



The CANADIAN MOTHERS' UNION NEWSLETTER

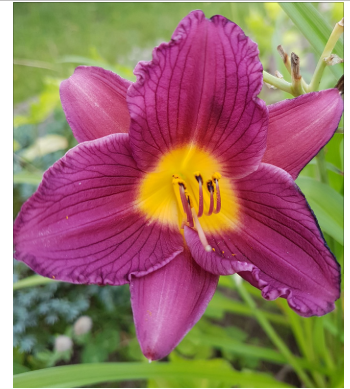
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Summer 2017

www.mothersunioncanada.ca

www.themothersunion.org

2017 THEME -
FAITH IN ACTION



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Get Involved
Do something today that will transform a family for life!



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Every 6 days a woman in Canada is killed by her spouse or intimate partner.

The Society For Silent Witness Nova Scotia

SWNS is a group of organizations and individuals working together to raise awareness of the realities of domestic violence.

Between 1990 and 2016, there were 51 women in Nova Scotia who lost their lives to violence at the hands of their intimate partners, forever silencing their voices. The time has come to end their silence. Silent Witness Nova Scotia is a group of organizations and individuals working together to raise those voices. Our journey began in 2004 when individuals from across the province gathered to learn about the Silent Witness movement, and New Brunswick women who had been killed by their intimate partners.

We were so moved by their stories that a commitment was made to honour and remember our own Silent Witnesses in this way. Our vision became clear; we would strive to give voice to women of Nova Scotia silenced by domestic violence and commemorate their lives.

Life-sized, red, wooden silhouettes are created, each to represent a murdered woman. Each bears a shield engraved with a description provided by her family, of her as a woman who was also a beloved mother, friend, sister, daughter, co-worker, etc.

To create awareness and promote action, the Silent Witness silhouettes are an important part of the domestic violence presentations we present to schools, community colleges and universities across the province. Training sessions are also conducted for Department of Justice workers, law enforcement personnel, community social service providers as well as community groups.

Domestic Homicide in Canada

Between 1991 and 2010 in Canada, 1,249 women were victims of intimate partner homicide.



Although each woman has her own unique story, their deaths, together, reveal many common factors:

- Home is not a safe haven, nor is the workplace;
- Occurs in all parts of the province, both urban and rural;
- In all ages, backgrounds and income levels;
- Occurs at all levels of intimate involvement;
- Ending a relationship does not end the risk of violence;
- Women leaving a violent relationship are often stalked;
- Younger women are more at risk of being killed by ex-partners;
- Women in common-law relationships are at a greater risk of family violence and murder;
- Drugs and alcohol can escalate the violence;
- Homes with firearms can be deadly for women;
- Previous history of domestic violence, past criminal record and mental illness are all risk factors.

Silent Witness Nova Scotia Vision and Goals

- To honour families and children who have lost mothers, daughters, sisters due to partner/spousal/common-law violence;
- To raise awareness in Nova Scotia about violence in our communities;
- To involve communities in responding proactively in ending violence;
- To continue this work until such time as there is no longer a need for Silent Witness Nova Scotia

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

Silent Witness Vigil

The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.

On December 2nd, during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, the Parish of French Village Mothers' Union held a 2 hour 'Silent Witness' Vigil to bring attention to all gender-based violence, but particularly violence against women and girls. The vigil was held outdoors near highway 3 in Upper Tantallon. It began with prayers by Rev Brianna Andrews, followed by the lighting of 14 candles. As each participant lit a candle she/he read a prayer related to a particular aspect of gender-based violence. After a blessing by Rev Brianna, MLA Denise Peterson-Rafuse spoke thoughtfully about the issue of gender based violence.



The Society for Silent Witness Nova Scotia raises awareness of the realities of domestic violence. By creating life size, red, wooden silhouettes of a murdered woman with their story printed on a shield on the front, the society is helping to provide a voice for these women to tell their story and to raise awareness about violence in our communities. With this awareness it is hoped communities will become active in having open conversations and promoting positive actions to bring healing and an end to domestic violence. We were honored to have the silhouettes of Paula Gallant and Linda Boudreau at our vigil. It was a meaningful and moving event.



News From the Dioceses

Thunder Bay's Sept. 2016 Retreat

Our retreat was held again this year and 12 of us were able to gather and enjoy in the fellowship and great weather. We once again we were joined by Sandra Jorgenson from Georgetown. We love that every year she flies in to spend this special time with us. This year we also had a guest from England, who is not a member, but came out to see what we are all about!

We had an enthusiastic group of people playing washers (like horse shoes), and you will see a pic of Tracy who is trying to pass off a trophy from the cabin as her own, such competition!! We got in a nice long walk as well as a sauna and a dip in the lake by others. As you can see the weather was great and we spent plenty of time sitting on the deck. God is great!



Canadian Mothers' Union Financial Statement
January 1, 2016 –December 31, 2016

Bank Balance January 1, 2016 **\$51,458.12**

Receipts	Dues 2016 (544 members)	\$10,267.20	
	Dues 2017 (7 members)	\$185.00	
	Extra newsletters	\$60.00	
	Travel Fund	\$193.34	
	NCFF	\$1,579.00	
	Make A Mother's Day – England (MSH)	\$790.00	
	Northern Parenting (includes MAMD)	\$1,075.00	
	Rev. Debbie Strickland Memorial Fund	\$855.00	
	Lady Day, Overseas	\$992.70	
	Parenting Program	\$400.00	
	Offering from Conference services (Northern Parenting)	\$1,396.35	
	Proceeds from Conference Silent Auction (Travel Fund)	\$1,698.15	
	Government of Canada – GST/HST rebate	\$5,995.93	
	Conference registrations, donations, tours	\$76,178.47	
			\$101,666.14

Expenses	Travel to CC meetings	\$790.00	
	President's Travel	\$1,209.72	
	Coordinators' expenses	\$583.35	
	Newsletter printing and postage	\$4,592.61	
	NCFF – Transfer of funds	\$1,629.72	
	Mary Sumner House – Dues(\$3660), MAMD(\$1272), Overseas Fund(\$997.45)	\$5,929.45	
	Vinyl banner	\$112.70	
	Merchandise for Conference	\$4,539.81	
	Brochures for General Synod	\$650.47	
	Lone member banner and pole	\$191.89	
	Parenting Facilitators Training course	\$516.24	
	Conference expenses	\$91,577.87	
	Diocesan Representatives Allowance	\$250.00	
	Website domain name (3 years)	\$47.85	
	Transfer to new Council	\$6,000.00	
	Purchase of service books	\$116.82	
	Bank charges	\$87.75	
			\$118,826.25

Bank Balance December 31, 2016 **\$34,298.01**

Allocation	General Acct	\$20,905.51	
of Funds	Dues held for MSH	\$42.00	
	Travel Fund	\$2,480.34	
	NCFF	\$965.00	
	MAMD	\$105.00	
	Northern Parenting	\$7,749.70	
	Rev. Debbie Strickland Memorial Fund	\$855.00	
	Parenting Program	\$1,095.46	
	Overseas Fund	\$100.00	\$34,298.01

The bank balance does not include the Sarah Marshall Trust Fund (NCFF) in the amount of \$4000.00.

Term deposit matures October 17, 2018. Interest rate 3.00%.

Total number of paid up members for 2016: 608

Total number of paid up members for 2017: 7

Canadian Council Joint Meeting



The outgoing Canadian Council and several members of the incoming Canadian Council met at St. Francis by the Lakes church in Lower Sackville, NS to discuss business and meet and chat with their counterparts.

Margaret de Carvalho, outgoing Canadian Provincial President, was presented with cards and gifts from Diocesan and Canadian Councils by Debbie Fice and Ethel Nelson.





In Memory

Muriel Upton - A member of the St. James Armdale Mothers' Union, Muriel Upton passed away on Saturday, January 7, 2017, in hospital where she had been since Christmas Day. A memorial service was held in St. James Church, followed by a reception. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her; prayers are extended to her family.

Hazel Treadgold - Former Central President of Mothers' Union (1983 - 1988), Hazel Treadgold passed away peacefully at home just before Christmas, on 19 December 2016. Her contribution to Mothers' Union worldwide was enormous, and she will be greatly missed. Current Worldwide President Lynne Tembey said, "I was very sorry to hear of Hazel's passing and extend to her family our deep sorrow, love and sympathy at this time. Hazel was an inspirational lady, she travelled to many parts of the world on behalf of Mothers' Union, she was a great encourager. Before becoming Central President she was Central Young Families Chairperson, as "family" was very important to her. Hazel was fun to be around, and a real bubbly character. She was also on the working group which helped with the planning of the 1988 Lambeth Wives Conference. I pray that members will remember with love and great affection Hazel's leadership, faithfulness and commitment to Mothers' Union, and especially remember Marcus, Joanna and their families at this time." (from www.mothersunion.org/hazel-treadgold)

A private funeral took place on 30th December 2016 and a Thanksgiving Service to celebrate Hazel's life was held 27 January 2017 in Chichester Cathedral. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

*Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon them. Amen*

The Nestlé Boycott

Have you heard of the Nestlé Boycott?

Back in the 1970s, concern was raised that selling milk substitutes in various countries to women who could not afford it, who didn't have clean water to mix it with, who were not able to read the mixing instructions, used a smaller amount of formula than needed, or lived in conditions that did not allow them to sterilize the bottles, created a health problem for the babies. Many died.

In 1977 a world-wide boycott was launched against the Nestlé Corporation. Consumers all over the world stopped purchasing Nestlé products. You may remember when it took place in your diocese at that time. Mothers' Union members often were the leaders in spearheading petitions.

The World Health Organization (WHO) drafted the International Code on the Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes in 1981. They recognized that inappropriate feeding practices lead to infant malnutrition, morbidity & mortality in all countries. The code applies to the marketing of breast milk substitutes and related products as it can contribute to these major public health problems.

The WHO Code states that formula companies are NOT allowed to give samples of formula in hospitals and promote formula over breast milk.

Recommendations were made that manufacturers and distributors of infant formula should ensure that each container has a non-removable, clear, and understandable message including:

- a. the words "Important Notice" or their equivalent
- b. a statement of the superiority of breastfeeding
- c. a statement that the product should be used only on the advice of a health worker
- d. instructions for appropriate preparation, and a warning against the health hazards of inappropriate preparation.

After this, most breast milk substitutes followed the WHO Code and the boycott was lifted. However that didn't hold for long. Ethical infractions began again. Nestlé gave out formula samples so mothers' breast milk would dry up; it exploited poor customers for its own profit; they did not provide enough information on their products sold; and ignored the WHO international code on the marketing of breast milk substitutes. Canada rejoined the boycott in 1988.

A doctor in a hospital in a third world country would like to see formula milk and bottles removed from general shops, and available only as a last resort, on prescription. "It sounds extreme - but then, it sounded extreme when people first talked about banning smoking. This is the same issue - only with bottle feeding in my country it's not consenting adults who die, it's tiny babies."

Now, in North America, it's being proposed that we boycott Nestlé again. Many spiritually aware people are concerned that thousands of babies die each year in third world countries due to using these products.

So why should we boycott?

In Canada, Nestlé has been buying a million liters of water for \$3.71 and bottling it to sell to people; water that in some cases comes from lakes in communities who now have dried up wells, since the water table in their area has been lowered. Nestlé just bought another well in Middlebrook, ON, by outbidding the municipality who wanted to protect their municipal water supply.

“Groundwater resources are finite. Droughts, climate change and over-extraction continue to impact our limited water sources. At this pace, we will not have enough for our future needs. “Water is a human right, commons and a public trust, to be shared, protected, carefully managed and enjoyed by all who live around it – not a source of profit.”

[<canadians.org/nestle>](http://canadians.org/nestle)

But all these reasons are just part of the larger humanitarian reason why we should boycott Nestlé.

It seems that the company is so concerned with making a profit that they forget that lives are being adversely affected by their actions. A boycott has worked to a limited degree in the past, by making them lose profits, so they cleaned up their act for a while. Maybe another boycott will make them rethink what they are doing to people and the environment in which we all live.

By our boycotting of Nestlé products they are getting bad publicity and getting lower profits.

For more information you can go on the internet at Nestlé boycott and find many more facts and information.

[<dailydot.com/via/nestle-california-bottled-water>](http://dailydot.com/via/nestle-california-bottled-water)

[<www.infactcanada.ca/Nestle_Boycott.htm>](http://www.infactcanada.ca/Nestle_Boycott.htm)

[<infactcanada.ca/nestle_boycott_action_online.htm>](http://infactcanada.ca/nestle_boycott_action_online.htm)

~ submitted by Ethel Nelson

Consult the List, and Check the Label!

Many products made by Nestlé don't have the name prominently displayed on the packaging. I was amazed at the number of products I didn't know were made or distributed by Nestlé. This is the website with the list of Nestlé products you can boycott in Canada:

http://www.infactcanada.ca/nestle_boycott_product.htm#Canada

~ Elizabeth Court

UPDATE on the Nestlé Boycott - July, 2017

Because many people wrote to complain to the Ontario government, they reviewed the amount they have been charging Nestlé for every million litres of water they are taking. It was \$3.71, now it has been raised to \$503.71. That doesn't solve the problem of overuse which denies citizens access to drinking water when there are dried up lakes.

Nestlé continues to pump more than four million litres of groundwater every day from an aquifer near Guelph.

The Council of Canadians calls for a ban on bottled water products where potable water exists. "It's good that the province has taken a step to increase fees but what people across Ontario really want is for bottled water takings to be phased out. The new increase only amounts to roughly 1/20 of a penny per litre of water that companies like Nestlé sell back to the public," says Emma Lui, Water Campaigner with the Council of Canadians. "Having severe droughts in recent years means we can't allow water to be taken and exported out of watersheds, never to be returned again. Only a ban – not just increase on fees – will protect vulnerable groundwater that communities rely on for drinking water."

Communities trying to save their water – with the help of the Council of Canadians – from bottled water plants, quarries and garbage dumps have complained that the government seems to rubber-stamp corporate permits with little regard for residents' concerns. We cannot allow half measures and loophole-filled regulations. We need to phase out bottled water permits forever.

- ~ Force Nestlé to sell the Middlebrook well to the Township of Centre Wellington who need it for their drinking water.
- ~ Implement a permanent moratorium on new permits for single-use bottled water facilities.
- ~ Phase out current permits for such facilities.
- ~ Prioritize community use over corporate interests for water resources in Ontario.
- ~ Seek the free, prior and informed consent of affected Indigenous peoples.

Submitted by Ethel Nelson

The Prayer of St. Francis

Did you ever wonder where the Prayer of Saint Francis originated? Was it actually a prayer written by St. Francis of Assisi?

The author is actually unknown, and there is no record of the prayer prior to 1912. It was originally published in Paris, in French; around 1920, a French Franciscan priest had the prayer printed on the back of cards with the image of St. Francis on the front, and titled it "Prayer for Peace". These cards were circulated around Europe between World War I and World War II. The prayer became known as the Prayer of St. Francis, and has gained popularity around the world among people of all faiths. In 1967 Sebastian Temple wrote the musical adaptation, "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace", with which we are all probably very familiar. Indeed, this prayer for peace has a place in today's troubled society.

The work of the Mothers' Union around the world embodies much of the prayer's message through programs that bring hope, understanding, and the love of Christ to those in all manner of need. Let us all pray that we can help those who feel hatred, doubt, despair, sorrow or guilt; those who have injured or who have been injured; and those who live with the darkness of fear and daily strife.

Submitted by Elizabeth Court

Lord, make me an instrument of your

PEACE

Where there is hatred let me sow

LOVE

Where there is injury

PARDON

Where there is doubt

FAITH

Where there is despair

HOPE

Where there is darkness

LIGHT

Where there is sadness

JOY

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to

CONSOLE

to be understood as to

UNDERSTAND

to be loved as to

LOVE

*For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are
pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to*

ETERNAL LIFE.

Amen

~ Prayer of Saint Francis ~