



Halifax-Yarmouth Diocesan Council Catholic Women's League of Canada Education and Health – Communique #1

August 24, 2022

Please ensure that this report is given to your Education and Health Chair

Climate Change

Climate Change a “Code Red” for humanity declared by the United Nations on August 10, 2021. The signs are unmistakable and the science is undeniable. Global extreme heat warnings have reached scorching temperatures averaging from 36°C to 40°C (95°F to 104°F). The government of Canada is committed to reducing carbon emissions by 40% to 45% below 2005 levels by 2030. Homes and buildings account for 18% of Canada's emissions. The Canada Greener Homes Grant launched in December 2020 provides up to \$5,000 for households to make energy efficiency and climate resilience home improvements. Funding will also be available to support low-income homeowners and rental properties serving low-income renters. Zero-emission buses and school buses, light-duty vehicles and passenger trucks are part of Canada's zero-emission vehicle future which includes up to \$5,000 off the purchase of such a vehicle. For further details on Canada's Climate Actions, go the Government of Canada site, click on Canada's Climate Plan.

The Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, on the website cape.ca, gave warning that climate change is already harming our health. High temperatures and humidity increase the signs of illness. People are subject to heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heat strokes and cardio-respiratory issues impacted from wildfires related to air pollution and Lyme disease from ticks that can now survive in our warmer climate. Less visible and dramatic than floods, droughts and hurricanes, heat is considered as a killer affecting the lives and health of all ages of Canadians. From [SaltWire.com](https://saltwire.com), an article written August 2021 clearly states that Nova Scotia needs a stronger health-care and emergency response system to care for the increasing health problems in the future that climate change will bring.

School Immunization Program

Every school year, Public Health offers students four free vaccines to prevent some serious diseases. Nova Scotia Provincial Vaccination Schedule includes tetanus, diphtheria, hepatitis B, pneumococcal for the grade 7 and grade 9 levels. With the re-emergence of measles in some Canadian communities, it is important to not risk health problems with a disease which is highly contagious. Vaccinations at a child's early age is still the best way to prevent and protect those around us.

Nova Scotia 211

If you are in need of support, call 211 or use ns.211.ca and the Community Resources Navigators will connect you to the programs and services you need. Mental health resources offer even a connection to someone who listens and supports you food needs resources, financial aid and education sessions with different topics and events including senior safety information groups. Dial 211 to get connected to one of the many services and programs offered.

Marguerite Burns Bursary Fund

The Marguerite Burns Bursary was established to assist a current CWL member or their children with expenses incurred in pursuing their education upon completing high school. **The deadline to apply is November 15.** Information and application forms are available at halifaxarmouthcwl.com. Parish councils within the Diocesan sell tickets to fund the bursary. Tickets which will be distributed at the Diocesan retreat in November.

Pope Francis Prayer Intention September 2022 - An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle

We pray that we all will make courageous choices rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

Gail Grapes - Education and Health Chairperson

CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**