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Quebec residents give equal number of donations to shopping mall canvassers as they do to religious organizations: New study

Province bucks national trend on sex and volunteering

Toronto, December 11, 2003. Fully 15% of the total number of donations made in the province of Quebec flowed through religious organizations, equaling the percentage collected by canvassers in shopping centres, according to a new study by the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy. The dollar value of religious donations, however, far exceeded that of donations gathered in shopping centres.

The study also found that less than one third (32%) of the total dollar volume of donations made in the province went to religious organizations, the lowest rate in Canada.

The findings come from the latest analysis of data from the National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating, conducted in 2000 by the Centre in partnership with the federal government and other voluntary organizations. The study also found that Quebec is the only province in Canada where the rate of volunteering was higher among men (20%) than among women (18%).

“This analysis is the first time we’ve been able to take such a detailed look at how people in each province support one another in their communities,” said Dr. Michael Hall, president and CEO (interim) of the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy. “These results are particularly relevant at this time of year when people are more aware of the importance of the work of charities and voluntary organizations.”

The survey is a partnership between the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy and the federal Department of Canadian Heritage, Health Canada, Human Resources Development Canada, Statistics Canada and Volunteer Canada. In 2000, the survey gathered a substantial amount of information from more than 15,000 individual interviews. Researchers have been looking at various aspects of the data since then to better understand how Canadians give to charity and participate in their communities.

The Canadian Centre for Philanthropy is a national, charitable organization that works to advance the role and interests of the charitable sector for the benefit of Canadian communities.

For a detailed provincial fact sheet, or for more information on the survey, please visit www.givingandvolunteering.ca.

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