



Forming a Conference in The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Heather Schilling
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Opening Prayer



L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

L: Come Holy Spirit, live within our lives.

All: And strengthen us by your love.

L: Send forth your spirit and new life will be created.

All: And the whole face of the earth will be renewed.

L: Let us reflect on the words of Our Lord Jesus Christ, recalling his unity and presence among us: “Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

(short silence)





Opening Prayer



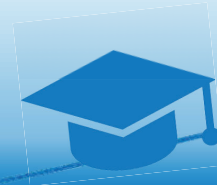
All:



Lord Jesus, deepen our Vincentian spirit of friendship during this meeting. Make us responsive to the Christian calling to seek and find the forgotten, the suffering or the deprived, so that we may bring them your love. Help us to be generous with our time, our possessions and ourselves, in this mission of charity. Perfect in us your love and teach us to share more fully in the Eucharistic sacrifice offered for all.



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All: Hail Mary, ...

L: Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,

All: Have mercy on us.

L: Immaculate Heart of Mary,

All: Pray for us.

L: Saint Vincent de Paul,

All: Pray for us.

L: Saint Louise de Marillac,

All: Pray for us.

L: Blessed Frédéric Ozanam,

All: Pray for us.

L: Blessed Rosalie Rendu,

All: Pray for us.

L: Saint Marguerite d'Youville,

All: Pray for us.





Serving in Hope



Under the vigilant eye of God,
The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
It is an International movement which
spans the globe, seeking to help the
poor in our midst.

By uniting Catholics in our mission
to serve in the hope of
Our Lord Jesus Christ.





Blessed Frederick Ozanam (1813-1853)



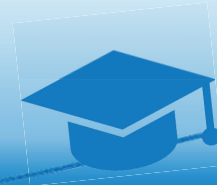
The problem which divides people today is not a political problem; it is a social one. It is a matter of knowing which will get the upper hand: the spirit of selfishness or the spirit of sacrifice; whether society will go for ever-increasing enjoyment and profit, or for everyone devoting themselves to the common good.



1832 Conférences d'histoire - a dynamic forum of discussion and research at the Sorbonne University in Paris France.



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The Call

**“What are you doing for them
(the poor), you and your
fellow Catholics...?”**

Show us your works!”



7





A Movement in Faith

“The blessing of the poor is that of God...

Let us go to the poor”



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April 23, 1833

Conference of Charity



The Seven Founders



Frederic
Ozanam



Emmanuel
Bailly



Paul
Lamache



Jules
Devaux



Francois
Lallier



Auguste
Le Tailender



Felix
Clave



Paris, 1833



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Spiritual Director

Sister Rosalie Rendu

Daughter of Charity of Saint
Vincent de Paul

**How to minister to the poor
with love and respect**



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Saint Vincent de Paul



Simplicity

Frankness, integrity, genuineness

Humility

Accepting the truth about our frailties, yet knowing that all that God gives us is for others

Selflessness

Dying to our ego – life of self-sacrifice

Gentleness

Kindness, tenderness and patience in relationships with others

Apostolic Zeal

Passion for the full flourishing and eternal happiness of all





Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Vision (part 1)



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



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Pope Leo XIII lays groundwork for Catholic Social Teaching



In his landmark encyclical of 1891, **Rerum Novarum** ("Of New Things"), the **Pope**, and the **Church** with him, confronted a society torn by dispute and addressed the pressing social challenges arising from the Industrial Revolution in pointed terms.





Pope Leo XIV



First Homily May 8, 2025

“A lack of faith
is often tragically accompanied by the
loss of meaning in life,
the neglect of mercy,
appalling violations of human dignity,
the crisis of the family and
so many other wounds that
afflict our society.”



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Principles of Catholic Social Teaching



Just Society

See, Judge, Act

Human Dignity,
Preferential Option for the Poor, Solidarity,
Subsidiarity and Participation,
the Common Good
and Care for Our Common Home.





Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Just Society

See, Judge, Act

Home visits (Personal Contact)

Food security

Home security

Social security











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Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



 11,050 volunteers		 1,000,100 volunteer hours	
 145,000 homes assisted	 213,000 people served at home	 84,100 children served at home	 62 stores and outlets
 10,100 friendly visits and visits to the sick	 98 food banks and soup kitchens	 96,350 people served at food banks	 112,200 meals served at soup kitchens
 254 low-cost	 10 shelters and	 1,450 people served at shelters	 6,810 children given education

Just Society

Basic Needs

Availability

Accessibility

Social Dignity

Sustainability





Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



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Just Society

Accompany (Personal Contact)

Parish Conference – relationship, provision, advocate

Collaboration

- **Diocese** – shared response, community participation/advocacy
- **Regional** –provincial advocacy, ,shared learning, **North of 60**
- **National** –national advocacy, fundraising, governance, shared tools and resources, **Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH)**
- **International** – **Twinning**, **Disaster Relief**, **Holy See**, Governance





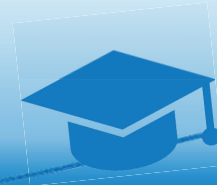
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Vision (part 2)

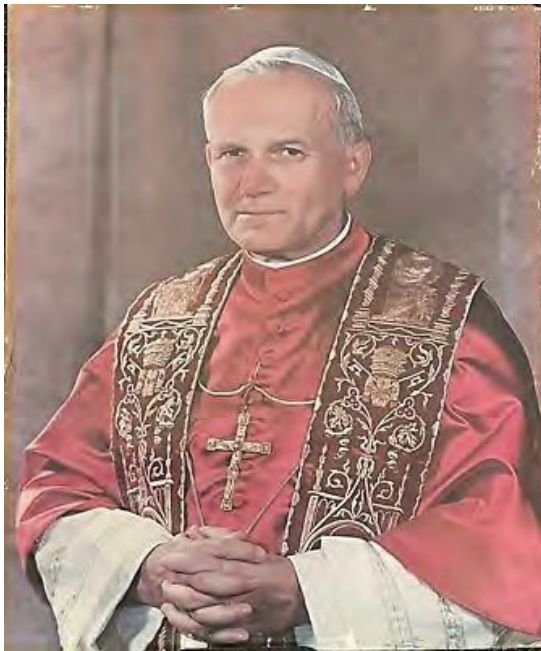


We also seek to deepen our spirituality and
the mutual love and support
amongst members,
so that, seeing how we serve those in
need with one mind and heart,
people are attracted to the Society and to
Christ who animates it.





Saint Pope John Paul II



April 28, 1983

"In your **conference meetings**, you should find not only the practical means of discovering and serving in an organized way the poor who surround you, **but also a spiritual deepening, a Christian reflection, which balances prayer and action.** For one must allow oneself to **be transformed by the words of Christ**, in order to render Him present in our world."



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Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Vocation of Members

Called to **follow Christ**
through service to those in need,
bearing witness to
His compassionate and liberating love.



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Pope John Paul II beatified Frédéric Ozanam, World Youth Day, 22 August 1997



Ozanam defined the St Vincent Conferences:

A Catholic but lay society, humble but numerous, poor but full of poor to relieve; above all in an age in which charitable associations have such a great mission to carry out for the revival of the faith, the support of the Church, for a truce from the hatred which divides men.



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Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

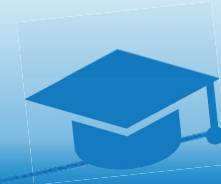


Spirituality



Our **mission** is a response to the
Message of **Our Lord** in the
Gospel according to St. Matthew
Chapter 25, Verses 31 – 40

“I assure you, as often as you did it for one
of my least brothers, you did it for me.”





Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



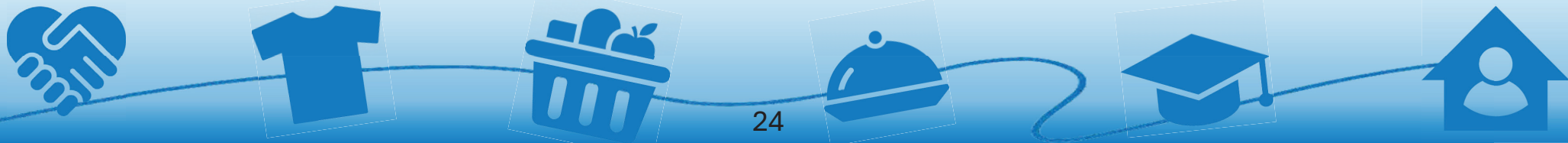
Spirituality



Faith in Christ and the Life of Grace

“Through Him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God.”

(Rom. 5.1-2)





Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Character

ecclesial, missionary,

Marian and Vincentian
for the apostolate of
evangelization
and charity



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Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Canonical

Private association

Private means associations established by the individual initiative of the faithful (Canon 299, § 1) (subjective criteria) for purposes within their competence (objective criteria).





Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Canonical

International Private Association
(Canon 299, § 1)

Private associations have a great deal of internal
autonomy and

Always act under their own name
while always remaining subject to

The watchful eye of ecclesiastical authority.





Pope Francis Vincentian Family Forth Centenary Message January 20, 2025



The St. Vincent de Paul Society,
founded in 1833 by Blessed
Frederic Ozanam is
“an extraordinary force for
good in the service of the poor,
with hundreds of thousands of
members worldwide.”

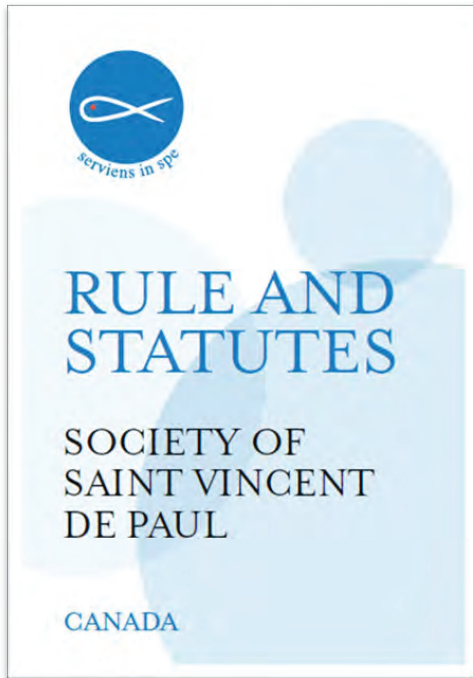


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Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Rule

Vision/Mission/Values
Fundamental Principles

Persons in Need

Spirituality

Membership

Organization Canada
International Confederation





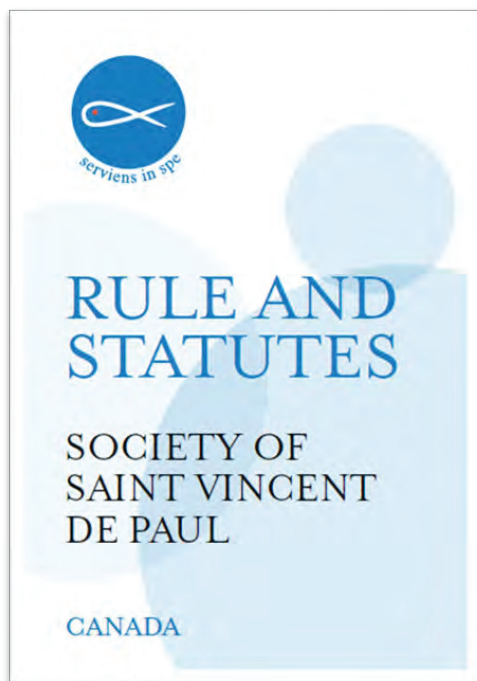
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Full Member

Commissioning
Ongoing Formation
Living Catholic Faith
Personal Contact
Participation

Young Adult
19 – 35
Youth
12 - 18



Auxiliary Member
Commissioning
Good Will and Good
Works of behalf of our
Society's works

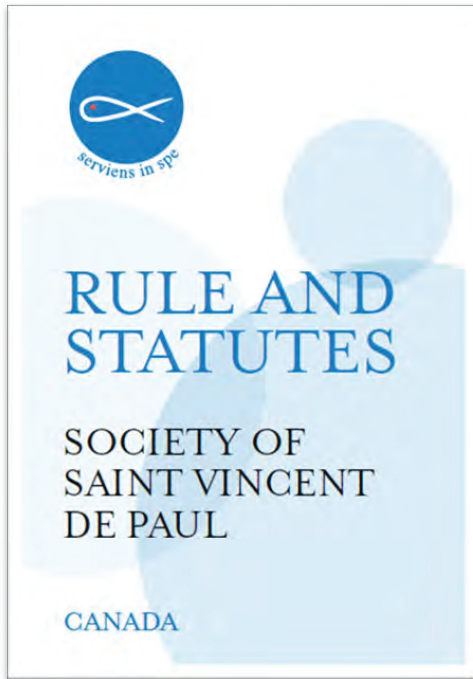
Casual Helper
Periodic Volunteer
no personal contact

Benefactor





Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Mission

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

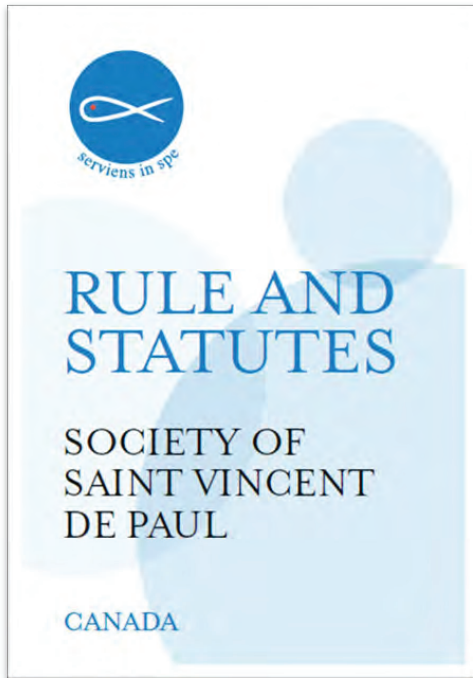


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Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Values

See Christ in anyone who suffers

Come together as a family

Have personal contact with the poor

Help in all possible ways

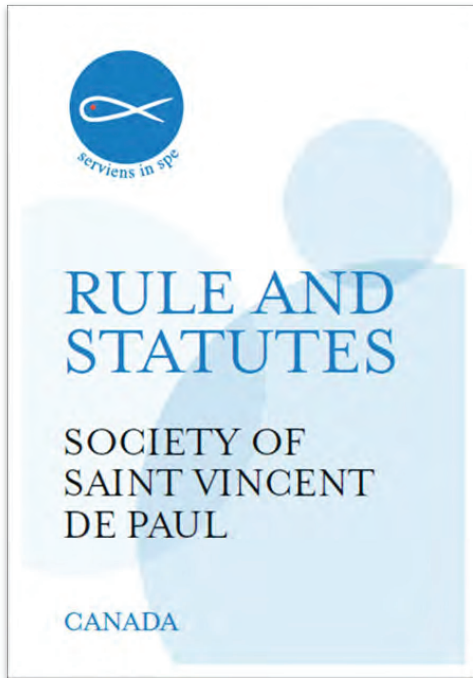


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Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Aggregation

International Confederation

(153 countries/territories)

National Council Canada

Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario

Western (AB, NWT, SK, MB)

BC & Yukon

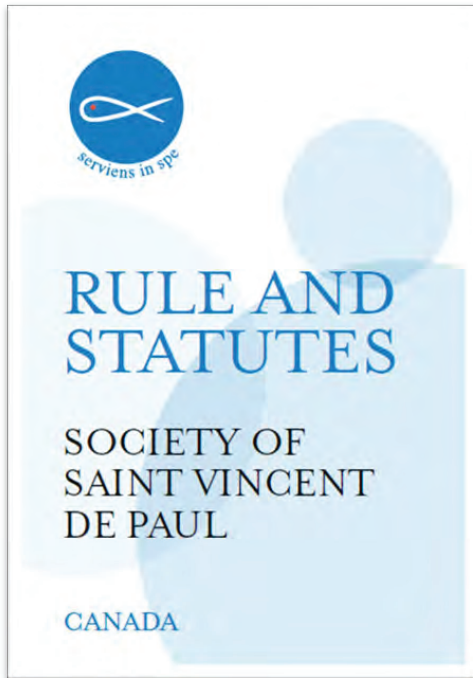


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Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Governance Canada

National CRA number

Conference /Council sub number

Elected President

Corporate Bylaws BOD

(assets or employees)





Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Western Region Council

Alberta North

Edmonton (5 councils, 22 conferences)

Alberta South

Calgary (4 councils, 28 conferences)

Taber, Lethbridge, Brooks, Medicine Hat

NWT (Yellowknife, Tuktoyaktuk, Inuvik)

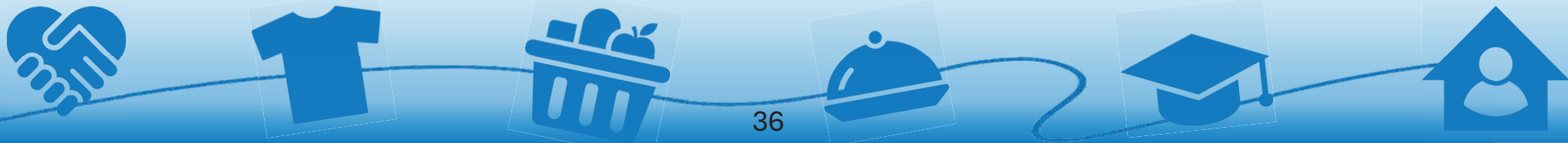
Saskatchewan (Prince Albert, Regina)

Manitoba (2 Winnipeg, Brandon)





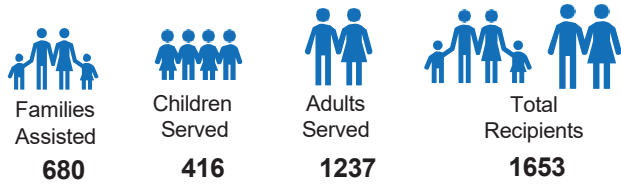
St. Anthony's Conference, Calgary



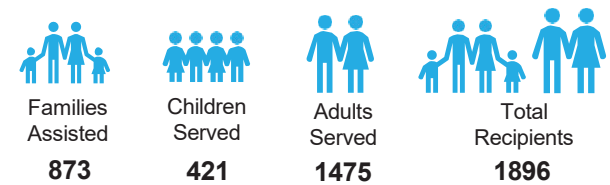
2023 - 2024 Comparison



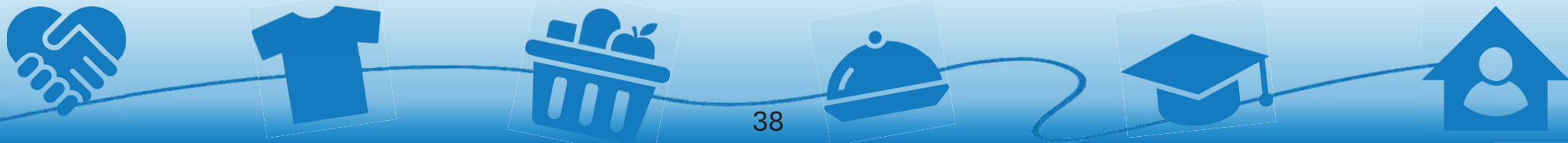
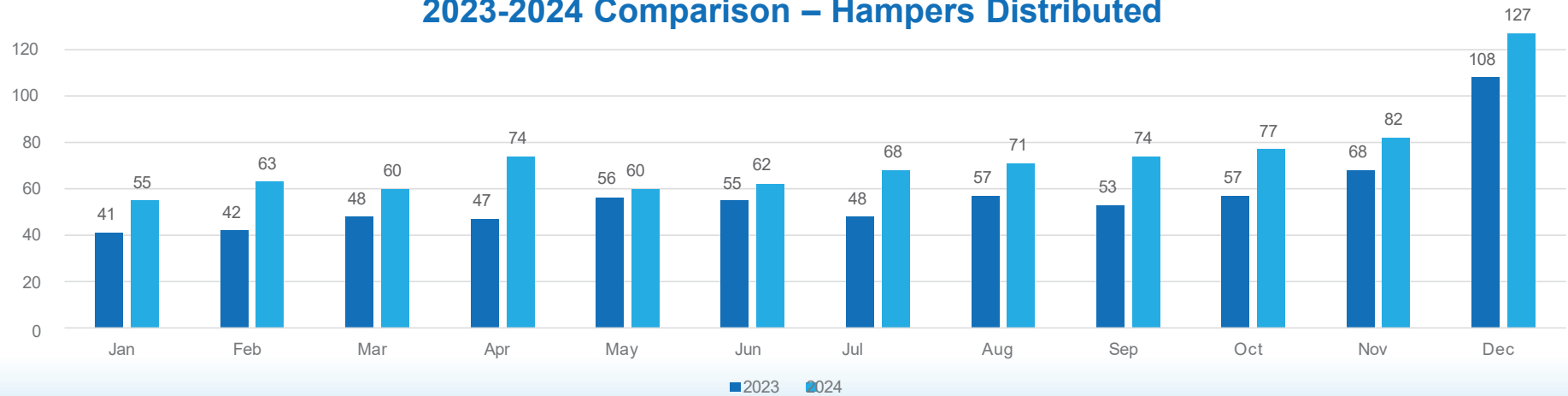
Jan – Dec 2023



Jan – Dec 2024

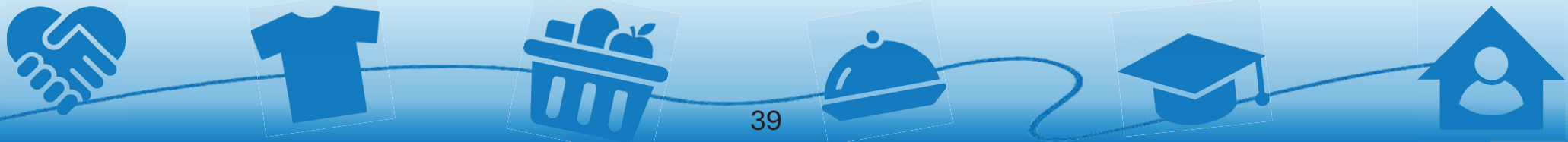


2023-2024 Comparison – Hampers Distributed

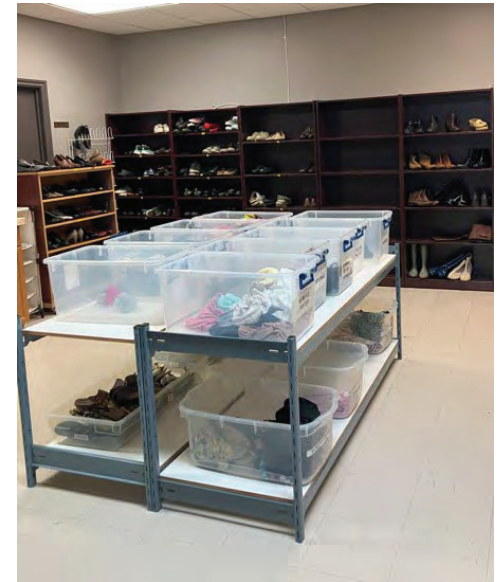




Edmonton Central Council Distribution Centre



Edmonton Central Council Clothing Room



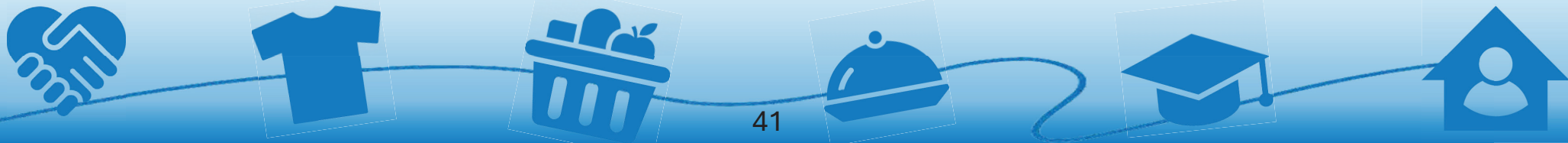
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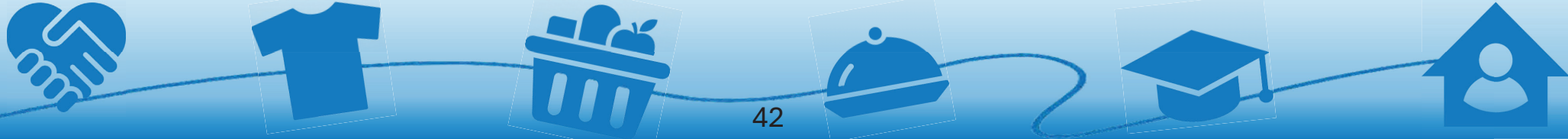
Edmonton Central Council Store



Vinnies Treasure Shoppe



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Conference Cree Nations, AB





Our Lady of Perpetual Help Conference Saddle Lake, AB





North of 60 Restoration of Father's House Paulatuk, NWT



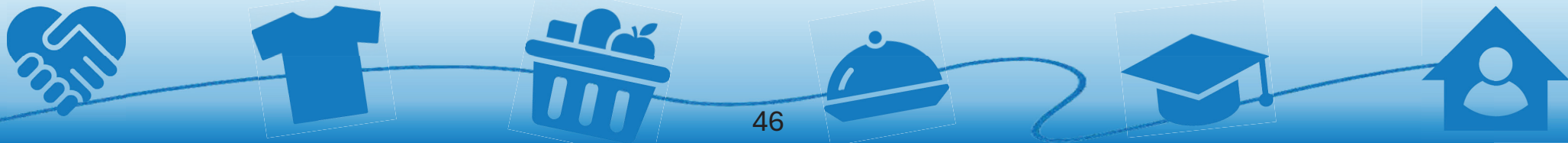


North of 60 St. Pius X Conference, Calgary & Our Lady of Victory, Inuvik



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Closing Prayer



All: Our Father

L: Saint Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

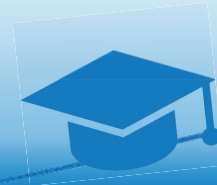
All: Pray for us.

L: Saint Vincent de Paul,

All: Pray for us.

L: Blessed Frédéric Ozanam,

All: Pray for us.





Closing Prayer



L: For all the benefactors of the poor, that God may reward them with eternal life,

All: Lord, hear us.

L: For our Society and all its members, that God may renew our spirit of unity and of service,

All: Lord, hear us.

L: For all who are sick and suffering, that God may give them courage and consolation,

All: Lord, hear us.

L: For all our deceased members, the deceased poor and our deceased benefactors, that God may grant them eternal rest,

All: Lord, hear us.





Closing Prayer

L: For the unity for which Christ prayed, that all may be one in truth and charity.

All: Lord, hear us.

L: For those who have no homes, that they may quickly find a place in which they can live a decent and happy life.

All: Lord, hear us.

L: That if it be God's will, Frederic Ozanam, our founder, may be canonized by the Church.

All: Lord, hear us.

L: That our Holy Father, Pope Leo, may be granted the protection, guidance, strength and consolation that he needs to discharge his duties as Christ's Vicar on earth.

All: Lord, hear us.

L: In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen





Please complete the evaluation form
Merci de remplir le formulaire d'évaluation



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Société de Saint-Vincent de Paul

www.ssvp.ca

