

Impressions and Memories

Dear friends,

It has been a hectic time after getting back, but all of you have been very much in my mind and heart. Am putting down a few impressions about CLC Canada, gleaned from my visit there. Obviously, these are just 'impressions' so take only what you may find relevant and useful.

The strengths

- There is depth and solidity in members and a deep rootedness in the Ignatian charism*
- A sense of unity, despite the vast geographic distances*
- An openness to take stock and review. This was seen in the thorough evaluation undertaken regarding the living out of your Life and Mission.*
- Much care is taken to help new members integrate well into the national community*
- Ongoing efforts to attract and retain new members, especially young people.*
- Good relations with the Society of Jesus*
- An attentiveness to the needs and call of the Church (although more can be done here)*
- The meticulous preparation for the new Statutes reveals a praiseworthy sense of dedication*
- There are a number of 'wisdom figures' in the community and this is a great resource*
- Generosity to explore and take on a Mission (eg. Haiti)*
- a Passion to fight for Justice and help build the Kingdom.*

Some Challenges

- The distances (well, not much can be done about this)*
- Difficulties in getting youth to hear our testimonies and share our life*
- The imbalance in payment of the 'donation' is a major concern. The community is at risk if 43 % of the members do not contribute.*
- It would be good if there is more availability to take on leadership roles within the community. We cannot expect just a few persons to shoulder this load all the time.*
- Explore the possibility of more links with French-Canada and the USA (also, keep in mind my suggestion about the next World Assembly).*
- Find ways to be more visible. Do not hide your lamp under a bushel.*

Ok friends, that is it for now. All the best to Leah and Fr. Trevor and they take on their mandate. And many thanks to Mary, Peter and Fr. Charlie for the service rendered.

We shall be in touch.

It was lovely being with all of you, enjoying your company and your beautiful country.

Blessings,

Luke, sj