



CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR

**Development
and Peace**

Growing Justice • membership-leadership in action

From project to partnership

A skit

A. OUTLINE

Introduction: 5 minutes; **Skit:** 15 to 20 minutes; **Reflection:** 10 to 15 minutes; **Wrap up:** 5 minutes **Overall time:** 35-45 minutes

B. SYNOPSIS

A parish member picks up a D & P brochure as s/he enters a D & P meeting. S/he wonders how D & P chooses partners. An announcer offers to show him/her through the story of a partner and project officer over 3 years. Both are conveniently present on stage through the miracle of modern technology.

C. FACILITATOR PLAN

1) Introduce the skit. "This Membership-Leadership skit shows how one's groups project led to partnership with Development and Peace. It illustrates how important Canadian solidarity is to our partners. Think of how YOU might be able to use this skit."

2) Skit. Three or four prepared members **act** out the skit for a larger group.

3) Reflection. Ask the following questions (of small groups or pairs if you wish):

- What did you think?
- What did you learn from this?
- "Where might you use this skit?" (*Possible answers include: with Youth groups; Share Year-round presentations; Fall Action workshops; Share Lent workshops; Zone or deanery reps when doing training with parish reps*).

4) Wrap up. Announce that the skit can be downloaded from Growing Justice website, or is available through their animator. **Distribute handouts.** (5 minutes)

D. PREPARATION:

(Leave an hour for rehearsal and preparing props)

ACTORS

Three or four members play these characters:

- 1) A woman member of a parish;
- 2) Ana Ella, co-ordinator of El Salvador's Centre for Consumer Defence
- 3) Richard Simard, a Development and Peace project officer
- 4) An announcer

PROPS FOR THE FRONT OF ROOM: THE "STAGE"

- 3 chairs; 3 tables; 2 telephones (or use handsigns to represent phones)
- 2 cardboard boxes to represent computers
- 1 pile of 8.5 x 11 papers or documents with envelopes, representing Richard's projects
- 1 Development and Peace poster and several D & P brochures.

IMPORTANT: PROPS TO PREPARE AHEAD

1. 1 sign: "San Salvador", for Ana Ella's desk or computer
2. 1 sign: "Montreal", for Richard Simard's desk or computer
3. Photocopy 4 scripts, one for each actor
4. The following 2 flipcharts to be prominently displayed on stage and used by the announcer and actors:

Flipchart 1: Project to Partner	Flipchart 2: Project criteria
<p style="text-align: center;">From project to partner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEVELOPING A PROJECT • PROJECT APPRAISAL • PROJECT REVIEW • LETTER OF AGREEMENT • PROJECT PAYMENT • DEVELOPING NEW PROJECTS • DEVELOPING A PARTNERSHIP 	<p style="text-align: center;">Development and Peace supports projects or programs that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Tackle the causes of underdevelopment, not the symptoms ❖ Encourage self-sufficiency ❖ Contribute to sustainable development ❖ Have local community contributions ❖ Are linked to social movements or are likely to be copied ❖ Are directed to the most needy ❖ Respond to regional or national development priorities ❖ Include education, training or conscientization ❖ Involve women and men equitably ❖ Respect the environment

5. 1 GIANT cheque for \$10,000
6. 1 handout for each audience member
7. The following 9 signs, each on a sheet of 8 1/2 x 11" paper:

<i>2001</i>	<i>Two weeks later</i>	<i>December 2001</i>
<i>February 2002</i>	<i>March 2002</i>	<i>May 2002</i>
<i>June 2002</i>	<i>3 years later</i>	<i>August 2005</i>



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SCRIPT : FROM PROJECT TO PARTNERSHIP

(HAVE 4 COPIES; ONE FOR EACH ACTOR)

CENTRE STAGE: A WOMAN PARISH MEMBER WALKS BY A DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE INFORMATION TABLE ON HER WAY INTO A D & P MEETING. SHE PICKS UP A D & P BROCHURE (ANY ONE WILL DO; JUST PRETEND IT TALKS ABOUT CDC).

(MEMBER OF PARISH) Oh! Look at this Development and Peace brochure! It talks about their partners in the Global South. This one's about a group in El Salvador that had a new consumer protection law voted in so that the poor will not be exploited by unfair companies. What an incredible victory! I wonder how that got started? How does DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE manage to find such interesting groups?

Deep in thought, she is about to leave the stage with the brochure and head toward the audience when an announcer calls her from centre stage:

- **(ANNOUNCER)** Don't go! I'm sure there are lots of people like you who would like to know more about Development and Peace and its partners, right?

(gestures to participants in the room...)

-**(ANNOUNCER)** Please have a seat! Thanks to modern technology we have with us, on my right, Ana Ella, from the *Centre for Consumer Defence*, who will speak to us directly from San Salvador. On my left, we have Richard, program officer for DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE, who will talk to us directly from Montreal. He's in charge of four countries: El Salvador, Nicaragua, Bolivia and Ecuador. Behind me is a checklist of some of the major stages of project selection *(points to **Flipchart 1:***

From Project to Partner). But I'm talking too much! Let's listen to Ana Ella and hear how the *Centre for Consumer Defence* began...

- **(ANNOUNCER)** moves to the back of the stage. S/he points to "Project to partner" flipchart 1, and announces "**DEVELOPING A PROJECT**" loudly. S/he stays nearby for future announcements.

2001

Ana Ella, who was motionless, comes to life and takes documents out of her bag. She displays the sign with the date of her initial application to *DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE (2001)*. She speaks directly to the audience as if they were the members of her work team...

- **(ANA ELLA)** I've just returned from Santa Ana. Dozens of people, like Antonio, Gloria and Raoul, told me how the private water company is trying to bill them for water they haven't used. Maria and Suzanna walk for hours to collect their water, but they still get a water bill as if they had running water in their houses ... Can you believe it? It's insane! And it's happening all over! But how can we help them? Our team is much too busy with our other work to help them fight for their rights. Who could help us change things? ... Maybe *DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE* could support a consumer organization and awareness program... It's been funding a coalition of women's groups ... I'll call Maria Luisa, the group's co-ordinator. She'll be able to help us... *(She picks up a phone to call...)*

- **(ANA ELLA)** : Maria Luisa? This is Ana Ella. How are you? Fine, thanks! Is your project with rural women progressing? Great! Listen, Maria Luisa, I've just come from Santa Ana where I saw a lot of the poor being exploited by water companies. We'd like to find a way to work with these people and conduct an education program so they can learn to stand up for their rights. Do you think *DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE* could fund such a project? Maybe? You think I should write up a proposal and contact Richard Simard in Montreal? Okay! I'll get right on to it. Thanks a lot!
She turns to her computer and freezes.

- **(ANNOUNCER)**: proclaims "**PROJECT APPRAISAL**" POINTING TO FLIPCHART 1.

TWO WEEKS LATER ...

*Richard comes to life and holds up the **Two weeks later** sign to show how much time has passed since Ana Ella made her request for funding...*

The telephone rings and Richard answers...

- **(RICHARD)** Holà Maria Luisa! How are you? How are things in El Salvador?
(He listens)

- **(RICHARD)** I'm fine, thanks, and the kids are doing well! Tell me, how's your work with rural women going in El Salvador?*(He listens and responds positively)*

- **(RICHARD)** Thanks for calling back. I wanted to talk to you about a group that sent me a proposal, the *Centre for Consumer Defence*. Do you know this group?
(listens and responds) It has a good reputation... well established in the community and in the social movement network in El Salvador... Tell me, are its operations democratic? Do you think this project could help other groups too? *(He listens)*.

- **(RICHARD)** This project tries to help people defend their rights. Listen, I'm coming to El Salvador in November. Could you organize a meeting with the group's leaders so I can get a better idea of what they do? Then we can see if it's possible to give them funding...OK! Talk to you soon! *(He hangs up, looks at a paper)* This group seems to meet all our criteria. *Freezes.*

- **(Announcer)** Ta-da! And the criteria are... reads from **FLIPCHART 2:**

Development and Peace supports projects or programs that:

- ❖ Tackle the causes of underdevelopment, not the symptoms
- ❖ Encourage self-sufficiency
- ❖ Contribute to sustainable development
- ❖ Have local community contributions
- ❖ Are linked to social movements or are likely to be copied
- ❖ Are directed to the most needy
- ❖ Respond to regional or national development priorities
- ❖ Include education, training or conscientization
- ❖ Involve women and men equitably
- ❖ Respect the environment

Richard unfreezes and continues...

- **(Richard)** ... One of the groups we've been funding is ready to be self-sufficient, so I'll have some funds available for a new initiative...

Richard returns to his computer and freezes.

DECEMBER 2001

*Ana Ella displays the **December 2001** sign. She is finishing her funding request to DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE. She talks to herself as she looks to the audience...*

- **(Ana Ella)** I'm so glad I thought of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE! My meeting with Richard went really well. He understood us exactly! He asked me to change part of our project proposal to highlight our needs and our unique way of finding solutions to problems... I hope we'll get funding! We're starting with a request of less than \$30,000. That way it can be funded more quickly. Since it's our first project, it's better that way...

Ana Ella turns to her computer and holds her pose...

- **(ANNOUNCER)** proclaims "**PROJECT REVIEW**"

FEBRUARY 2002

*Richard displays the **February 2002** sign. He looks through a pile of papers and envelopes that look like project proposals:*

- **(RICHARD)** Where's the DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE criteria for project and program funding? I always have them in mind when approving or screening projects... It has nothing to do with personal preference; I have to follow established criteria...

- **(ANNOUNCER)** POINTS TO FLIPCHART 2 AND PROCLAIMS: TA-DA!!

(RICHARD) Let's see if the proposals I've received make it through this stage. A project in Belize...we don't operate there, so we can't fund them. An orphanage in Bolivia... No, it's not within our mandate; we don't generally get involved in the building of infrastructure. Also, it isn't one of our priorities for that country. The third project is in El Salvador to support the organization of a movement to protect consumer rights. Ah! It's the proposal I was expecting from Ana Ella at the *Centre for Consumer Defence*. OK, let's see how she has presented the project and if I have enough details with my travel notes and her submission to write my checklist on the group and their project...Everything seems to be fine... Hmmm, the financial section could be a bit more detailed to show how the project will last over time. I'll write her to get that information...

MARCH 2002

*He sits down at the computer, displays the **March 2002 sign** and picks up his documents ...*

- **(RICHARD)** I'm late for the project review meeting...quick, where's my file on El Salvador and my copies of the project for my colleagues? Ah! Here they are! OK, I'm off!

Richard exits the stage.

*The telephone rings. Ana Ella shows the **March 2002 sign** and answers...*

- **(ANA ELLA)** Hello? Hi, Richard! I'm happy to hear from you! You have news on our project...It's almost accepted? *(She is elated...)* The members of your team asked for more documents...You want me to send you our latest financial report and the names of our Board of Directors... and a letter from the Chair approving the project? I'll get on to it right away! I'm just curious, what are the next steps? Hmm... an agreement, partial funding payment, mid-term report...That's great! I'll send you the information by Monday! *Hasta luego!*

-

Ana Ella hangs up and runs to her colleagues off-stage to tell them the good news...

- **(ANNOUNCER):** PROCLAIMS “**A LETTER OF AGREEMENT**”

MAY 2002

*Richard comes on stage, reading a document...and displays the **May 2002** sign.*

- **(RICHARD)** So, here's the final version of the agreement between DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE and the Centre for Consumer Defence in El Salvador! It's complete, with a summary of the project's objectives, the funding amount, payment schedule and progress reports. The signatures are here... Good, I'm going to ask Isabelle, our technician, to go ahead with payment of half the amount and ask Ana Ella to fax us an acknowledgement of receipt as soon as she receives the money... I look forward to seeing how the project will go... I'll return to El Salvador in November to see how it's progressing and visit rural areas to see the real impact...

Richard goes back to his computer and holds his pose.

- **(ANNOUNCER):** PROCLAIMS “**PROJECT PAYMENT**”

JUNE 2002

*Ana Ella comes back on stage showing the **June 2002** sign. She is carrying a giant cheque in the amount of \$10,000.*

- **(ANA ELLA)** I'm so touched to receive this amount of funding. This money will allow us to carry out a whole new education program and help people get the rights they deserve! It's especially gratifying when you realize that the money was gathered by thousands of Canadians during the *Share Lent* campaign! Well, Richard asked me to send him an acknowledgement, so I better do it right away!

Ana Ella sits down at the computer and freezes.

- **(ANNOUNCER):** “**DEVELOPING NEW PROJECTS**”

3 YEARS LATER

*Richard displays the **3 Years Later** sign. He looks at his computer...*

- **(RICHARD)** Oh, I have an e-mail from Ana Ella... The CCD would like to organize a seminar with other groups in the region to study the impact of free trade on consumers in Central America... Interesting... That really broadens the scope of the project! We have other partners, in Mexico, for example, who have a good understanding of this issue... I'll put them in touch and see if I can release \$2,000 from the microproject funds to help with this meeting... We could even send a member and an animator to the meeting... That could be very instructive!

He goes back to his computer to work. The action freezes.

- **(ANNOUNCER): PROCLAIMS “DEVELOPING A PARTNERSHIP”**

AUGUST 2005

*Richard and Ana Ella are centre stage. Together they show the **August 2005** sign.*

- **(RICHARD)** Hi, Ana Ella! That’s great news about the passing of the new consumer protection law! Excellent work! You’ve done a tremendous job of organizing.

- **(ANA ELLA)** Thank you, Richard! We worked hard...and we’re proud of what we’ve accomplished! As you know, it’s a long process. We started in small communities and neighbourhoods teaching people how to be respected as consumers. Active citizenship began to have meaning for people who, not long ago, were exploited. Then we lobbied our Salvadoran politicians for a stronger consumer protection act. And we worked hard to make the bill known in all the regions where we work. We joined forces with other groups to achieve our goals. There’s strength in numbers!

- **(RICHARD)** So, what’s next?

- **(ANA ELLA)** The government has to enforce the law and ordinary people must be able to use it. We’d like to develop a very basic guide to help people defend their community rights in their daily lives.

- **(RICHARD)** How about drafting a new proposal? I think we could support a project to conduct an advocacy and awareness campaign...we could even consider a three-year project. For that, we would have to go to the Development Program Committee.

- **(ANA ELLA)** Who’s on the committee?

- **(RICHARD)** The DPC, as we call it, is composed of people like me in charge of programs, members of our movement in Canada and a resource person who has a



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- good understanding of the region's issues and the objectives of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE. Only projects asking for more than \$30,000 go to the DPC. Our program staff studies the project first and recommends a funding amount. There are two meetings per year, one in December and the other in May.

- (**ANA ELLA**) I'll talk with my team about how we can shape our project, but we'd like to continue to work with DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE. We receive much more than financial support; we also feel supported by a social movement in Canada...

- (**RICHARD**) I'll tell that to our members...and I'll be waiting for your proposal! Bye!

THE END

Criteria for funding projects and programs

Development and Peace supports projects or programs that

- ❖ Tackle the causes of underdevelopment, not the symptoms
- ❖ Encourage self-sufficiency
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- ❖ Have local community contributions
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Development and Peace does not fund projects or programs that

- ❖ Are devoted to pastoral or mission activities lacking social and economic development objectives. The Canadian Church has other instruments and institutions to support these types of activities;
- ❖ Involve formal education, or building, equipping or operating schools;
- ❖ Are devoted to research, unless the research is explicitly related to the practical work of the project;
- ❖ Are limited to health programming;
- ❖ Develop large infrastructure projects or initiatives for which the budget exceeds the organization's capacities;
- ❖ Involve retroactive funding;
- ❖ Are limited to assistance. However, immediate, direct and timely assistance can be provided in the event of natural disasters or emergency situations.