

Bureau de presse

Prélature de l'

Opus Dei au Canada

Montreal, November 5, 2021

After viewing the *Enquête* report on Opus Dei, we feel it necessary to send you certain clarifications as to who we are.

Our Opus Dei communications team in Canada opened its doors in good faith to the *Enquête* journalists and answered all their questions for more than two hours. Documents and statistics were provided to confirm our statements. Nevertheless, our initial apprehensions about the possible bias of the report were confirmed. Despite the promise made by the investigation team to present our version of the facts, there was a blatant imbalance: the time allotted to the testimonies of the three ex-members who lived through a painful experience far exceeded the time devoted to the single actual member who was interviewed and to the brief and incomplete excerpts of the press office representatives. Opus Dei was clearly being placed in the dock.

This kind of set-up does not help provide objective information because it gives disproportional weight to a small number of testimonies of negative experiences, while remaining almost completely silent about the happy experience of tens of thousands of people in their life in Opus Dei.

We could point out many factual errors in the report, but that would be a tedious exercise, and we do not wish to enter into a polemic.

For Opus Dei, it is essential that its members know what they are committing themselves to before they join: nothing is hidden, everything is clearly explained on the [Opus Dei website](#). Those who wish to become members are given ample time to become fully aware of what is involved in their commitment and, if don't feel able to live up to it, to reverse their decision.

Opus Dei does not consider itself perfect. Mistakes can be made, and they require an apology and an effort to make amends if necessary, which we are quite willing to do.

We also want to make it clear that if a case of abuse should arise, Opus Dei asks its members to be the first to report it, so that it can be dealt with in the most just way possible.

We believe that making an institution known by placing it in a purely defensive position is not the best way to provide accurate information. It is not a question of avoiding criticism or of seeking praise, but of the right to equitable reporting, without which it is impossible for people to make informed judgements about anything, including Opus Dei.

We hope that one day the CBC will give fairer treatment to Opus Dei, which has nearly 1,000 members in Canada and 93,000 world-wide from 68 different countries, in addition to hundreds of thousands of people who participate in its spiritual activities and support its efforts to bring Christ into the world of ordinary work.

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Prelature of Opus Dei

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