

## National Assembly 2014 Small Group Input – Tables 1-9 collated

### Table 1

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#### Question #1

A community grows through relationship  
Desire for collaboration (esp. with Jesuits, D&P, clusters)  
Value of meeting CLC'ers from across the country.  
Need to work together, especially through group interaction  
Relationship through sharing of each others' lives/personal sharing  
\*living out the CLC principles (not just reading them)  
Necessity to meet with the wider CLC in our areas  
Share our talents through collaboration in our works

#### Question #2

Not hearing what the Canadian church is asking of CLC  
Need and desire for collaboration within CLC  
Clarity in our goals and process  
\***simplicity in our communication with each other**  
Openness to learning from others, to changing, to using technology

#### Question #3

Barriers to the Exercises for many, e.g. financial, time, etc.  
Need for leadership, group guides, formation  
**Reaching out to the younger generations**  
\*cultural awareness  
\*week of guided prayer, retreats...  
Importance of scriptural awareness/rootedness

#### Question #4

Relating with the Church leadership/apostolic goals.

### Table 2 (a.k.a. Table 2, a.k.a. the Group of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round)

#### On the first two questions:

- We are surprised by our [existing] connectedness to the Common Mission and, therefore, to CLC as a whole.
- By this process of examining the Common Mission we have gained a greater awareness of the Holy Spirit at work in our midst.
- We have affirmed our awareness of a greater need for evaluation (re: DSSE)

#### On the second two questions:

- We need to focus on formation by using our Ignatian tools more often and more intentionally (examen, discernment, four-column decision-making tool, etc.) and resources (e.g. CLC Leadership Manual).
- We need to encourage greater communication/interaction between groups locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.
- Since it has been revealed to us that we have been living in common mission without realizing it, how much more can we, by our prayers and the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit live it out to fruition over the next five years (and beyond).

**In conclusion, regarding our next steps in the process:**

Thus, we see no need to rush into a revision of the existing Common Mission statement. Rather we would support appointing a working group to propose any revisions, based on the total body existing data collected from the groups (not only recommendations, but also the awarenesses, clarities and insights) as well as the rounds recorded on the four questions at this Assembly.

**Table 3 - CIA – Comtemplative In Action!**

Question 1

1. Spirituality, youth and family need more emphasis. (i.e. education and support)
2. Need to have social action to bring in youth.
3. Changes to the wording of the common mission from too specific to more general and including WHO we are NOW. (This permits the strategies for specific goals to come out of that.)  
i.e. Mission Statement - WE are Christians who are contemplatives in action discerning as a community, not as individuals, and acting to better our communities through the guidance of the Blessed Trinity.
4. Sense of confusion about what the ‘common mission’ statement means.
5. The statement needs changes that reflect our own identity today.

Question 2

1. We did not hear in common the focus ‘discerning community for mission.’ And with a justice component in it.
2. HOW we live out our common mission, (strategizing), should be separate from the actual mission statement.
3. There was a statement that we were going to focus on youth, but no commitment to developing that strategy for doing it. (We didn’t follow our own mission statement on youth.) Such as education, collaboration, best practice which are helpful to development.
4. DSSE is not reflected in the mission statement.
5. New groups especially need mentoring & support, IMPROVED communication, well-formed GROUP GUIDES.

Question 3

1. Better connections & communications with other CLC groups, to increase understanding of how CLC functions locally, regionally, and nationally.
2. BEST PRACTISES

3. Secure our identity! Secure our identity!
4. Relationship and communication go together....so building relationships with CLC communities. Without this we cannot connect with common mission. (Especially with our folks in the west.)

#### Question 4

1. Justice component missing.
2. Identity of who we are NOW.
3. Relationship
4. How to support a new group when there is lack of formation & guide support.
5. No succession plan (Confidence in formation is weaker than desired. Necessary for future leaders.)
6. Mission statement needs to be broad, then strategies come out of that.

Table #4 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., Sat. May 31, 2014

Second round on first questions:

*As you listened to the workshop presentation, what stayed with you or move you? What personal memories did it evoke in you?*

- Since the problems of the world are spiritual at their root, our invitation to “find God in all things” provides hope as we move to action.
- In light of the Ignatian questions, “What have I done for Christ? What am I doing for Christ? What must I do for Christ?” there is a deep desire, in our grappling with these questions, to discern our being in God’s loving gaze and thereby allow this right relationship with God to move us to do what is right, come what may.
- By virtue of our sharing in this group, everyone has a deeper awareness of the issues. We sense the disparity between what is and what should be yet there is hope through the CLC way of life to address situations and improve them even in the smallest way in our daily lives.
- We are inspired by the Scriptural quote, “In Christ, all things hold together.” – Colossians 1:17
- In light of the family focus, we can share our Ignatian tools that we receive in CLC which are not just for adults but for children as well.

First round on second question:

*What is one recommendation that you can make to CLC Canada regarding our growth as an apostolic body?*

- Learn from initiatives already undertaken by the Society of Jesus (e.g. as found in the [www.jesuitforum.ca](http://www.jesuitforum.ca)) and find out how we may be able to collaborate with them in these initiatives (e.g. ecology, role of women, family)
- How can CLC support families more? (e.g. provide/pay for babysitting so members can attend CLC meetings/events, etc.)

- Cultivate gratefulness as one of our Ignatian tools.
- Central Region's Haiti project and serve as a model for other outreach projects
- How can we develop/pursue our existing twinning with CLC India?

## **TABLE 5**

### Q1 Revealed

- Commonality and similarities of our needs and desires across Canada
- Young adults are an important gift of CLC
- Need for expansion and recruitment of young adults to CLC. CLC is a gift and a beautiful vocation in the church. Offer crash courses, introduction to Ignatian spirituality and the tools of Ignatian Spirituality to University chaplaincies, young adult ministries in the Archdiocese
- Mission statement needs to be updated to reflect our identity and reflect the three pillars, Spiritual Exercises, Community and Mission/DSSE and BE AUTHENTIC CLC

### Q 2: Commonalities

- Need for freedom in leadership development everywhere
- Focus on supporting family and young adults
- New evangelization to have laity take a role in the church
- Need for prayer and discernment where the Holy Spirit is calling individuals and communities
- Desire for expanding CLC and that it be authentic with formed leadership and group guides, eg; coordinators/contact person.
- Need for commitment (temporary/permanent) and identity to CLC
- Emphasis on mission, and that we are called to be prophetic, to the disenfranchised
- CLC as a group recognized and supported by the Archdiocese
- Celebrate our mandate and mission
- Desire for collaboration at all levels

### Second round:

- We are in the Upper room at Pentecost
- How do we make CLC more visible?
- Collaborate with other regions to support mission eg; in Haiti
- A deep desire to be open to the Spirit

### Q 3 Priority

- 1) Spiritual formation and mentoring
- 2) Expansion of CLC
- 3) Commitment and co-responsibility
- 4) Mission

## **Group 6 – Ecclectics**

1. **FORMATION** : in every step of the process
  - sharing tools on website- looking at what others have done
  - use of technology to understand use of tools (DSSE-C), Examine Awareness, training of Group Guides, etc.

-Core must be Spiritual Exercises

11. COMMUNICATIONS: between groups at all levels eg. Local, regional, national and world

- twinning internationally

-cluster groups based on pairing up with on pairing up with others, using technology – bringing communities together.

- need of an appropriate language for all (esp. new.)

111, FREEDOM – for living within our limitations

- thus we must be a DISCERNING BODY.

## **Table 7 | the Roosters**

○ What is being revealed?

1999 CM is relevant, well worded. With evaluation of WA's, and increased focus in mission, apostolic action (spec. P 15)

There is a need to reword the CM of 1999 to express signs of time- what happened since 1999A world level.

Very affirming @ priorities – around world assembly, the 4 areas.

-a lot of work needs to be done in getting info, training

-heard a call ~ spirit's voice to next step forward.

\_ Sense of ownership members have. Based on breadth of responses. People want to be part of process.

~ Leadership, training, forming guides was emphasis. Moves the mission more efficiently in terms of discernment of mission, DESSE. Leadership fundamental, exp the EX

~ Formation & training was emphasized in document. Reflects our experience.

● What are we hearing that is in common from the collated input?

○ Leadership formation & training

○ That it be authentic CLC formation training of group leaders ~ coordinators & guide & formation be based on 3 pillars ~ community, mission & spiritual exercises

○ Need for increased visibility of CLC & recruitment of new members. Need to “spread the fire” ~ Passion! Need to be creative & flexible & have a welcoming structure. There has to be a process of growth. Open wide the doors!

○ Trying to protect traditions can lose openness ~ keep the charisma while remaining more open.

○ CLC charisma includes welcoming, creativity. It is not in one box. We have ecumenism ~ open your doors to thinking outside Roman Catholic ~ these are our roots, but let's be open.

○ Need emphasis on “mission”. Collaborate with those who share similar goals.

○ YA have & youth ~ is our structure relevant? How can we better adapt to be relevant? Families are very immersed at the first level.

○ There is a big need for CLCers to understand in deeper way the priorities for mission ~ need for further education (prior to action).

● In what priority do your experience these issues.

○ Focus on how we can invite youth ~ they are more fluid.

○ Should youth be removed from MS? Making MS more inviting “all people of good will” to be part of vision. MS should be broad, inclusive, welcoming, energizing.

○ Have to have CLC leadership, formation.

○ Openness to all ~ open door policy

- Any impulse to mission
- What kind of leadership
- CLC has a specific way, unique. It is a body of Christ. Corporate/collective/collegial leadership.
- Lack of availability for leadership
- Leadership should not feel Onerous but part of team
- Be aware of gifts of others, affirmation
- Circle of collaboration ~ not a pyramid
- Need to encourage, share responsibilities as a stepping stone for leadership
- What is missing
  - Disconnect with what pope Francis / the church has been doing?
  - We did provide input on the Synod on the family but not at the degree would have been desirable due to time constraints
  - CLC has role in Pontifical Council for the Laity. CLC was visible. We were affirmed as important to lay movements due to our formation
  - We may need to be more proactive in filtering / spreading it as per Francis
  - WE ARE CHURCH IN THE WORLD. That is what people are waiting for.

## **Table 8**

### What is Being Revealed?

1. Community - Desire for interrelatedness- to assist us in growing in the fullness of who we are as CLC; communication with other groups; importance of opportunities for groups to work together; importance of DSSE – particularly growing more deeply into this way of life with emphasis on SE;
2. Leadership – Compassionate; we lead each other
3. Formation – key to moving forward is formation, especially formation of leaders
4. Spiritual Exercises are the core of CLC spirituality
5. Youth – find ways to better understand their culture; empower them to tell their stories; importance of getting their involvement
6. Communication – between all levels of CLC and with other outside groups

### What are you hearing that is “In Common”

1. DSSE – living more fully out of DSSE; importance of Evaluation
2. Discernment – importance of bringing personal discernments to the community; leads to common mission and growth of the community; personal discernment is communal within context of DSSE
3. Spiritual Exercises – a call to communal spiritual exercises; need for formation in Ignatian Spirituality especially through application of the spiritual exercises
4. Leadership – strong emphasis on servant leadership
5. Formation – need for well formed leadership in order to move forward; key to living our calling more fully
6. CLC Visibility – Come and See; Open meetings.
7. Social Justice – significance of working together within the larger CLC community ie local, regional, national, international, world
8. Youth – importance of engaging the youth
9. Interconnectedness of communities and the need to work together; individual CLC members need to act as interrelated parts of the whole

10. Community – deeper, fully living into who we are as CLC so that we can move outward

In What Priority do you place these Issues

1. Servant Leadership; Jesus is our model
2. Formation – key to forward movement\
3. Community- interrelatedness is crucial; bring personal discernments to community; call to more expansive, deeper way of living our vocation
4. DSSE – need to trust more fully

Is there anything Missing

1. Emphasis needs to be on servant leadership
2. More training on Evaluation
3. Little focus on Mission
4. Lack of focus on the working of the mission statement itself
5. Reading the signs of the times
6. Focus on social analysis

## **Table 9**

Golden Eagles– Recommendations

May 31, 2014

What is being revealed?

1. Overwhelmed by data; however we feel the energy and the desire for mission and growth
2. Energy, desire to live out the CLC way of life more fully and deeply, particularly in regard to youth, family and poverty.
3. Need more “fiery”, energetic language in our mission statement.
4. Value of who we are as lay people, living in the context of family

What is common from collated input?

1. A major need regarding leadership
2. Pay attention to DSSE
3. Need for formation of communities

### Group Members

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