



London Diocesan Council  
Of  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

One Heart, One Voice, One Mission!

To: All Parish Presidents, Regional Chairperson, and Community Life Chairpersons

Cc: London Diocesan Council

From: Kathy Levesque, London Diocesan Chairpersons, Community Life

Date: November 21, 2015

Directive # 13

**Development and Peace** – Create A Climate of Change – On November 29<sup>th</sup>, the Development and Peace has joined a massive coalition to organize a march in Ottawa and cities across Canada on the eve of the global climate submit in Paris. They will send a clear message to our new government that we are ready to take action as individuals, as communities, and as a country, for the survival of people in the Global South, and the survival of the planet.

Pope Francis is urging us to protect our common home, Mother Earth, so lets make sure that Catholics are on the forefront of this global action for climate justice. Please pray for them.

We can also make a commitment to reduce the carbon footprint, and call on the Prime Minister to make a commitment for Canada by signing an online petition.

**E-Mail:** [info@devp.org](mailto:info@devp.org) | **Web:** [www.devp.org](http://www.devp.org)

**Human Trafficking: Hope for the Sold** – is an organization that is in the forefront of trying to bring the issue of human trafficking to an end. For more information:

(<http://hopeforthesold.com> )

**Magdalene House** is a recovery home for people exploited by trafficking that is located in Red Deer, Alberta. Canada signed the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children in 2000. In 2007, provisions were made for people exploited by human trafficking to receive a temporary resident permit. Along with government financial commitment and the help of public donors, the house can and is providing the necessary services to assist people exploited in human trafficking to become survivors. For more information ,([www.magdalenehouse.ca](http://www.magdalenehouse.ca))

**Joy Smith Foundation Rides Again** – The foundation is working to make it possible for every Canadian man, woman and child to be kept safe from manipulation, force or abuse of power to exploit them to the sex trade or forced labour. More information:

[www.joysmithfoundation.com](http://www.joysmithfoundation.com))



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**World Day of Migrants and Refugees:** January 17, 2016 has been declared by Pope Francis to be the next World Day of Migrants and Refugees. The theme will be Migrants and Refugees to Challenge Us. If any council knows anyone who is interested in sponsoring refugees, please call Felisa Ponce, of Catholic Cross-cultural services (877)290-1701 or email [fponce@rstp.ca](mailto:fponce@rstp.ca)

**Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy** – Pope Francis has declared the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy from December 8, 2015 through December 16, 2016. He has asked us to concentrate on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. How? Visiting the sick in the hospitals and nursing homes; helping the refugees trying to come to Canada, donate clothing to for the homeless and street people, donating food to the foodbanks and saying prayers for people who are struggling with daily life's problems and for those who have died; being patient with people especially the elderly, etc.

**Building Relationships and Partnerships** – This past October, I was able to attend a presentation from Chief Louise Hillier, Caldwell First Nation at one of our councils. This band is from the Leamington area in Southern Ontario. She spoke on the empowerment of women in her band, and the youth. Little is known of them, but after hearing her speak we were aware of how they lived, their culture, raising and schooling of their children. She spoke on how women wore long dresses at bank ceremonies. The long skirt resembles the TP. As a woman walks along she is passing kindness on the ground, thus called women of kindness. She was so interesting. Four of the older children are in university, two want to become doctors, one is becoming a forest ranger, and the other is a biological researcher. I have gained a greater knowledge to the life of this band. If you have a chance to invite an indigenous to come to speak to your council, it is very worthwhile.