

**The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of British Columbia
Provincial Council Board Meeting
Vancouver SSVP Store, East Hastings, BC
Friday, May 16, 2006**

Present: Bernie Goold, Reg Humphries, Bill Clendinning, Ron Tronson, Nora Criss, Thomas O'Flynn, Bill Yule, Sheila Coutu, John O'Flynn

Apologies: Dana Webster

Guests: Mary Spencer (Victoria President-Elect), Wanda Tronson

1. Opening Prayer and Spiritual Reading:

- a. Tom O'Flynn led the Opening and followed with an Our Father and Hail Mary for the repose of the souls of members of the Society who died in the last year.
- b. Nora presented the spiritual reading on the topic "Walking in the Footsteps of Divine Providence". This is very much tied in with our spiritual growth and development. Every thing in our lives is in God's time and we should seek guidance and knowledge through God. To quote Frederic Ozanam - "My future is in the hands of Providence." Money for the work of the Society will always come. Nora read a relevant quote from Chronicles in the article she provided to us,

2. Words of Welcome – Tom O'Flynn:

- a. Tom expressed a welcome to the Executive members and to Mary Spencer who will be replacing Bill Clendinning on the Island at the conclusion of his term. He was proud to welcome all to the store on Hastings and to the AGA which would commence in the evening at St. Patrick's.

3. Adoption of Agenda:

- a. The Agenda was adopted as printed. The motion moved/seconded by Bill Yule/Bill Clendinning. Carried

4. Adoption of Minutes:

- a. The Minutes of the January 21, 2006 meeting were adopted as circulated with a correction that the heading "Screening" was included twice - the second one should have read "Twinning".
- b. Suggestions for the retreat theme included "Walking in the Footsteps of the Pioneers". "look up to the Poor".
- c. Book of Remembrance to be forwarded to Reg for updating.
- d. The question of the archives needs to be addressed - perhaps we should look at utilizing space here at 1538 East Hastings since space may be available,

5. Correspondence:

- a. No items of significance were brought forward.

6. Financial Report:

- a. Bill Yule presented a written Financial Report to the meeting with a Financial Statement covering the period from April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006. The balance shown on this statement was \$3232.22
- b. The current balance in our account is \$17,000.00
- c. **A Notice of Motion for May Board meeting as detailed in the Minutes of January 21, 2006 was inadvertently omitted from the Agenda of this meeting and thus remains on the table for the next meeting**
 - i. **"That the Provincial Council fiscal year be altered from the period April 1 to March 31 to January 1 to December 31 effective January 1, 2007"**
 - ii. **This motion was moved/seconded Bill Yule/Bill Clendinning.**
 - iii. **Motion to be voted on at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.**
- d. Vancouver Central has a sum of money to send up.
- e. A request by the Okanagan Valley Particular Council for seed money for the 2007 Annual General Assembly from Provincial Council was deferred until the Fall meeting of the Executive.

The Treasurer's Report was carried on a motion by Sheila Coutu,
seconded by Ron Tronson. Carried

7. Councils/Conferences and Isolated Conferences Reports - Highlights:

- a. **Divine Mercy Isolated Conference at 100 Mile House and Church of the Resurrection Isolated Conferences, Fort St. John**

b.

b. Okanagan Valley Particular Council

- a. Reg presented the written report on behalf of Dana who was unable to attend.
 - i. Janet Barnes replaces Hubert Gagnon as President of St. Pius X Conference
 - ii. Kids Kapers program is run by several conferences as is the Sue Lemmerick Summer Camp program.
 - iii. Planning is well underway for the National AGA on June 20 - 24, 2007 in Kelowna. Workshop ideas are needed.
 - iv. An update on the Ozanam House project is part of the report.

c. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Isolated Conference, Kamloops

- a. Ron Tronson made the following report
 - i. The conference has membership on the local committee for the homeless and Toni Pate is chair of the conference committee on this topic
 - ii. A newsletter is being developed.
 - iii. Ron commented on the great togetherness of the female and male Vincentians.

d. St. Francis of Assisi Isolated Conference, Prince George

- a. Bernie Goold gave an oral report on activities in Prince George.
 - i. There has been a 38% increase in the number of meals provided on a daily basis.
 - ii. Weekend meals have been done by various community groups who have asked to be able to come in and do this work.
 - iii. Close to 100 hampers of fruit and vegetables are distributed weekly.
 - iv. They have an orientation process that include a screening and orientation with a follow-up one month after first participation.. They have 75 to 80 volunteers.
 - v. The profits from the Thrift Store is not needed to pay the mortgage.
 - vi. 898 people participated in their Easter Dinner.
 - vii. The new Spiritual Director is Sr Tarianne de Yonkers.

e. Vancouver Archdiocesan Central Council

- a. Sheila Coutu presented a written report on behalf of the Vancouver Archdiocesan Central Council
 - i. They have had a very busy year and their successes include the Outreach program serving as many as 300 people per evening.
 - ii. A second store - the locale of our meeting - was opened in October and they are working at getting sales up and volunteers involved.
 - iii. Some interest has been expressed in starting a conference in Squamish.
 - iv. Father Brian Bileski is their Spiritual Director and he gives two half days of Recollection each year and helps them in many ways.
 - v. They are thankful for their volunteers and staff. Each store has a paid manager, a truck driver fulltime, and two part time staff.
 - vi. Volunteers are recognized twice a year at a Barbecue and a Christmas party and the Council pulls out all stops to recognize this great group.

f. Victoria Particular Council

- a. Bill Clendinning presented a very extensive report as usual - his final report as President of the Council. We all appreciate the work that Bill has done over the years and his detailed knowledge of the Society and its workings. The hope was expressed that Bill would consider the role of Second Vice-President of the Provincial Council. (and he has and he will!!)

8. Committee Reports:

a. BC Provincial Council Report

- i. A written report was part of the agenda package and the highlights include
 1. Appointment of Fr Pat Monette as Provincial Spiritual Director
 2. Two aggregations on Vancouver Island as well as Our Lady of the Snows in Fort St. James
 3. John O'Flynn was appointed as National Youth Coordinator
 4. Nora has given workshops for new Vincentians and has brought together Extension kits

b. Report on PIRC

- i. Sheila had a written report on the Provincial Integrated Recovery Committee
 1. The plan of action is given in the folder that was distributed by Sheila

c. Greyhound Bucks

- i. Reg indicated that Greyhound Canada will give relief to conferences who purchase tickets for people in need

d. Newsletter:

- i. Nothing has been done in this regard but there is a definite need to let the public know what we are doing.

e. Extension:

- i. A full report from Nora is included with the agenda package.
 1. Extension also includes the concepts of *retention* and *rejuvenation*
 2. Volunteers for this committee are being sought in each diocese as well as the formation of a Provincial Committee
 3. Discussion of the situation in Fort St James followed

f. Twinning:

A report on Twinning was included with the Agenda kit.

g. Website:

Reg reminded members to visit the site often and indicate what features on the website are useful as well as suggesting changes. Membership pages are accessed with the userid of "frederic" and the password of "ozanam".

h. Membership:

Councils are asked to advise the Secretary of changes to the Executives of Councils so that the membership lists can be kept current.

With a new Bishop in the Yukon it is hoped that we can expand into the Territory and our name change should reflect this.

i. Youth

John O'Flynn submitted a detailed report to the meeting. He expressed the hope that soon we would have representatives from each diocese in the province. He also showcased the curriculum unit developed for use in Catholic schools of the Victoria diocese. Members were given a duplicated copy.

9. Old Business:

a. Provincial Retreat.

- i. This will be held at Seton House of Prayer in Kelowna on September 15 - 17, 2006. The retreat will be conducted by our Provincial Chaplain, Fr. Pat Monette. Registration forms will be available on the website and will be circulated to Councils.

10. New Business:

a. Incorporation of the BC Council.

- i. We will be taking action on this process in the coming months so that we can benefit from incorporation.
- ii. Moved "That we advise National Council that we wish to be known as the "British Columbia and Yukon Regional Council". Moved Bill Clendinning Seconded Bill Yule. Carried unanimously.

11. Secret Collection:

- a. The collection was taken. The amount was \$

12. Next Meeting:

- a. The next meeting will be held in October, 2006 at a location and date to be determined.

13. Adjournment:

- a. The meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm.

14. Closing Prayer

- a. Led by Ron Tronson:

Respectfully submitted

Reg Humphries, Secretary
September 14, 2006