



## INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER YEAR 2026

“The logo I have created for the International Volunteer Year 2026 depicts a stylized hand consisting of the letters “IVY”. Volunteering is close to my heart, and through the logo, I wanted to symbolize the hands of millions of volunteers who care about our world and our future.” Stefan Peters, designer of the logo.

Did you know that volunteering can lower stress, improve your health, and even help you live longer?

Our volunteers aren’t just changing the world — they’re thriving while doing it.

The UN General Assembly has proclaimed 2026 as the *International Year of Volunteers for Sustainable Development*. (<https://www.unv.org/recognition-volunteerism-ivy-2026>)

International Volunteer Year is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to celebrate the power of civic participation and renew Canada’s culture of volunteering. Volunteer Canada has launched a National Volunteer Action Strategy to revitalize and strengthen volunteerism. You can read the latest findings at <https://volunteerstrategy.ca/findings/>. Together, these initiatives make this week a unique opportunity to elevate the visibility, value, and impact of volunteering by The Catholic Women’s League in Ontario.

### **National Volunteer Week**

This National Volunteer Week (April 19-25, 2026) we will celebrate the ways in which members in Canada have **ignited** volunteerism in their communities, deepening our collective impact. **Ignite Volunteerism** is a year-long effort to elevate the role of civic participation, rebuild volunteer infrastructure, and celebrate volunteer stories.

#### **How to Participate:**

- Invite each member to share their volunteer impact story
- Recognize Volunteers: Use posters, certificates of appreciation, and social media tools.
- Celebrate: Highlight volunteer contributions through local media, social media shout-outs, and thank-you events.

Behind every nonprofit mission is a volunteer who said “yes.”

- A yes to showing up.
- A yes to helping others.
- A yes to making their community better.

This National Volunteer Week, we're shining a spotlight on the **JOY** of giving back. Share your ideas on the Ontario Provincial Council social media pages and let's inspire each other!!

Visit [www.ivy26.ca](http://www.ivy26.ca) and [volunteer.ca](http://volunteer.ca) for more National Volunteer Week 2026 resources!

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