

LC Territorial Council Submission for RC Territorial Convention

Context

1. Numbers of Legionaries in the Territory – five-year trend (statistics are not perfectly accurate)

<i>Apostolate Communities</i>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
CA Arlington	0	0	0	3	3	3
CA Calgary	4	4	5	5	6	4
CA Chicago	7	8	7	8	6	5
CA Cincinnati	8	5	7	6	9	6
CA Cumming	14	13	15	9	11	10
CA CV Rolling Prairie	7	11	10	10	11	11
CA Dallas	9	9	10	10	8	8
CA Detroit	7	7	6	6	7	7
CA Edgerton	4	5	6	5	6	7
CA Hamilton	5	5	5	3	4	4
CA Houston	10	10	11	8	9	8
CA Los Angeles	7	9	7	5	5	5
CA Manila	6	6	6	7	6	10
CA New Orleans	5	6	7	7	7	7
CA Philadelphia	7	7	7	6	6	6
CA Raleigh (AS)	0	0	2	6	8	8
CA Rye	12	12	10	10	8	7
CA San Jose	9	9	7	6	7	7
CA Seúl	4	5	7	7	5	4
CA Slatersville	2	3	3	2	2	3
CA Spalding	10	9	8	8	8	8
CA Washington DC	10	11	11	9	7	7
DT Norteamérica (sede)	0	0	0	7	8	7
Extra domum, Norteamérica	0	0	0	1	0	5
PQ Saint Brendan (Cumming)	1	1	1	0	0	0
Total LCs in full-time apostolate:	148	155	158	154	157	158
Total members in initial formation in Cheshire:						
CNH Cheshire	68	84	72	63	63	55
Novices in Cheshire:						

NOV Cheshire A	17	16	16	16	10	9
NOV Cheshire B	6	7	2	0	0	0
Total:	23	23	18	16	10	9
Total LC's:	239	262	248	233	230	222
Students at Sacred Heart Apostolic School						
CV Rolling Prairie	24	28	27	19	17	14

- Breakdown of LCs according to whether their apostolate assignments are inside-the-circle (RC), outside-the-circle (OUT), or serving inside the Legion itself (LC). Most Legionaries have multiple assignments. The bottom half of the chart shows the breakdown of LCs by their *primary* apostolate assignment (the primary apostolate of our community superiors is considered to be their role as superior [LC]).

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
RC	176	173	167	161	144	136
LC	170	170	169	151	132	151
OUT	60	52	58	60	52	55
N/A	2	2	7	13	12	9
Undefined	13	12	11	7	3	0
PRINCIPLE ASSIGNMENTS						
RC						57 (39.5%)
LC						58 (40%)
OUT						29 (20%)

Bright Spots

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

The safe environment department is functioning better than ever. We are systematizing a person-centered way of attending to specific safe environment cases. Still, the territory has experienced some stress from the length of certain processes.

PERSONNEL PROCESS

Our process of making personnel assignments is improving, as we try to assign our men where they will flourish and where they will contribute most effectively to our shared mission. Continued improvement here will provide greater apostolic stability and consistency (i.e., not changing assignments so often).

VOCATIONS

We are beginning to see a slight improvement in our vocations work. We have invested a large amount of time, effort, and manpower to revitalizing this work. This has been necessary because the environment (ecclesially, culturally, and Legionarily) has changed so drastically in recent years.

ECCLESIAL RELATIONS

Ecclesial relations are consistently improving. We are finding individual bishops reaching out to us and offering opportunities to support evangelizing efforts in their dioceses. We are also finding dioceses that have previously been reluctant towards our collaboration becoming more interested. Local LC communities are engaging in mutually supportive relationships with the local clergy more than in past decades.

LIVING OF COMMUNION

Some localities have shown strong and appropriate synergy between LCs and CRCs particularly in young adult apostolic activity.

Challenges/Obstacles

VOCATIONS

Our biggest challenge is with the pipeline of vocations. In the last two years, we have had fewer new novices than in any year since the 1970s. This is extremely worrisome, especially when considering the importance of Legionaries' service to the spiritual family.

DEVELOPMENT

We are still in a transition stage between centrally-run fundraising and locality-anchored fundraising, which includes various challenges. We are still precariously dependent on the same large donors who have supported us for decades.

The reality of living our shared charism and shared mission has not yet significantly impacted the structure of our fundraising activities. A challenge in this area is developing a collaborative fundraising model as the CRC become financially self-sufficient and the Federation and various apostolates develop models to fund their operations.

UNITY IN MISSION

There is room for improving the mutually beneficial relationship between inside-the-circle and outside-the-circle apostolic activity. Right now, it seems that in many cases expectations are not aligned and opportunities are being missed.

Plan and Priorities

By our 2026 General Chapter, we want our LC territory to be characterized especially by three things, which are our current priorities:

◦ **Vibrant LC Communities**

We are convinced that the extent to which our men are healthy and growing in their own integral formation, we will be able to offer what God is asking us to offer to the whole Regnum Christi family and to the Church as a whole. Maintaining and increasing vibrancy in our LC communities is essential for that.

A vibrant community has a few different indicators, including the following:

- LCs continue to grow in their own integral formation and feel nourished by their community life
- Personal gifts and talents are well-matched with apostolate assignments
- LCs feel in some way the positive impact they are having for Christ's Kingdom
- Communities are attracting vocations
- Communities are engaged with development

Our plan to achieve this priority is to make excellent use of the normal means we have already put in place for this:

- naming good superiors
- training/enabling/supporting superiors (monthly calls, bi-annual get-togethers, annual canonical visitations)
- fully functional community councils
- community projects that are relevant and helping assimilate renewal
- attending responsibly and quickly to disruptive situations
- making a relevant ongoing formation program for the territory
- fall and spring territorial webinars
- off-month superiors-only webinars
- territorial Christmas get-togethers
- annual young priests' get-togethers

◦ **LCs Participating in and Contributing to Vibrant RC Localities**

Our rough sketch of what that looks like includes these features:

- The locality is forming, launching, and helping to sustain a steady flow of joyful, well-formed apostles for the Church. These apostles in turn are responding to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in creating new evangelizing initiatives that are making a significant impact in the culture.
- LC communities feel united in mission and well-integrated with their localities. Each LC grasps how his individual apostolic assignment is contributing to our shared mission in the locality, the territory, and the world.

Our plan to achieve this priority is to make use of the means already in place to achieve this goal:

- Healthy communication, collaboration, and alignment with the TDC, the TDC Delegate, and MST (and the various sub-commissions) following our current territorial strategy
- Encouraging local LC communities to foster healthy communication, collaboration, and participation in locality evangelization planning and in the execution of the locality evangelization plan
- Improving the personnel process by coordinating better with the rest of the RCF and by creating a better personnel prioritization framework to inform decisions

◦ **A Vocations Renaissance**

Our third priority is to foster a vocations renaissance, which would look like this:

- We would see the novitiate growing again
- We would see the apostolic school growing again
- We would have 20 candidates by the summer of 2026
- 50% of institutions where we are working and 50% of RC localities would be sending one young man (at least) to every summer candidacy by 2026

Our plan to achieve this renaissance includes the following key steps and aspects:

- Fr Shawn has made an explicit delegation over vocation related activity to Fr Martin Connor. He now has a direct line of sight and authority over each community's vocation plan. He also runs the national vocation office. We are hoping this will help streamline efforts on all fronts. He makes regular reports to Fr Shawn and quarterly reports to the territorial council regarding progress on the national vocations' office five-year-plan.
- We hope that creating an LC advisory committee for our communications department (including one of the vocation directors) will foster better synergy between the communications department and the vocations office.
- We have initiated regular reviews of each community's vocation promotion plan.
- Fr David Daly is overseeing the implementation of the Sacred Heart Apostolic School Commission's recommendations for SHAS improvements. We are tracking progress through quarterly meetings.

Insights (reading the facts)

1. Most of our men excel at communicating the heart of Christ in their preaching, in hearing confessions, and in accompanying individuals and groups in formative activities. We recognize that we should make a concerted effort to assign our men to positions where they can do these things with as much of their time as possible. In other words, we should be dedicating our men to forming apostles rather than running apostolates.
2. Most new LC candidates are coming from direct contact with Legionaries. Few come from the ECYD and RC sections or RC schools. This strikes us as odd. Shouldn't our sections and our schools be the most natural places for new vocations to surface? This needs to be explored.
3. Somehow, we need to do a better job of communicating to our own men the vision contained in our 2020 General Chapter about the relationship between the Legion and the other components of the RC Federation. The assimilation of this renewed vision varies significantly from community to community and individual to individual.
4. In general, efforts to improve a culture of feedback and accountability (regarding LC religious life and regarding apostolic activity) need to be sustained. These are two weaknesses that must be shored up for our service to the RC family and the Church to be maximized.
5. Improvement in ecclesial relations has shown its value in two ways. It creates more knowledge of and appreciation for our charism (lived out by all RC members) among members of the local Church. It also allows our charism to serve more effectively the felt needs of the local Church.