



“Rooted in Blessed History –Sent to the Frontiers”

*8th National Assembly
the 40th year of CLC Canada’s Blessed History*

10 years since the passing of CLC Canada’s Founder Fr. John English s.j.

Projects #154 - “In a unique and most timely way, the call to simplicity of lifestyle is felt in our community today, as an option for life on the planet and for justice within the human community.” (General Principle 12b) December 2012.

The Church and society are in urgent and universal need of authentic witness.

“Explore, find ways to be more visible. Do not hide your lamp under a bushel.”

Fr. Luke s.j. Assistant World E.A. June 2014

Such great energy has been stirred in our national assembly with enthusiasm to move CLC Canada forward evermore growing as a nationally formed body, with regional flare ‘outward to the frontiers’. {Link to the final statement and recommendations [here](#).}

The preparation was outstanding by the National Assembly Organizing Committee. To them we owe so much gratitude for months of effort culminating in our gathering in Saint John, “Rooted in Blessed History –Sent to the Frontiers”. Along with a Writing Team, Process Guides, small group facilitators, and General Council, we were ‘learning as we go’ in the Spirit of Christ present and active. A most generous attitude of co-operation, transparency, listening and discerning was among the assembled.

The first concrete frontier response was in solidarity with CLC South Sudan who have met horrific crisis with what seems no apparent hesitation to remain faithful to planning the future formation of CLC. CLC Canada has sent a letter with our love, prayers and great hope for renewed strength in all their efforts with a promise of \$1000.00 CAD. This gift will be sent through CVX-CLC World processes. {Link to Letter [here](#)}

With our Constitution ratified after years of sometimes painstaking efforts, a patient focus and dedication finally brought renewal within this grounding document. Expressions of gratitude have been many toward the Working Group in Atlantic who geographically were advantaged in holding face to face weekend meetings accomplishing much work and to all community members who responded in kind with valuable input for consideration. Though now deceased, Terri Chouinard made a most welcome nourishing place for the WG to come together and for this work to be accomplished. The signed Constitution is held in safe keeping in the Jesuit Archives while a copy is sent to World CVX-CLC to authorize all statutes congruent with the [Principles, Norms](#) and our [Charism](#).



{Link to the approved Constitution of CLC Canada [here](#)}

A National Review-evaluation of our Common Mission ‘struck gold’ in the generous time given through engaging strategic community processes challenging members to go deeper; to go where it may be uncomfortable to answer the invitation to frontiers we yet are seeking in concrete terms. “***The Church and society are in urgent and universal need of authentic witness.***” See [\(here\)](#) the Power Point that assisted our process at the assembly and the 36 pages of inspired member voices from across Canada.

World Assembly delegates and N.E.A. of 2013 set out to prepare a Power Point that would mark



this assembly of Lebanon 2014 with particular note in closing of the 450th year celebrating Ignatian lay communities. **The Power Point *with voice* will be available in our July e-Newsletter** for individuals, communities and/or clusters to treasure the stories of worldwide spiritual splendour and raw realities of lives broken yet finding hope through CVX-CLC. You will experience how the Trinity worked among us, inclusive of grappling with finances, structures vs freedom, in collaboration and networking all the while building us up in ONE lay apostolic body for

service in Christ's name focused on 4 priorities for mission and those of a nature that form and identify us as Lay CLC.

Small group facilitation following the presentations on the World Assembly Priorities: Family, Globalization/ Poverty, Ecology and Youth were helpful in cross examining the input and reflections leading to member recommendations focusing on greater needs to be addressed. {The DOWNLOAD LINK to Ecology presentation by Lois and Kuruvila [here](#)}



ExCo's foresight was to invite Fr. Luke Rodrigues (Assistant World E.A.) 'years ahead of time' to make a visit with us possible. His presence with us was delightful and 'real'. **Luke asked us to consider seriously the invitation to host the World Assembly for summer 2018.** We asked among ourselves if co-hosting with USA could be an option.

He encouraged us to remain faithful to those areas of strength seen in our depth and solidarity and deep rootedness in Ignatian charism expressed in dedication of the renewal of our Constitution, generosity to explore mission, openness to take stock of our lives and common mission, good relations with Jesuits in Canada, lay wisdom figures as a great resource, and a Passion to fight for Justice and help build the Kingdom.”

His challenge to us to grow stronger were in the areas, of imbalance in payment of the membership 'donation' (43% of members were reported as not contributing), more availability to take on leadership roles within the community, and exploring the possibility of more links with French-Canada and the USA and the Canadian church.

World Exco member Ann Marie Brennan of New York, USA joined us in a generous gesture and in solidarity with our membership. She has made herself most accessible and invites more conversation through a North American network in the birthing stages. We shared hopes of working more closely with formation of adults and youth sharing resources while building the North American Region as discerned by those called to serve.

My term of service has come to an end in the capacity of co-president and with a grateful heart, after working very hard for you and being supported so well by the former ExCo members Sharon Baker, and Charlie Pottie s.j., and remaining support of co-President Peter Chouinard, Treasurer Karen Dysart-Chuba and Elder Gilles Michaud. All the meetings held with ExCo and General Council members to inform and address issues of a discerning nature on your behalf have been fulfilled to the best of our ability. Many thanks to former reps Judith De Witt, Pat Bremner and current reps, Magee McGuire, Kwan Sui Crowe, Leanne Salel and Gerri Tingley/webmaster. **Leah Michaud of Atlantic Region generously discerned with her community Dec 2013 to offer her time and expertise as President for CLC Canada. WELCOME LEAH!** Supporting her on General Council:

Acting President – summer months –Mary Balfe

President September 2014 - Leah Michaud

Past co-President Peter Chouinard -serving Sept 2014 – Dec 2014

Treasurer - Karen Dysart Chuba – serving to Dec 2014

Secretary -

Elder - Gilles Michaud

Atlantic Regional Rep / Webmaster - Gerri Tingley

Prairie Regional Rep - Kwan Sui Crowe

Central Regional Rep - Magee McGuire

Rockies Regional Rep - Leanne Salel