

Timmins Diocesan Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Community Life Standing Committee

Directive #4

March 19, 2018

To: Parish Community Life Standing Committee Chairs
cc: Diocesan President, Parish Presidents
Chairpersons of Diocesan Standing Committees and
Provincial Community Life
From: Diocesan Community Life Standing Committee
Chairperson, Frances Freeman

“Teach us to share with others at home and abroad, the good things You have given us.

from The League Prayer

Joanna Sisk, Provincial Chairperson of Community Life sent a directive explaining the mission work of the Redemptorists in Toronto under Brother Raymond Pierce, CSSR. For over fifty years, they have been collecting used postage stamps, selling them by the pound and sending the money to charities like the Canadian Food for Children. We might know this better as Dr Simone's Charity.

With less mail these days, the Redemptorists are reaching out to as many people as possible to send them used stamps.

The current director of this project for over 50 years, Helen McCarthy, who is in her 90th year, is retiring and Maureen Philips of Mississauga will continue with this endeavour.

For over 50 years, Helen McCarthy's labour of love efforts have raised over three thousand dollars monthly. When she has a thousand dollars in the Stamp Purse account, she sends the Redemptorists that amount and they match it with another thousand dollars and send two thousand dollars to The Canadian Food for Children Charity.

Many Councils already collect stamps for this charity and it is good to know the impact of our efforts. Encourage your parish, schools and community to join in this worthwhile cause.

Did you know about the Red Friday Foundation of Canada? This is something we can do that costs nothing but is one way of showing how we appreciate Canada's military men and women who serve our country. Just wear something red on Friday.

RED FRIDAYS FOUNDATION OF CANADA

Is an organization to promote support for our men and women who serve our country.

Our Canadian military has made many sacrifices in the name of peace, not only for Canada but for many other countries around the world.

Wearing Red on Fridays is a symbolic gesture to show fellow Canadians and our troops that we care and honour those who fought for our freedom, our peace, our resolve.

Our goal is to show non-partisan support for our military troops. We do not support any particular policy, political position, agenda or the nature of military missions. This support is for all Canadian Troops regardless of their activity if its here or abroad.

As Canadians we need to show support for our men and women that place themselves in harms way for all Canadians. They are our National Treasure.



Further to the information that I sent in my last directive about “Canada Summer Jobs Program- Conflict of Religious Freedom”, I wish to attach a letter written by our National President, Margaret Ann Jacobs, to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

You may wish to read this letter to your Council at a general meeting. This letter is powerful and remarkable. It is taken from the CWL website. Below on page 4 is her letter.



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

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February 17, 2018

The Right Hon. Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

The Catholic Women's League of Canada, representing more than 80,000 citizens across Canada, are writing to express concern about the attestation requirements on the 2018 Canada Summer Jobs Program. Members of the League are very concerned that a federal government would discriminate against its own citizens by forcing them to sign an attestation that compromises their belief system.

Canadian citizens, not just those with a particular set of religious values, are outraged that the federal government would take steps to force the people they represent to conform to the belief system of those in power in order to access services. The League implores you to understand that to ask someone to deny their faith or their beliefs in order to receive funding from the government is simply undemocratic, unconstitutional and unethical.

The federal government has the duty to protect and respect all of its citizens. It should not seek to silence those who would disagree or penalize them for their contrary viewpoints. Tolerance of and respect for all viewpoints, including the right to freedom of religion and freedom of conscience, were once hallmarks of Canadian society. Actions such as the attestation requirement make it increasingly difficult for all to live in peace in this country, and in fact, add to the polarization that is becoming more prevalent.

Members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada are anxious to know that the federal government values all citizens equally, regardless of conscience and religion; thought, belief, opinion and expression; peaceful assembly; and association. How does the federal government intend to address this discrimination?

Sincerely,

Margaret Ann Jacobs
National President

KS/maj

Cc: The Hon. Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour

Betty Colaneri, National Chairperson of Community Life

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