

To reiterate, it appears to me that we are extremely fortunate to be able to support an organization built on faith and humanism that "...has an exceptional capacity for personal and social mobilisation, as its awareness-building campaigns over the years have shown."

Please continue to support CCODP. Members need to be thankful for the blessings that God has given to them. Members have so much; so many have little. We have been given the opportunity to share our blessings through the 1% Program.

Because of HIV/AIDS, there are daughters, sisters, mothers and grandmothers who need help. As daughters,

sisters, mothers and grandmothers, we can provide that help through CCODP in the communities that the League supports.

"Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do to me." (Matthew 25:40) †

Material in quotes taken from:

- www.devop.org
- www.care.org
- An Active Role for Development and Peace in the fight Against HIV/AIDS: Policy Statement, June 2003

MEMBERSHIP IN THE LEAGUE

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Membership in the League is a gift you give yourself. Along with this membership comes the opportunity to work within your parish, community and province "For God and Canada." Membership affords you the opportunity to attend diocesan, provincial and national conventions. Conventions at all levels are a source of renewal and energy for the members who are fortunate enough to be in attendance. The Eucharistic celebrations and spiritual programs are spirit filled and provide food for the soul. The debate on the floor as resolutions are brought forward under standing committees provides food for the brain. And, of course, the cuisine at the special events provides food for the body. The theme development provides focus for the year ahead.

In August 2006, I had the privilege of co-chairing the 86th annual national convention, along with two of my five sisters. The enthusiasm of the women from across the country and, in particular, the members from Nova Scotia, was invigorating. The smiles on members' faces, friendly words of encouragement and the feeling of joy present throughout the convention explain why members attend conventions year after year.

It is indeed through participation at conventions that members experience the League's strength and energy. Attendance provides members with opportunities to learn more about the League and to network with League sisters from across the country. At conventions, strangers are friends you have not met and you are guaranteed to leave with an entirely new group of supporters.

All members are encouraged to take advantage of all that

the League has to offer in order to experience the true value of membership.

As an elementary school teacher, I encouraged my students to write acrostic poems about something that means a lot to them. League membership is important to me and I have received much more than I have given. My poem speaks of the value of membership to me. Appreciate and celebrate your membership and share your love of the League with others. Bring someone to your next meeting. Isn't that what friends are for?

- M** - Mary, Mother of Jesus and our model
- E** - Executives that lead with enthusiasm
- M** - Mentors, sisters who shares their stories
- B** - Belonging to a sisterhood
- E** - Eager new members willing to lend a hand
- R** - Resolutions, the heart of the League
- S** - Spiritual growth and sharing with others
- H** - Harmony as members work together
- I** - Inclusive, covering all the provinces
- P** - Participation in all that the League offers †