

Agenda: Learning Module 1

High Five - Revitalizing Our Five Guiding Principles - To Serve Our Neighbours in Need

The purpose of this information and support session is to reaffirm our Vincentian commitment and to invite Members to revitalize their understanding of *Our 5 Guiding Principles in Serving Our Neighbours in Need*.

The two hour session will take place throughout 2014, during a regular Conference meeting, so that there will be an opportunity to share a consistent message, in person, with all 113 Toronto Central Council Conferences.

The following is the agenda for the Toronto Central Council's Board Approved Training that will begin after the opening prayer and the spiritual reading selected by the conference.

Time Allotted	Module 1: <i>Revitalizing Our 5 Guiding Principles to Serve Our Neighbours in Need.</i>	Opportunities for Sharing
5 min.	<p>Introduction to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purpose of the Learning Module 1 - Toronto Central Council is responding to member feedback about providing ongoing learning programs. 	Opportunity to ask questions.
20 min.	<p>Reaffirming Our Vincentian Commitment:</p> <p>Vincentian Spirituality, Our Mission, Our Values and the meaning of your Logo.</p> <p>History of Sharing as Brothers & Sisters in Christ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saint Vincent de Paul & Saint Louise de Marillac Blessed Frederic Ozanam & Blessed Rosalie Rendu <p>Facts about the history of the Society in Canada /Toronto Facts about Toronto Central Council (TCC) today, including Special Works.</p> <p>Review: Basic Requirements of Membership</p>	Opportunity to ask questions.
10 min.	<p>Introduce Our Five Guiding Principles to Serve Our Neighbours in Need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief background on why the Membership Development Committee was established, with a mandate to take action to provide Vincentians with resources and support in following <i>Our Five Guiding Principles to Serve Our Neighbours in Need</i>. 	Each Conference President will be called in advance to ask how they are currently carrying out Home Visitation , in order to make the learning module examples relevant to the Conference.

Time Allotted	Module 1: <i>Revitalizing Our 5 Guiding Principles to Serve Our Neighbours in Need.</i>	Opportunities for Sharing
30 min.	<p>Home Visitation – Guiding Principle 1 Visiting neighbours in need in their homes is the primary and preferred form of meaningful, person-to-person service by Vincentians in each conference.</p> <p>Overall Purpose of Home Visits</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Listening 2. Referrals 3. Friendship 4. Material Assistance 5. Spirituality <p>What does a meaningful home visit look like? Why do we visit neighbours in need in their homes? Overcoming Challenges.</p>	<p>Lead the discussion to a review of the document : <i>“Characteristics of a Meaningful Vincentian Visit.”</i></p> <p>Open discussion.</p> <p>Overcoming Challenges: Brainstorming activity as a group.</p>
20 min.	<p>Equity of Service – Guiding Principle 2 Neighbours in need in similar circumstances and with similar needs, receive similar levels of service across the GTA.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Sharing – Guiding Principle 5 Since a fundamental principle of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is that funds are moved within the Society to where they are most needed, conferences send excess funds up, normally keeping a balance in their account of no more than three months reserve (i.e. the average amount that they would spend in three months).</p>	<p>Share examples of inequity. How were you able to address it?</p> <p>It’s not just about the numbers. What can we do to provide equity of service to our neighbours in need? Open discussion.</p>
10 min.	<p>Continuous Learning – Guiding Principle 3 Since we strive to serve our neighbours in need by helping them to meet some of their immediate needs, as well as by assisting them in their efforts to move forward, Vincentians strive to continue to grow in the knowledge and skills required to achieve these goals.</p>	<p>Are we aware of all the agencies and government services that provide assistance? How can we become better informed?</p> <p>Open discussion.</p>
10 min.	<p>Renewal – Guiding Principle 4 In order to appropriately and effectively serve neighbours in need, the conference needs to be spiritual, active, committed and creative. Such a conference is difficult to maintain without a sufficient number of active members and without the addition of new members.</p>	<p>Who invited you to make a commitment to serving our neighbours in need?</p> <p>Open discussion.</p>
10 min.	Learning Module Evaluation Form to be completed by each member.	Questions & comments.