

### What is the Mothers' Union?

Mothers' Union is an international Christian membership charity of 4 million members living in over 80 countries, who share one heartfelt vision — to bring about a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. Members actively pursue this vision through community programs, advocacy campaigns and a committed prayer life.

### History of the Mothers' Union

Mary Sumner began the Mothers' Union in England in 1876. She recognized the need for mothers to support one another, to learn together, gain knowledge about raising their children and to develop their faith in God. The Canadian Mothers' Union was established in London, Ontario, in 1888.

### Who can join the Mothers' Union?

If you are a Christian and believe in the importance of family life, you should join the Mothers' Union. Men, women, married or not, parent or not, all are welcome to join. You must be baptized in the name of the Trinity and agree with the Aim and Objectives; membership is open to all denominations.

**Membership** in the Mothers' Union begins at the branch or diocesan level. Dues are affordable at \$25 annually which includes a three-issue subscription to the Canadian Mothers' Union Newsletter.

**Prayer** sustains and strengthens our work. A 'Wave of Prayer' goes around the world as members pray together every day at midday wherever they are for the people and work of the Mothers' Union and for international issues affecting families.

### Helping those facing adversity

This is something the Mothers' Union takes very seriously. Members reach out with whatever help they can to refugees, women escaping sexual exploitation or trafficking or domestic violence or those affected by poverty or other problems.

### Christian Care for Families

Wherever Mothers' Union exists in the world we will express our Christian faith in the transformation of families and communities world-wide. We work to achieve this by promoting the importance of marriage, supporting families and nurturing faith. Members sensitively spread the news of a God who loves and cares for us all.

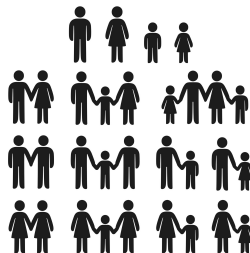
### Parents Supporting Parents

The Canadian Mothers' Union is passionately committed to helping parents develop support networks through our "Parents Supporting Parents" program. Now that this parenting program has been translated into 2 of 3 aboriginal languages, we plan to offer it in the Canadian North.

### Outreach

Canadian Mothers' Union supports the Worldwide Mothers' Union: they train workers, run Literacy & Financial Education Programs, offer the Family Life Program in Uganda, offer the Parenting Program which runs in 18 countries, and the Relief fund which provides assistance after natural disasters (quite often the first on scene, because we have members living in the area).

In Canada our project is the Northern Clergy Families Fund (NCFE). This fund provides financial assistance to the spouses of clergy serving in the most remote regions of the country. Funds often arrive just in time to avert a family crisis or provide for the extras that normally wouldn't be affordable.



## Mothers' Union A Worldwide Organization

**Worldwide Mothers' Union Headquarters**  
**Mary Sumner House**  
**London, England**  
**WW President—Sheran Harper**

### Canadian Mothers Union

The Anglican Church is divided into provinces not related to the provincial boundaries. Canada is a province, as is the USA, Scotland, Ireland, Australia, etc. Each province elects a president, currently **Mary Stone** from Nova scotia, who chairs **Canadian Council** and sits on Worldwide Council. Canadian Council hosts a national conference every four years.

### Diocesan Council

In each province the church is divided into dioceses — regions under the leadership of a bishop. The branches in each diocese elect a president and council. This diocesan connection helps the Mothers' Union grow as they meet regularly

### Your Mothers' Union Branch

The Mothers' Union branch is most often (but not always) based in a local church. Branches have regular meetings and play a role in the life of a parish. There are around 60 branches in Canada whose members share a strong fellowship and are committed to strengthening family life.

**Diocesan Membership** is open to those who do not feel able to attend regular meetings. They receive information on projects, programs and diocesan events. In this way they can support the work of the Mothers' Union.



# THE CANADIAN MOTHERS' UNION



## *Mothers' Union Prayer*

Loving Lord,

We thank you for your love so freely given to us all. We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service, reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus' name. Amen

## **Mothers' Union at a Glance**

For more information about the  
Canadian Mothers' Union go to:

<http://www.canadianmothersunion.ca/>

or the worldwide site at

<http://www.mothersunion.org/>



Our vision is a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships.