



SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF TORONTO

Contact Lisa Tabachnick, Director of Communications,
Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto
Telephone 416-467-2630
Email ltabachnick@csj-to.ca
Website <http://csj-to.ca>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 6, 2017

CATHOLIC SISTERS ILLUSTRATE FACES OF POVERTY & OFFER SOLUTIONS

Poverty Reduction Strategy consultation makes waves in Parliament

Toronto, ON, June 6, 2017– In response to the federal government’s call for consultations on its Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto held an event to share personal stories and offer targeted solutions.

“Poverty isn’t straightforward: it runs the gamut from lack of dental care and healthy food to housing insecurity and economic inequality,” says Sr. Thérèse Meunier, Congregational Leader, Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto. “Our Sisters have been on the front lines for over 165 years and understand many of the issues that are important to people living in poverty.”

The May 12, 2017 event was held at the Sisters’ residence in Toronto. A video of the presentations is available for viewing: [Click here](#). Individual videos for each 4-minute story are also available: [Click here](#).

In addition to other Sisters, staff and special guests, MPs Julie Dabrusin, Toronto-Danforth, and Rob Oliphant, Don Valley West were in attendance. Both were moved by the event.

“Rooted in their historic commitment to social justice, peace and care for the earth, the Sisters offered both imaginative and creative suggestions for a Canada that is more inclusive, more welcoming, more just and more sustainable” says Mr. Oliphant “The Sisters reminded us of the need to build a country where all could participate and all could thrive.”

“I was touched by the presentations made by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and how they shared personal stories based on their work,” says Ms Dabrusin. Their stories had an impact on me and I have already had the opportunity to share their experiences in my work in the House of Commons. I will continue to be guided by them.”

In a few words, Sister Sue Mosteller was able to sum up the overarching theme of the event: "... Because caring for our less fortunate citizens is NOT simply about money, but about the kind of society we are creating together."

According to the government's website, individuals and organizations can submit consultations until June 30.

--

Since 1851, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto have worked alongside their neighbours making inroads into poverty, homelessness, injustice, education and health care.

###