



**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council**



**Community Life Chair
Communique #1
DATE November 10/2019**

TO: Diocesan Chairpersons
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)
CC: National Chairperson of Community Life (for information)
FROM; Theresa Hickey, ABMK Provincial Chairperson of Community Life

Greetings from Yellowknife

LEST WE FORGET:

Schools across Mackenzie & Alberta took part in Remembrance Day ceremonies last week leading up to Monday November, 11, today's official date. Veteran's week is from November 5 to November 11. Many stories were shared and told to the school children of the hardships and of the front-line action experienced in the First and Second World Wars.

This year Remembrance Day fell on a weekend which allowed many youth to attend the ceremonies. Large amounts of students placed wreaths in memory of those who never returned home. This day also gives many of us a chance to say Thank You for those who survived and served our country. Many of our Catholic Women's League members placed wreaths and poppies for those members who served and fought for our freedom. I was fortunate to take in the Parade and the Remembrance Day services today. Today we have many league members in uniform with the forces. There is an interesting article on social media – "The Catholic Women's League, In WW1& WW2". Please take the time to read.

Elections are over in the Northwest Territories, our new Premier is Caroline Cochrane. Premier Cochrane's cabinet makes history. The Northwest Territories becomes the first jurisdiction in Canada to have a majority of women in cabinet. Premier Cochrane herself will be the minister of Executive and Indigenous Affairs. Being of Metis descent, Premier Cochrane will be perfect as a leader for the Indigenous People of the North. Metis People are recognized as one of Canada's aboriginal peoples under the Constitution Act of 1982 along with First Nations and Inuit peoples.

Our New elected MLA'S are busy working with social justice issues. I had the privilege of speaking and walking with Katrina Nokleby and Caitlin Cleveland in "The **Family Violence** Walk", November 6. Family violence awareness month in the North is November. Many communities in the Northwest Territories participated in this event. The North has alarming statistics with the highest rate of violence in Canada. This drove the Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories to identify and to end family violence as a top Priority. It was the first walk ever in the Territories, we had about 25 march and carry banners. We are certainly hoping for a bigger turnout in the years to come. We have to get out there in our communities and let the public know Violence is not tolerated.

With the cold weather and winter on the horizon, the homeless in Yellowknife has a new joint **Sobering & Day Program Centre**. Many problems have engulfed the area of downtown since the opening of the centre on September 25, 2018. Violence and high levels of intoxication are the most frequently identified issues making it harder for clients to access the centre, even though 82% of the clients surveyed always or often feel safe at the centre. Mental Health issues are always a top priority. Denise McKee is the executive director of the NWT Disabilities Council. McKee says the space has had over 57,000 visits to the day shelter in the first four months, and 11,000 users in the first six months. This place keeps the homeless off the street, alive, fed and warm in the long cold winter months. The plan is to start programs and have more activities, employ addiction and family counsellors to help the people get off the street and placed into independent living. As of today, the centre is split into two parts, the day centre provides a place for people to relax and get a meal, while the sobering centre gives intoxicated people a place to sleep.

Development and Peace: Press Release: UPDATE ON THE ORGANIZATIONS REVIEW

Oct.18 /2019-Ottawa – During a recent assembly of CCODP and the CCCB received a presentation by Doolittle on the firm's final report regarding its Organizational Diagnostic review of CCODP-Caritas Canada. Recommendations and its report to the executive committee of both organizations the Bishops have received, discussed and accepted the report of its recommendations. for now the bishops will reflect and come up with an action plan to be implemented. For further information please go to: www.devp.org

Catholic Missions in Canada's North

Sister Fay Trombley is a true missionary in Tuktoyaktuk NWT, instead of retiring to someplace warm Sister Fay retired to a very cold climate where it dips below -40 and colder with the wind chill. Her heart is warm and her charity work continues.

The sister of Charity just celebrated their 165 years on Oct 17/2019. Sisters of Charity started their mission helping Irish Immigrants and orphans. You will find the life missionary and her work on the Sisters of Charity on Social Media.

Theresa

ABMK Community Life Chair