part of this team.

Respectfully submitted, in service to the poor.

● Lynn L'Heureux, Acting Chairperson

Voice of the Poor Committee



Members of the Committee were involved in various advocacy activities this past year. The Committee joined a major national organization promoting social justice and campaigning to reduce poverty in Canada. The Chair attended several events where social justice issues were discussed, wrote a few letters to Cabinet Ministers and members of parliament arguing the Society's position and solutions to specific Bills related to socio-economic issues and regulatory proposals. The Chair continued to exchange information and collaborate with Vincentians involved in Voice of the Poor activities at regional councils' level.

The Committee joined *Citizen for Public Justice, Dignity for All: The Campaign for a Poverty-Free Canada* organization during the past year. Committee chair had contacts with its Executive Director and contributed to activities of the CPJ. The CPJ is a faith-based not-for-profit advocacy group dedicated to help the poor. The Chair also attended the US Council AGA, in New Orleans LO, in September 2010 where he participated in workshops and exchanged with SSVP-US Voice of the Poor Committee members.

He also attended, with 2 other Vincentians, a 4 day training-the-trainers Conference on *Systemic Change* organized by the Vincentian Family Collaborators (USA-Canada) in Belleville, IL, in November 2010. This training will be the subject of a workshop at the 2011 AGA in Victoria, BC. *Systemic Change* is defined as going beyond charity; it is aimed at developing strategies involving those living in poverty to lift them out of their life conditions. As well, the Chair attended a Forum on Faith and Poverty in Ottawa on March 8, 2011. It is an annual event where participants of various faiths meet with MPs and exchange on best strategies to reduce poverty in Canada.

The Chair of the Committee wrote a few letters to Ministers and leaders of Opposition Parties to offer comments on proposed legislation tabled in the House of Commons or the Senate (e.g.: Bills C-36, C-470, C-304,). It also contributed to poverty issues by supporting advocacy activities by regional councils. A few articles were written and published in the magazine *VincenPaul-Canada*, others for posting on the SSVP National website.

The Committee has continued to learn about advocacy issues, developed contacts and activities, speaking and acting on behalf of the poor whom we serve. The prayers and cooperation of all Vincentians are needed for this most important mission.

● **Clermont Fortin, Chairperson**

Human Resources Committee

The National Council employs two part-time Administrative Assistants to perform all clerical, administrative and publishing duties. Mrs Nicole Schryburt, works from her home in Longueuil, Quebec while the other, Mrs Josée Lemieux, occupies a position at the National Office in Ottawa, Ontario. Both employees cumulate 41 hours of work per week, which meet the National Council needs.

Mrs Lemieux was hired in September 2010 after the resignation of her predecessor in August 2010. She handles most clerical and administrative duties at the National Office while Mrs Schryburt has responsibilities in the administration of certain national programs (e.g.: twinning), the publication of our magazine VincenPaul-Canada and the Annual Report.

I wish to thank both employees for their dedication beyond the call of duty during this past year.

● **Clermont Fortin, Chairperson**

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee, chaired by Marcel Tremblay, VP, met a few times to ensure a healthy administration of funds received by the National Council. Our Treasurer, Germain Souigny, and François Dufault, both members of the Finance Committee, participated in the development of financial practices necessary to ensure the viability of the Council in the long term.

The annual report form was modified as approved by the 2010 AGA in Toronto. That new form can be modified according to the needs expressed by various councils and conferences.

An annual contribution of \$240 per conference remains essential to cover operating expenses of the National Council. The 2010-2011 financial year was very disappointing in regard to contributions. In fact, for a budget of \$226,800, an amount of \$164,805 was received in contributions, meaning a percentage of 73%. That situation resulted in a decreased of contribution to the Council General International, the necessity for national committees to postpone expenses, and limited liquidities in the current operations account.

Thanks to all conferences and councils who sent their full contribution. We hope that contributions in the current year will be greater, in order to allow the National Council to fulfill its role as leader of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada.

● **Marcel Tremblay, Chairperson**

International Emergency Relief Committee

The Committee has responsibility to respond to and track requests for financial assistance from national Councils outside Canada as a result of disasters. Funds are provided mostly to countries twinning with Canadian councils and conferences.

The Committee recommended and the Executive Committee approved relief assistance to foreign councils as follows:

Earthquake in Haiti on January 12, 2010

The seismic tremble caused death and devastation in most regions of Haiti and the capital, Port au Prince, was devastated. Vincentians from all regions of Canada responded with much generosity to an appeal by the National President in January 2010 with contributions in the amount of \$135,730.00 CAN. The Administrative Assistant at the National Council, Sr. Nicole Schryburt, completed 10 inter-bank transfers in the amount of \$2500.00 each since January 2010. This amount is equally distributed between the 4 regional councils and the National Council of Haiti. Each transfer of funds is subject to acknowledgement by E-mail by Bro. Élisémé Lesly, President of the National Council of Haiti. Accountability reports on the use of the funds have been received to our satisfaction. The Chair of the IER Committee is in telephonic contact with President Lesly at regular intervals, usually every 3 weeks, to discuss local situation, activities to help the poorest of the poor and provide moral support.

Assistance to Columbia

Heavy rain in the fall of 2010 caused flooding and mudslides in most regions of Columbia. A state of emergency was declared in several departments of

central and northern Columbia in November 2010. Financial assistance was solicited from Columbian twinning conferences to help victims in recovery efforts. The Executive Committee approved a contribution of \$3,000 CAN which was transferred to the Superior Council of Columbia on December 7, 2010. As well, the National President, Sr. Penny Craig, launched an appeal for financial assistance and, as of March 31, 2011, \$1,300 CAN had been collected and sent to the Superior Council of Columbia. I wish to thank Vincentians for their great generosity and solidarity with our brothers and sisters of Columbia during this major disaster.

New Zealand

The earthquake in New Zealand was a cause for concern. Members were informed of relief activities on the ground with postings on the web site. A contribution of \$200 CAN will be transferred to the New Zealand National Council, a result of a cheque received from a conference in British Columbia. A major earthquake followed by a tsunami and radioactivity leaks from nuclear plants hit Japan in early March 2011. Members were informed of its impact on the local Society in Sendai, however, no appeal was launched for this particular event.

I would like to thank all Vincentians for their solidarity and great generosity as a result of the various disasters which hit so many countries during this period.

The reserve in the IERC fund amounted to close to \$148,200. as of March 31st, 2011.

● **Clermont Fortin, Chairperson**

National Emergency Relief Committee

The Committee did not receive any request for assistance during the past year. There was about \$123,000.00 in the reserve fund at the end of the year.

● **Clermont Fortin, Chairperson**

Twinning Committee

We have made two main changes for the twinning program in Canada for 2011. We have introduced Twinning Receipts, which we request of the partners to whom we send funds, part of our due diligence as Penny says, to account for these funds and be accountable to the CRA, should they ask this of us. Secondly, we have completed a Twinning Manual, which collates the various documents that guide this work for us. It is available on the National website at www.ssvp.ca

As your National Twinning Chairperson, I have committed to goals for twinning in 2007, and continue to try to address them.

Below is a report on progress with these goals, and other task items that are done to maintain and promote twinning.

- Promotion of **projects** as a way to further assist our twins – We encourage conferences and councils who express the wish to help their twin more, to consider the project process.

The project between conferences here and in Dominican Republic, to complete a cement block home, was completed, much to the gratitude of the family that was helped and the conference that facilitated the change.

- Articles in the Vincenpaul magazine, which goes to all Conferences and Councils in Canada.

The titles of articles published in 2010 are: What Happens to Our Twinning Funds, Excerpts from the new Twinning Manual, and Help Us Find The Poor in Canada (Internal Twinning).

- Assistance where possible of the young adults in their twinning endeavors.

The young adults will report at the plenary session of the AGA on their works.

- Approaching twins who haven't transferred funds in the past 3 years, to ask about their needs and wishes in regards to twinning. We did not act on this goal this year.



Twinning Committee

TASK ITEMS

Twinning Receipts

We received reports on the “weariness” of a twin who had not received a response from their receiving twin after many letters were sent, and of disappointment on the slow transfer of funds by Receiving National/ Superior Councils to the Receiving Twins. These feelings discourage twinning action, causing forgetfulness of prayers by the donating twin for their twin, and causing reluctance by the Conference or Council to send funds. We are now asking Receiving National Council presidents or National Twinning Chairpersons to return a form on which we have left space for them to indicate the date that funds were transferred to twins, and their signature. This process requires their cooperation, and may take a while to have it become a matter of practice. We have had a fairly good response from the National/ Superior Councils.

On the other hand, I received this from a National Council president: “I once again very gently would like to remind you that although the conferences do good work, their communication abilities are limited because most of them have no ability to correspond in English and also do not have internet access.”

Twinning Manual

The National Board reviewed the manual presented to them, and made changes for clarification and process. It is available on the National website, with a few hardcopies available from your Regional Twinning Chairperson.

Transmittals

We are so grateful to Nicole, who sends our twinning funds to the National/ Superior Councils four times a year. For example, in February, she sent bank transfers to 40 twins with 14 countries, with requests for twinning receipts. In addition, letters were sent to all the Canadian Conferences and Councils who had passed up the funds for these twins. She also collects the twinning receipts for us. Nicole’s actions and communication make twinning possible for us, ensure that it is a legal

transaction, and result in a benefit for the poor around the world.

We have suspended twinning with El Salvador, as advised by the International Council General. The ICG legal team is working on getting a bank account established for their National Council, aggregations confirmed and also started for those who are not yet aggregated by ICG, and establishment of a National Council who has resolved their issues. Carmela Addante, the Western Hemisphere Twinning Representative for the ICG reports, “...we are all working hard to resolve the problems as seamlessly as possible.”

Lastly, to report, we are 126 strong, with some conferences and councils twinning with two twins.

I have **50 International twinning applications** from the following countries:

- **Peru** (3 Conferences and the National Council);
- **Dominican Republic** (9 Conferences and 1 Zonal Council);
- **Nicaragua** (5);
- **Haiti** (8);
- **Colombia** (18, with 6 Conferences, 4 Particular Councils, 2 Central Councils, 4 Departmental Councils, and 2 Zonal Councils);
- **Guatemala** (1).

● **Kathy Weswick, Chairperson**

Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee considers 2011 as a year of review, assessment and renewal as we move forward on a number of issues that will transform the Society into a position that will help us meet the many challenges in today's world. We occupy a position of respect amongst other charities, agencies and governments. This is a position we've earned with our many years of service to Christ in the poor and one we can use to our advantage as we raise our public image and address the root causes of poverty.

I'd like to review the history of the strategic planning committee and all previous goals.

Our committee also spent a full day on Wednesday of this week to develop the framework for this year's review and plan for a revised strategic plan for 2012-2016.

The idea of a strategic plan began at the 2002 AGA with the establishment of the original nine goals. These nine goals were:

1 - Spirituality of the Society.

There is insufficient observable evidence of spirituality within the Society.

Strategic Direction: Increase the observable spirituality within the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada.

Strategic Goal: To integrate a deep spirituality within all activities of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada.

Responsibilities: All conferences and councils.

Updates:

2008 – The National Council's Spirituality committee was formed and has been working well. A couple of examples of their work are articles written for our VincenPaul magazine and having a copy of the Handbook for Spiritual Advisors. The new National Council's Annual report may also help to determine if Vincentian spirituality has improved.

2 - Mission Statement

The National Council of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada does not have a clearly defined,

understood and communicated mission statement for the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada.

Strategic Direction: The National council of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will develop a clearly defined mission statement.

Strategic Goal: To have a clearly defined, understood and communicated mission statement for the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada...

Responsibility: National Council-Board of Directors.

Update: Completed 2004. (To be removed from strategic plan.

3 - Membership

Membership in the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is declining.

Strategic Direction: The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will increase its membership.

Strategic Goal: To have more Society members.

Responsibility: All conferences and Councils.

Update: On-going.

The new Annual report should provide valuable information on current membership while helping to recruit new members.

4 - Financial

The defined Rule for the flow of funds is not being followed by all levels within the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Strategic Direction: All levels of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will follow the defined Rule for the flowing of excess funds to the next higher council.

Strategic Goal: To have all Conferences and councils flow excess funds as defined in the Rule of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Responsibility: All Conferences and Councils.

Update: On-going. In 2004 a motion was passed to set the annual suggested pass up for all councils/conferences at \$240.00. This has enabled the National Council to become more viable.

Strategic Planning Committee

5 - Communication

There is an overall lack of communication and collaboration within and among all levels of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Strategic Direction: The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will increase communication within and among all levels of the Society.

Responsibility: All Conferences and Councils.

Update: -On-going.

One very important goal that we've achieved is on our National website-(www.ssvp.ca) which was created by the National Council to inform and allow interaction with Vincentians in Canada and elsewhere. A second improvement has been the Vincenpaul magazine. A full report will be presented by Nicole...

6 - Church Environment

There are no guidelines for Conferences when parishes close.

Strategic Direction: We will develop guidelines for Conferences when parishes close.

Strategic Goal: To have written policies and guidelines in place for Conferences facing relocation and re-establishment of Conferences in communities when parishes close.

Responsibility: National Council-Board of Directors.

Update: Completed –Policy ADM PR002-church closing. The result will include the removal of the conference from our listings.

7 - Church Environment

There are parishes where the clergy are not supportive of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Strategic Direction: Work to gain the support of clergy in all parishes.

Strategic Goal: To have clergy support the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in their parishes.

Responsibility: All Conferences and Council's

Update: On-going with more work to do.

Age of Society members-The present Vincentian population/membership is aging.

Strategic Direction: We will lower the average age of membership in the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Strategic Goal: To have a lower average age of membership in the Society of saint Vincent de Paul.

Responsibility: All Conferences and Councils.

Update: On-going. Once again, the new Annual report should help to measure this issue. .

9 - Advocacy

There is no mechanism/guidelines for advocacy by, and on behalf of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Strategic Direction: the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will develop mechanisms and guidelines for advocacy on behalf of the Society.

Strategic Goal: To have mechanism and guidelines for advocacy by and on behalf of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Responsibility: National Council-Board of Directors.

Update: Voice of the Poor committee formed 2006.

We now have written guidelines that can be found on our website to assist and educate members. In addition, there is a strong emphasis on Systemic Change...

In 2005 the Strategic Planning committee identified three new issues to be included in the strategic plan. These were:

1 - Training

There is an overall lack of coordinated Vincentian training and training programs at all levels of the Society related to various topics and roles within the Society.

There is no human resource leadership related to training at the national and regional council levels.

Strategic Direction: The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada will plan to have an identified Training Coordinator and training programs the national and regional council levels.

Strategic Planning Committee

Strategic Goal: To have a National Training Coordinator position identified at National and regional levels of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada.

Responsibility: National and Regional Councils.

Updates: The National Council president formed an Education/Formation committee in 2008.

Education/Formation Modules are being formulated and distributed.

2 - Public Relations/Media

There is an overall lack of official Public Relations/Media materials for all levels of Councils and Conferences to use in order to promote the Society.

Strategic Direction: The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will develop a Public Relations/Media program and materials kit for use by all Councils and Conferences.

Strategic Goal: To have official Public relations and Media materials that promote the Society in Canada.

Responsibility: National Council.

Updates: On-going. The National president is in the process of forming a standing committee to address this issue that will develop strategies and tools to assist all councils.

3 - Administration

There is an overall lack of timely communication and administrative processes among all levels of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada.

Strategic Direction: The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will develop a streamlined mechanism of communication and administrative processes between the National, Regional, and all other levels of the Society as required.

Strategic Goal: To have established and timely line of communication and administrative processes at all levels of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada.

Responsibility: All Conferences and Councils.

Updates: 2007- There have been many new administrative procedures put into place. This includes new staff.

Summary

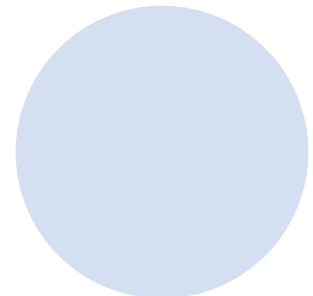
Strategic planning is only successful if we develop goals and objectives that are both specific and measurable. In addition, we must identify what levels of the Society are responsible for each goal and objective. It is only if we have our membership understand and be committed to the strategic plan and its process that we can move forward as an organization.

There is no doubt we have a dedicated and devout membership that we consider a real blessing, but we as Vincentians must be open to change and innovation in addressing the issues of poverty as it is, in Canada today.

All Vincentians are encouraged to contribute to the ongoing development and identification of issues. Each AGA presents the opportunity for members to attend Strategic planning sessions and contribute information that will assist the members of the National Council of Canada's Strategic Planning committee to do the work necessary to grow the work plans necessary to accomplish its work.

We would encourage members to attend these annual sessions at our AGA and any regional sessions that are scheduled. Your participation is essential if we are to gather the information we require.

● Jim Paddon, Acting Chairperson



Spirituality Committee

One of the concerns the Strategic Planning Committee discovered was that members wanted more emphasis on our spirituality. The National Board responded by creating a Spirituality Committee to address the concerns of our members. With Maureen MacIsaac as Chair, the committee presently has 6 members. They are: Monsignor Peter Schonenbach who is our National Spiritual Advisor, Monsignor Andre Drouin, Father Joe Quinn and Pat Bennetto. In addition, as is the case with all committees, we have our National President as an ex officio member. Unfortunately, we currently do not have a representative from the Quebec region.

The role of the committee is to “promote the enhancement and spiritual development of all Vincentians and Spiritual Advisors throughout Canada”. The committee is blessed with a group of dedicated people who are committed to carrying out their mandate. We meet twice a year. The first meeting takes place during the AGA and the second takes place along with the National Board Meeting when they meet in May. Committee members also plan a day-long spiritual reflection for the National Board for the May meeting in addition to a opening reflection for the May meeting. Other meetings may be held as required.

This past year, committee members have tried to reach out to all Vincentians by ensuring that there were reflections in every issue of the Vincenpaul magazine as well as preparing a reflection each month for the website. It is intended that these reflections are in keeping with the Annual AGA theme.

The committee has received a number of positive comments saying that members find the reflections very useful for their monthly meeting and we are gratified to hear that.

The committee works with the AGA planning committee to provide assistance and guidance with such issues as the development of the theme by helping plan appropriate workshops, arranging the liturgies, including the final Mass by arranging the Commissioning Ceremony. The committee has prepared a Memorial Service, which will be conducted at our final Mass. The group has also prepared an Installation Ceremony for Spiritual Advisors and our President will install our National

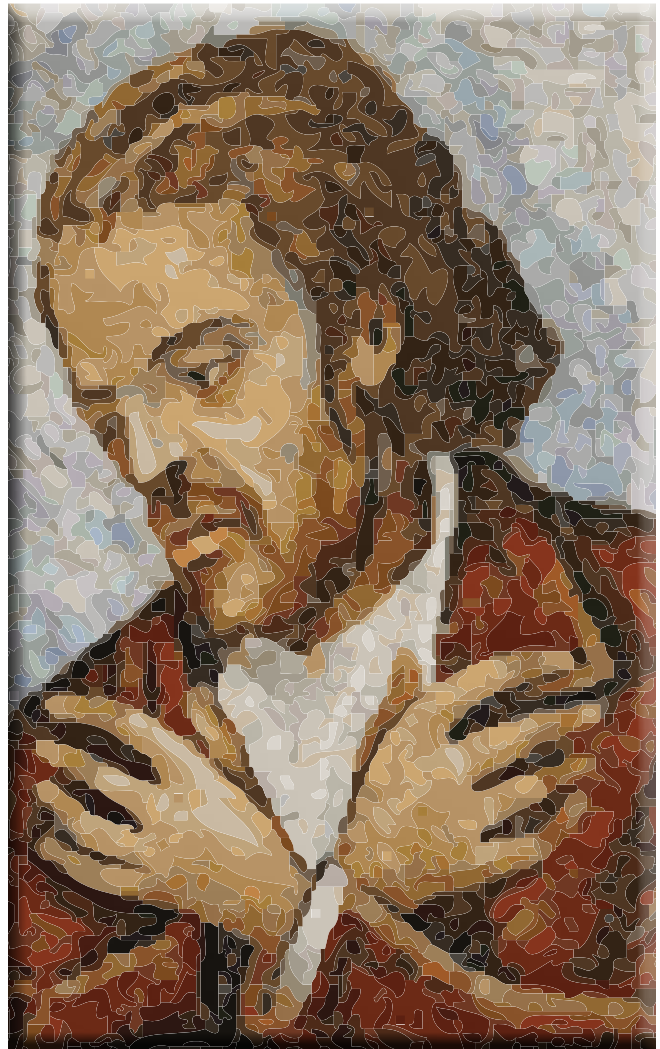
Spiritual Advisor, Monsignor Peter Schonenbach at the upcoming AGA. Copies of this ceremony will be available both at the AGA as well as on the web site so that all Spiritual Advisors can be installed in their local areas.

In closing I wish to thank all the members of the committee for their dedication and hard work. Their love of God, the poor and our Society shines through in all they do. I especially want to thank our president, Penny, for her support and guidance as well as our office staff, Nicole and Josée for all their help and assistance.

Peace of Christ

Respectfully Submitted

● **Maureen MacIsaac, Chairperson**



Youth Committee

The young Ontario SSVP volunteers met for the second consecutive summer at the SSVP camp, in Chatham. The great outdoors, spirituality, games and personal reflection were all part of it. Approximately 25 youth attended the rally which will be repeated in 2011.

At the National Council, the project to grant scholarships to student volunteers has become reality. A \$500 scholarship is being offered by the Hotel 71 in Quebec city and \$500 of the scholarship are being offered by the Hotel 71 in Quebec city and the other \$500 were donated by our National president, Penny Craig. The first Emmanuel Bailly scholarship will be awarded at the 2011 AGA.

The Pencil Case, organized by Carmela Addente, made many children happy again this year. As mentioned in Carmela's report:

"Donations for our 2010 'Pencil Case Project' came from many different cities in Ontario. Many hours were spent going through each box and bag; accounting for and recording each pencil, pen, marker, book, crayon, etc. The youth were energized knowing that the children of Jamaica would shortly be able to utilize these supplies and materials. In total, 4,700 pounds of school supplies, books, clothing and toys were shipped. A successful project indeed!"

Twinning between Ontario youth conferences and Guatemala is on the back burner. The Ontario Particular Youth Council and the National Youth Representative are working on a short-term solution.

Several young Canadians will have the opportunity to participate to the World Youth Days in Madrid, preceded by FAMVIN (Young Vincentians International Meeting), from August 12 to 21. The following youth will proudly represent our country : Christopher Chibani, Marieke Creese, Westley Hall, Jason Hunt, Brittney Latouf, Sara Latouf, Julian Manna, Aidan Masterton, Jake Pfaff, Josh Pfaff, Nicole Trepanier, Chritina Yeboah from Ontario, Alonya Lewis and Nickolas Annala from Alberta and Caroline Gilbert from Québec.

For the coming year, we will further publicize the scholarship so that every conference is informed. We will rethink twinning between Ontario and Guatemala and we will remain attentive to the needs of youth conferences, and groups to be.

● Caroline Gilbert, Youth Rep

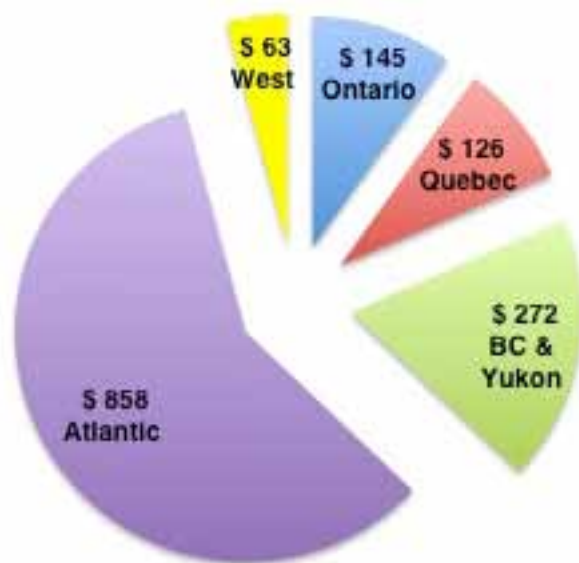


Statistics

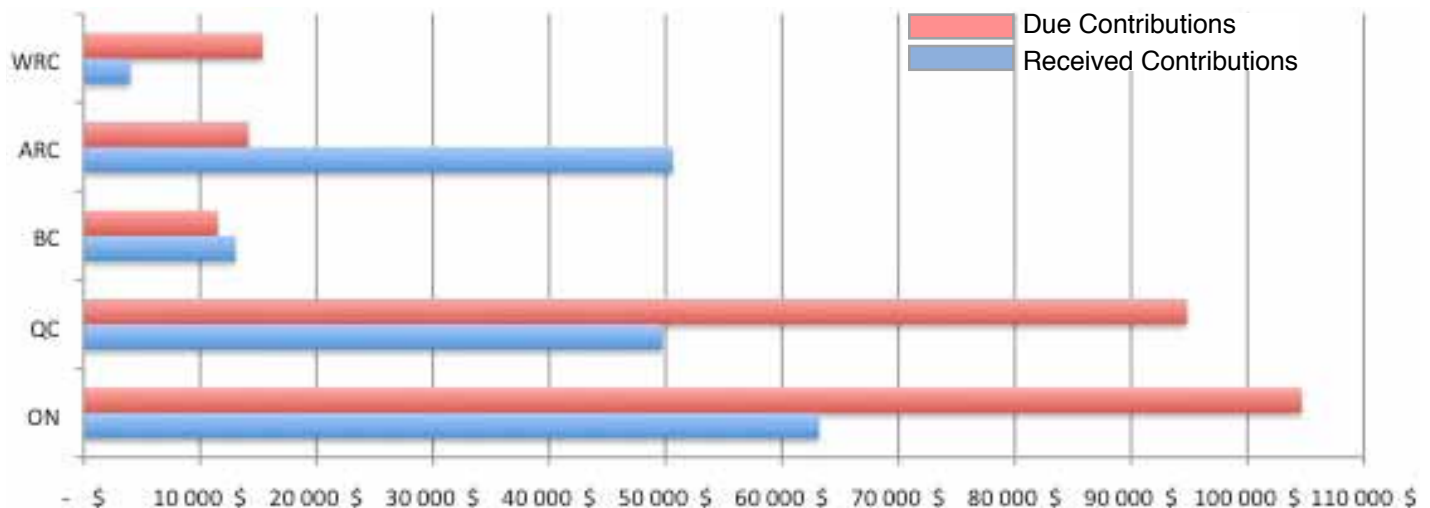
Financial Contributions

		# central councils	# particular councils	# conferences
Atlantic Regional Council	\$ 50 600	0	5	54
Quebec Regional Council	\$ 49 725	5	42	348
Ontario Regional Council	\$ 63 180	5	37	394
Western Regional Council	\$ 4 000	1	7	56
BC & Yukon Regional Council	\$ 13 040	1	5	42

Amounts per conference/council



Contributions by region



Vincentian Activities across Canada

	BC & YUKON	WESTERN
Home Visitations		
Number of homes visited	2,652	9,513
Number of visits to these homes	5,068	10,491
Number of adults served	7,092	12,648
Number of children served	4,581	12,418
Total of people served	11,673	25,066

Number of stores	9	0
Number of outlets	0	0
Number of soup kitchen	3	0
Number of foodbanks	2	30
Number of shelters	1	0
Number of drop-in centres	2	0
Number of low cost housing units	43	31
Number of summer camps	0	0
Number of children attending	22	58

Receipts	\$ 5,589,172	\$ 1,200,861
Expenditures	\$ 5,543,621	\$ 1,172,482

Conference Membership

Number of full members (age 36+)	571	722
Number of young adult members (18-35)	26	145
Total members	666	867
Number of youth members (under 18)	8	4
Number of auxiliary members	667	171

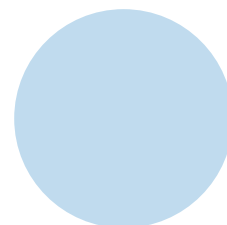
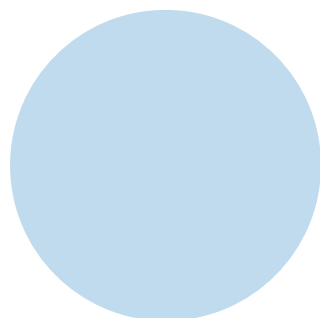
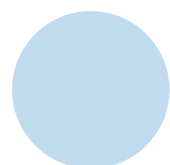


ONTARIO	QUEBEC	ATLANTIC	TOTAL
52,068	0	0	64,233
87,662	97,392	12,000	212,613
81,435	151,669	17,920	270,764
69,708	77,866	14,080	178,653
151,143	229,535	32,000	449,417
26	128	0	163
4	0	0	4
6	0	0	9
44	1	0	77
19	0	0	20
0	1	0	3
164	0	0	238
3	0	0	3
2510	167 (public camps)	0	2757
\$ 8,073,084	\$ 14,724,957	\$ 1,461,033	\$ 31,049,107
\$ 7,710,242	\$ 14,322,981	\$ 1,447,234	\$ 30,196,560
3,435	2,886	754	8,368
90	81	0	342
3,594	2,967	0	8,094
74	0	0	86
630	1,319	0	2,787



Presidents of the Council General International

Emmanuel BAILLY	1836 - 1844
Jules GOSSIN	1844 - 1847
Adolphe BAUDON	1848 - 1886
Antonin PAGES	1886 - 1903
Paul CALON	1904 - 1913
Louis d'HENDECOURT	1913 - 1924
Henri de VERGES	1924 - 1943
Jacques ZEILLER*	1943 - 1954
Pierre CHOUARD	1954 - 1969
Henri JACOB	1969 - 1975
Joseph ROUAST	1975 - 1981
Amin A. de TARRAZI	1981 - 1993
César A. NUNES-VIANA	1993 - 1999
José Ramón DIAZ TORREMOCHA y DIAZ	1999 - 2010
Michael THIO	2010 -



Presidents of the National Council of Canada

The honorable Judge Jean CHABOT	1844 - 1850
Augustin GAUTHIER	1850 - 1866
Georges MANLY-MUIR	1866 - 1881
Paul Ernest SMITH	1881 - 1885
C.-N. Hamel	1885 - 1911
Charles Joseph MAGNAN	1911 - 1942
The honorable Judge Thomas TREMBLAY	1942 - 1969
The honorable Judge G�rald LEMAY	1969 - 1972
Patrice BOUDREAU	1972 - 1977
Marie-Claire LETARTE	1977 - 1983
Robert MARTINEAU	1983 - 1995
Ellen SCHRYBURT	1995 - 2001
Michael BURKE	2001 - 2007
Penny CRAIG	2007 -



*Marie-Claire Letarte, Past President
1977 - 2011*