

The Catholic Women's League of Canada Manitoba Provincial Council Annual Reports 2021



*Celebrating 74 years of service
to God and Canada as we are*

CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**

*75th Annual Meeting of Members/Convention
June 3rd and 4th, 2022
Winnipeg Diocesan Council
St. Dominic's Parish Council
Neepawa, Manitoba*

The Theme Message (Jan. 1, 2019 – Dec, 31, 2021)

God was revealed in the unique way through the incarnation of Jesus Christ. This has profound implications for the beauty and sacredness of all life, all matter.

All of creation, not just humans, long for fulfillment in the eternal life of God.

The resurrection of Christ is the first sign and fruit of the promise of God for all creation. All creation longs for a new heaven and a new earth (Rev. 21:1).

The cry of the earth and the cry of the poor are one and the same.

Prayer to Sustain

Lord, season after season,

You continue to renew the face of the earth,

“For from the greatness and beauty of created things

Comes a corresponding perception of their creator.”

Teach us, Lord,

As members of The Catholic Women’s League of Canada,

To become attuned to our need to protect

The beauty of our common home.

May our efforts lead us to sustain its natural order,

So that, in the words of Pope Francis,

Our heritage is never “deprived of physical contact with nature.”

Amen

(Mary Ryan, Past President St. Dunstan Parish Council, Frederickson, NB)

Pope Francis’ Prayer for Protection during the Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus’ pain, with steadfast faith. You, salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did in Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father’s will and do what Jesus tells us. He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger.

O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Amen

Winnipeg Diocesan Council
and
St. Dominic's Parish Council,
Neepawa, MB



WELCOME YOU

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AGENDA

**All events take place at St. Dominic's Parish
416 – 1st Avenue, Neepawa, MB**

Friday, June 3, 2022

5:00 p.m. Opening Eucharistic Celebration
6:15 p.m. Gathering and Banquet

Saturday, June 4, 2022

7:30 a.m. Registration and Fellowship
8:30 a.m. Procession of Flags & Banners, Official opening of convention
8:40 a.m. Spiritual Program
9:20 a.m. Greetings
9:40 a.m. Business Meeting
10:30 a.m. Health Break
10:45 a.m. Business Resumes
11:10 a.m. Speaker
12:00 noon Luncheon
12:45 p.m. Gathering Prayer & Memorial Service for Deceased Members
& Spiritual Advisors
12:55 pm. Speakers – ***Catholic and Living It!***
1:15 p.m. Speaker – National President Fran Lucas
2:15 p.m. Health Break
2:30 p.m. Business Resumes
3:30 p.m. Elections
3:40 p.m. Closing Prayer, Adjournment and Lowering of the Flags
Installation of Officers

Scot Free Convention – Church and Parish Hall Handicap Accessible

The League Prayer

We humbly pray you, O God our Father, to bless The Catholic Women's League of Canada.
Bless our beloved country, our homes and families.

Send Your Holy Spirit upon us to give light to our minds and strength to our wills that we may know and fulfill Your great law of charity.

Teach us to share with others, at home and abroad, the good things You have given us.

This we ask through Our Lord Jesus Christ, and the intercession of our Patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel.

†Amen

Mission Statement

The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.
(Revised 2018)

Core Purpose

Uniting Catholic Women to grow in faith and to promote social justice through service to the church, Canada and the world.

Core Values

FAITH – following Catholic teachings
SERVICE – local, national and international
SOCIAL JUSTICE – actively involved in society

CWL Prayer for Renewal

God of new beginnings, ever faithful God, we thank You for your constant care for the women of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

We have sought to serve You in faith by service to your people.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and with the help of Our Lady of Good Counsel, we continue to discern Your call to seek justice and build Your kingdom on earth each day.

We ask your guidance as we plan the evolution of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Grant us wisdom, the grace of discernment, and strength.

May each of us open her heart and mind to Your will and welcome the new life You bring to the League.

We ask this through Jesus, Your beloved Son, and our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.

†Amen

(Sr. Susan Scott, CAF)

The League Promise

For the glory of God and the good of God's people,
I promise as a Catholic woman to honour, invoke and imitate our patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel.

I promise to be a loyal member of The Catholic Women's League of Canada and to promote its interest and growth in every way.

I promise to co-operate with officers in all programs under their direction and to conform, to the best of my ability to the bylaws of the organization in all League activities.

†Amen



MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE 2021

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR	Father Paul Bringleson
PRESIDENT	Janet Brunger
PRESIDENT-ELECT	Crystal Reiter
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT	Con Marks
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT	VACANT
RECORDING SECRETARY	Ann Schenkeveld
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Ann Schenkeveld
TREASURER	Lea Colbeck
PAST PRESIDENT	Rolande Chernichan

CHAIRPERSONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION	Con Marks
CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE	Crystal Reiter
COMMUNITY LIFE	Marielle Rigaux
EDUCATION AND HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS	Mavis McLaren
RESOLUTIONS	VACANT
LEGISLATION	VACANT
LIFE MEMBER LIAISON	VACANT (contact Con Marks)
	Paulette Borgfjord
	Albertine Moran

DIOCESAN PRESIDENTS

KEEWATIN-THE PAS	Lucille Rossongton (Jan-May)
	Bernadette Benson (May-Dec)
ST. BONIFACE	Paulette Chase (Jan-Sept)
Acting President	Lacey Bernardin (Sept-Dec)
WINNIPEG	Pat Ward

MANITOBA LIFE MEMBERS



***Faith Anderson
(2010) SB***

***Susan Bernier
(2007) SB***

***Dolores Blanchard
(2007) W***

***Monica Brechka
(2012) SB***

***Janet Brunger
(2020) W***

***Rolande Chernichan
(2016) SB***

***Lea Colbeck
(2020) W***

***Dr. Rayleen De Luca †
(2002) W***

***Beatrice Gross
(1999) W***

***Colleen Holloway
(2020) SB***

***Suzanne Kiazzyk
(2002) W***

***Albertine Moran
(2014) W***

***Ella Nogier
(2016) KP***

***Jacqueline Nogier
(2014) KP***

***Linda Parker
(1997) W***

***Mary-Margaret Patterson
(2013) W***

***Terri Scott
(2007) W***

***Margaret Silverthorne
(2003) SB***

Jeanne Tinsley (2009) W

Life membership gives to the recipient, in addition to the honour, a permanent place on the national council, the same voting privileges as accredited delegates at an annual meeting or convention [C&B, Part XV, Section 2(c)], a voice in its affairs and eligibility for a national appointment. Life membership is an honour that entails responsibility. Life membership is not intended to be a reward for years of service or a retirement gift. National council requires support and active service from its life members. It is expected that life members will serve when requested at all levels to do research, write briefs/position papers, serve as a facilitator/ animator, program designer, resolutions committee member, speaker, sub-committee chairperson or advisor/mentor. There is also the expectation that every life member will remain active in her own parish council.



Dr. Rayleen De Luca (nee Giacomini) C. Psych., C.M., O.M., was born in Shawinigan, Quebec in 1942, and spent all but one year of her life in Winnipeg, the city she loved.

Rayleen and husband Vincent have been married for 58 years and have 2 sons, 3 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Rayleen and Vince loved to travel and she was always willing to share her journey with others. They enjoyed many happy years at their cottage in Gimli, MB.

Rayleen was a member of The Catholic Women's League for 62 years, as her mother gave her a membership for her 18th birthday. She attended her first CWL meeting with her mother at Holy Rosary Parish when she was five years old; the council president at that time was the late Honorary Life Member Florence Fabris. She remained a member of that council until it disbanded in 2015, and was presently a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Council in Winnipeg.

Rayleen served as President of Holy Rosary Council; President of The Winnipeg Diocesan Council in 1993-1995 and in 2001-2003 President of The Manitoba Provincial Council. She became a Life Member of The League in 2002 and served on the National council from 2004-2006 as Chairperson of Resolutions and from 2006-2008 as Chairperson of Community Life. In 1999 and 2008, she served as Co-Chair of the National Conventions in Winnipeg. Also at the National level, Rayleen was a member of the ad hoc committee that completed a position paper on Youth Violence and the Young Offenders Act. She also served on the National Resolutions committee, as well as chair of the National ad hoc committee appointed to review the resolution process.

Rayleen was a clinical psychologist, graduating from the University of Winnipeg (BA; Hons; Gold Medal) and the University of Manitoba (MA and PhD). As a Professor at the University of Manitoba in the department of psychology, Rayleen was the first woman to hold the position of Director of Clinical Training and was recognized by her colleagues and peers of the Manitoba Psychological Society with the prestigious **Clifford Robson Award**. She also had a private practice for children of abuse and family violence; she is a published author with research in the area of child abuse; and has served on a number of boards, including Jessie Home; Canadian Mental Health Association; Villa Cabrini; Villa Rosa; and St. Paul's College.

Rayleen was involved in many organizations, personally; President of The Folk Arts Council which oversees Folklorama; professionally; Vice Chair of the Board of Governors of St. Paul's College and appointed to an ad hoc committee for The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. She was recognized with numerous awards; to name a few: **The Order of Manitoba (2011)**; **The Nellie McClung award (2016)**; **The Order of Canada (2017)**; and was a **Manitoba Trailblazer 150 recipient (2021)**.

Rayleen passed away on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, after a courageous battle with Cancer. Her mother and father, Elsie and Leno and her brother Leonard predeceased her. She leaves to mourn her husband Vince; her two sons; Troy (Susan) and Trevor; her grandchildren, Cassidy, Tyler and Cole; and her great-grandchildren, Hazel (Tyler), Violet (Cassidy) and Willow (Cole).

Your League sisters in Manitoba and across Canada mourn your loss and will remember you with love. Rest in peace our dear Sister Rayleen!

These beloved members are no longer with us but the light they brought to us still burns brightly in our hearts. May they rest in peace!

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL



HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS †

*Florence Fabris (1951)W (1970)HLM
Evelyn Wyrzykowski (1979)SB (1990)HLM*



LIFE MEMBERS †

Winnifred Alexander (1961)SB

Helen Bembenek (1994)W -SB

Mary Bennett (1988)W

Maria Berthier (1962)W

Catherine Bird (1969)SB

Sandra Byrnes (2005)SB

Jessie Chudzik (1976)W

Betty David (2001)W

Rose Dion (1967) SB(moved to BC)

Doreen Ferraton (1989)SB

Evangeline Gallagher(before 1945)W

Patricia Johnston (1973)W

Jean Keating (1981)W

Margaret Kelly (1950)W

Katherine Komatich (1989) W

*Florence Kruger (1969)W
(Hearst, ON- moved to MB)*

Marguerite Lanthier (1961)SB

Elsie Litwin (1989)W

Alice Makodanski (2002)SB

Diana McKenzie (1988)KP

Dorothy Muller (1959)SB

Mary Panero (1955)W

Elizabeth Pawells (1951)W

Mary Pungente (1975)W

Margaret Quinn (1948)W

Jeanne Regan (1971)KP

Jennie Rice (before 1945) W

Bernadette Russell (1981)W

Shirley Scaletta (1975) SB

Margaret Shae (1930) W

Yvonne Smith (1948)W

Viola Specht (1979)W

Marion Trudell (1963)SB

Kathleen Williams (1977)W

Anna Zdan (1952)W

*I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me,
even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and
believes in me will never die. (John 11:25)*

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL PRESIDENTS

		Diocese (town if not lived in Winnipeg)
1948-1948	Margaret KELLY †	Winnipeg
1948-1951	Elizabeth PAWELLS †	Winnipeg (Fort Garry)
1951-1952	Dorothy MULLER †	St. Boniface
1952-1953	Mae COLTON †	Winnipeg
1953-1955	Mary PANERO †	Winnipeg
1955-1957	Winnifred ALEXANDER †	St. Boniface
1957-1959	Marjorie CYR †	Keewatin-The Pas (Flin Flon)
1959-1961	Marguerite LANTHIER †	St. Boniface (Norwood)
1961-1963	Florence FABRIS †	Winnipeg
1963-1965	Marion TRUDELL †	St. Boniface (Transcona)
1965-1967	Rose DION †	St. Boniface
1967-1969	Catherine BIRD †	St. Boniface (East Kildonan)
1969-1971	Jeanne REAGAN †	Keewatin-The Pas (Flin Flon)
1971-1973	Patricia JOHNSTON †	Winnipeg
1973-1975	Mary PUNGENTE †	Winnipeg (Brandon)
1975-1977	Kathleen (Kay) WILLIAMS †	Winnipeg
1977-1979	Shirley SCALETTA †	St. Boniface
1979-1981	Bernadette RUSSELL †	Winnipeg
1981-1983	Elsie LITWIN †	Winnipeg
1983-1985	Jean KEATING †	Winnipeg
1985-1987	Doreen FERRATON †	St. Boniface
1987-1989	Diana Mc KENZIE †	Keewatin-The Pas (Lynn Lake)
1989-1991	Mary BENNETT †	Winnipeg
1991-1993	Helen BEMBENEK †	Winnipeg
1993-1995	Linda PARKER	Winnipeg (Selkirk)
1995-1997	Beatrice GROSS	Winnipeg (Brandon)
1997-1999	Elizabeth (Betty) DAVID †	Winnipeg
1999-2001	Alice MAKODANSKI †	St. Boniface
2001-2003	Dr. Rayleen De LUCA †	Winnipeg
2003-2005	Sandra BYRNES †	St. Boniface
2005-2007	Terri SCOTT	Winnipeg
2007-2009	Suzanne KIAZYK	Winnipeg (Brandon)
2009-2011	Susan BERNIER	St. Boniface (Lorette)
2011-2013	Jacqueline NOGIER	Keewatin-The Pas (Snow Lake)
2013-2015	Monica BRECHKA	St. Boniface
2015-2017	Faith ANDERSON	St. Boniface
2017-2019	Rolande CHERNICHAN	St. Boniface (Ile des Chenes)
2019-	Janet BRUNGER	Winnipeg (Rosser)

***1971- The City of Winnipeg amalgamated with the surrounding cities, towns, municipalities**



"Under the By-Laws incorporated in the amended Constitution of the Catholic Women's League of Canada approved and passed at the National Convention held at Ottawa, Ontario, it was deemed expedient in 1947 that Provincial Councils of the League should be set up in Canada...." (EXCEPT THE LORD BUILD THE HOUSE) When the Manitoba Provincial Council was first formed in March 1948 it consisted only of parish subdivisions in the Winnipeg Diocese, so consequently, Mrs. E. F. (Margaret) Kelly, who was the President of The Winnipeg Diocesan Council automatically became the first Provincial President. It was known as the Provincial- Diocesan Council until St. Boniface Diocesan Council formed on Apr. 23, 1949.

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

SPIRITUAL ADVISORS

		<u>(Archdiocese)</u>
1948-1950	Rev. Charles J. KELLY, S.J.†	Winnipeg
1950-1952	Msgr. Ignatius E. ZIELONKA, P.D.†	Winnipeg
1952-1973	Msgr. Charles A. EMPSON†	St. Boniface
1973-1973	Rt. Rev. Charles A. HALPIN†	Winnipeg
1973-1977	Rev. Allan R. HALL†	Winnipeg
1977-1982	Rev. Michael L. MOORE	Winnipeg
1982-1987	Rev. Roland BELANGER†	St. Boniface
1987-1992	Rev. Arthur F. SEAMAN	Winnipeg
1992-1997	Rev. Renato A. PASINATO†	St. Boniface
1997-2002	Msgr. Louis J. McCLOSKEY	Winnipeg
2002-2007	Rev. Martin J. BRADBURY†	Keewatin-The Pas
2007-2012	Rev. Martin J. BRADBURY†	St. Boniface
2012-2017	Rev. Leo M. FERNANDES	Winnipeg
2017-	Rev. Paul BRINGLESON	Keewatin-The Pas
Director	1948-1984	
Spiritual Director	1984-1994	
Spiritual Advisor	1993-	

C&B 2013: PART IX: The League and the Church
Spiritual Advisor

There shall be a spiritual advisor for each council.

The Role of the Spiritual Advisor

(i) *The spiritual advisor, in cooperation with the chairperson of spiritual development, shall provide advice and guidance for the spiritual program. (Part VI)*

(ii) *The spiritual advisor shall receive due notice of all executive and council meetings and conventions and shall attend and participate in all such meetings and conventions, when possible, in an advisory capacity.*



Archdiocese of Winnipeg

Office of the Archbishop

1495 Pembina Highway, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2C6 • Tel: 204-452-2227 • Fax: 204-475-4409 • Web: www.archwinnipeg.ca

Dear Members of the Provincial Council of the Catholic Women's League of Manitoba,

I bring you all greetings from the Archdiocese of Winnipeg as you celebrate your 2022 gathering of the Annual Meeting of Members. My prayers are with you as you come together in convention this year, that the Lord will bring much good fruit from your gathering. There certainly will be much to discuss and to discern as we as Church seek to move forward after experiencing the effects of a worldwide pandemic.

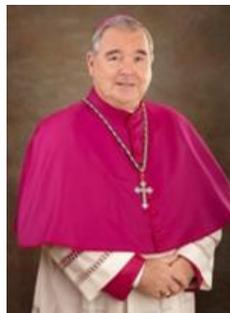
The national guiding theme of, "Catholic and Living it!" expresses determination and hope in the future as we seek to rebuild our communities. This theme very much captures the spirit of the CWL in peace time and in time of war, in times of social prosperity and in times of challenge like the pandemic. I think these words of St. Paul can certainly inspire us today:

"Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit" (1 Tim. 1:14)

Blessings to all of you during your Annual Meeting of Members.

Yours in Christ,

✠Richard Gagnon
Archbishop of Winnipeg





April 2022

Dear Sisters in Christ, Members of the Manitoba Provincial Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada,

As I put pen to paper for my message to all of you as you gather for your 2022 Provincial Convention in Neepawa, I have just returned from my trip to Rome. I wanted to be present there at the same time as the Indigenous delegation was welcomed by Pope Francis. I was there to pray, to listen to all the conversations and reflect, to get a "feel" for what was happening.

And it was indeed a graced moment to see firsthand how Pope Francis was once again true to the Gospel and true to himself. He was open, warm, welcoming, firstly listening from the heart, and then speaking from the heart. Doors towards reconciliation have been opening albeit slowly and he opened those doors even further and in a historically significant way.

He will continue to play his own singular part by coming to Canada this summer to once again listen, to ask for forgiveness, to strengthen relationships and to envision and plan for better right relationships in the future, doing this together with the Indigenous and with all people of Canada.

I wanted to share these few thoughts with you as you take up again (and in person once more) the vision and the goals of the Catholic Women's League, now led at this present time by the theme of your new national president: *"Catholic and Living It"*. Being a Canadian Catholic and living out our faith now in the present context of Indigenous and Non-Indigenous relations re the Church and the whole of Canadian society, we certainly cannot remain indifferent or, worse, divisive. The call of the Gospel to a radical fraternity based upon God's radical love for each one of us, and for all of us together, demands that we be instruments of truth and reconciliation, of peace and justice defined as right relationships.

The Catholic Women's League is particularly well placed to be a significant element of the witness needed from the Catholic Church as a whole at this time. As you gather in your parish councils, I ask you to seek ways to be better informed. In this vein, I suggest the Jesuit Forum booklet/program entitled *"Listening to Indigenous Voices"*. Let it lead your monthly sharing, let it feed the "Spiritual Message" moment of your meetings.

In addition, as Catholic Women's Councils working with your parish's pastor and pastoral council, why not organize a day of reflection for all your parishioners. In this vein, I suggest reaching out to the Church-based healing and reconciliation program entitled "*Returning to Spirit*". Their one-day workshop called "*Seeds of Reconciliation*" would be a great beginning for your Catholic Women's League Councils in parishes wide and far.

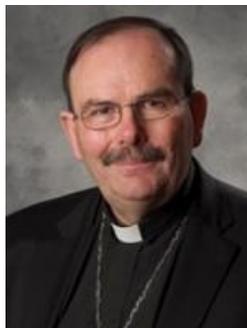
"*Catholic and Living It*" can entail so much, even demand so much. May the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Good Counsel and the recent example of Pope Francis, move us to be even more fully "*Catholic and Living It*".

In ending, I wish you all a most blessed and successful Provincial Convention and I assure you of my prayers for you and all your families.

United in Christ,

+ Albert LeGatt

† Albert LeGatt
Archbishop of Saint Boniface





Archbishop Murray Chatlain
Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas
P. O. Box 270, The Pas, MB R9A 1K4
chancery@keepas.ca

Dear Catholic Women's League of Manitoba,

I don't know about you, but when I begin a meeting by saying, "Let's read and reflect on this Sunday's Gospel" there is a lot of teenager-like eye-rolling. I can hear people in their minds saying, "Let's just get on with the business." Pope Francis is reminding us that unless we begin and keep connecting ourselves to the Gospel, the priorities we focus on may not be God's priorities.

And so we are working on Synod. Again. Because we tend to be slow learners. We tend to be busy and pragmatic. We tend to want to do things our way.

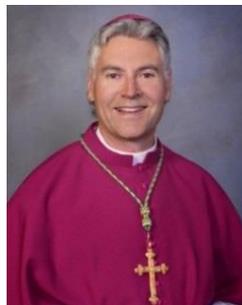
I pray that for the CWL, Bishops and all our Catholic Church we may keep first and foremost our listening and faith. This is where our real wisdom and courage will come from. It sounds so simple but it is not easy!

May the Synod's Spirit be in your gatherings and meetings. May we be close to the Gospel, God and each other.

Peace be with you.

Yours in Christ,

Archbishop Murray Chatlain
Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas



ST. ANN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
163 Centre Street
Flin Flon, MB. R8A 1R1
Phone: 204-687-3312 Fax: 204-687-8229
Email: ffstanns@mymts.net

April 5, 2022

Dear Sisters in the League,

With joy I offer words of welcome for this Provincial Convention. To be able to gather again in person is truly a great consolation. Like the early disciples we draw strength from being together to witness to our faith and to recommit ourselves to sharing the Gospel experience.

In my heart I feel there has never been a more fruitful time to embrace the call of Christ to renew the world and the Church by discovering new ways to reach out and to be present to those entrusted to our care. The human heart must forever be challenged to look outwards in order to heal others and to foster lasting growth in our own lives.

Do not be afraid to try new endeavors and to accompany others with a tender love, a closeness and with great compassion. Today our communities will benefit far more from our presence than from our words. If the last two years have taught us anything it is that we are far more fragile than we believed and that we require a willingness to move beyond our own comfortable space into the very place that God dwells most often: the messiness of everyday life.

May our time together this weekend be fruitful and serve to remind us of how deep God's love and mercy reaches. Together, may we seek to be renewed in our faith and in our charity.

Faithfully,

(Fr.) Paul Bringleston,
Provincial Spiritual Advisor





The Catholic Women's League of Canada

My dear League sisters,

It is my pleasure as national president to bring greetings to my sisters in Manitoba on the occasion of your 74th annual provincial convention. The last two years have been nowhere near normal and will go down in history as years to be remembered—including the many challenges surmounted. It will be a joyful occasion to gather once again in the presence of your sister members and know that you are in solidarity with your more than 63,000 sisters throughout Canada as you return to a more normal life—a more normal way of being a League member. God is good!

While you celebrate the accomplishments you made happen, please take time to reflect upon the blessing and privilege of being a part of an organization that continually strives to be the best it can be. May the League's core values of faith, service and social justice and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, help you live out the national theme, *Catholic and Living It!*

Regardless of the way you are gathering on this occasion, the importance is that you are gathering, and history continues to be made through your work. It will be a joy to share reports shared and discuss accomplishments and challenges once again. Future plans will be decided, and I look forward to hearing about them.

May God continue to bless you as you continue your work for The Catholic Women's League of Canada at a time when your work is more important than ever—especially when we think of what we are able to do or may have already done to support the people of Ukraine.

Your sister in the League,

Fran Lucas
National President and Chairperson of International Relations



Catholic Women's League of Canada

Manitoba Provincial Council

June, 2022

Greetings to my dear Sisters in the League!

As my term as your President draws to a close, so, too, does our Provincial theme, "The Seed That Flowers".

It has been gratifying to see how you have all taken this theme to heart and worked to incorporate it into your lives. You have planted the seeds of generosity, friendship, caring, compassion and kindness into your circle of family, friends and communities. These seeds will surely reward you with their flowers at some point in the future when you're least expecting it!

And as I reflect on the past three years and what it has meant to me -

- I am **humbled** that you have chosen me to lead our ladies here in Manitoba;
- I am **grateful** for the support and encouragement you have provided to me whenever I reached out for a sounding-board or to bounce ideas off;
- I am **honoured** to have represented you at the National table;
- I have been **privileged** to have worked closely with so many of you; we have an incredible amount of talent in our province, and to know so many of you is a treasure that I hold dear;
- I am **thrilled** to have taken my place with our esteemed Life Members, who have always been for me a fountain of knowledge, always willing to mentor, and advise, and are always gracious, welcoming and supportive;
- I am **surrounded** by sisters that lift me up and encourage me in all of my endeavours;
- I am **blessed** to be a part of this amazing organization; truly, I am a better person because of the CWL!

I am sure that many of my reflections are also true for most of our members; we believe in the strength of women, and we believe in the League. We know that we are valued, and we know without a doubt that the work we do, whether it be fundraising efforts, letter writing, serving on the Executive, or keeping each other in our prayers, *it is valued*, because we are giving of ourselves. We know that if we were not there, we would be missed, and if our Council was not there, it would surely be missed. It is up to all of us to support each other and to uphold the value that we and our Councils are to the League. This is **our** League, and this is our affirmation, as League members.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel be with each one of you!

J. Brunger

Janet Brunger
President
The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Manitoba Provincial Council



PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT

Janet BRUNGER

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100%

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing

[\(1 Thessalonians 5:11\)](#)

The year 2021 saw a continuation of the lockdown necessitated by the pandemic. Meetings, gatherings, fundraisers and events remained suspended. For the second year in a row, Councils were unable to fundraise, and were thus unable to support their charitable endeavors.

(a) Inform the Membership of the League's position re: Current Issues, Priorities, New Programs

The primary tool utilized by all Councils was the *Canadian League* magazine, followed by technology consisting of email, virtual meetings and online websites and sources. The CWL National website was heavily utilized; as well as parish bulletins, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Organization for Life and Family, Life's Vision, Provincial websites, and Provincial and Diocesan newsletters, as well as local newspapers, books and TV programs.

Current National priorities discussed or acted upon by the Councils this past year were:

Care for our Common Home

Bill C-7 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying)

Rights of the Pre-Born under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

As expected, Councils utilized technological means, newsletters, parish bulletins, and emails to communicate with their membership.

(b) Foster Open Communication with the Spiritual Advisor on All League Matters

Overall, most Councils feel that their Spiritual Advisor is supportive of the CWL and their membership are extremely appreciative of their Spiritual Advisor's involvement in League endeavours. Councils indicated that this past year saw minimal interaction with their spiritual advisor, which is understandable during the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. Spiritual Advisors were invited to attend virtual meetings, and many did if their schedule permitted. It was recognized and understood that regular communication helps to foster and develop better relationships and understanding of the CWL.

(c) Preside at Meetings and Conventions

All Councils use the resources available to them; namely, the Policy and Procedure Manual, either Council or National, the *Constitution & Bylaws*, *Robert's Rules of Order*, *Executive Handbooks*, or *Parliamentary Procedure*. Most meetings were held online using Zoom.

(d) Signing Authority

Our presidents used their signing authority on cheques, banking documents, or letters concerning CWL business directed to parties within and outside of the CWL

(e) Provide Active Leadership

Councils continue to do more online communicating with members through online Zoom meetings, and encouraged members to participate in Webinars and other media tools available. Such tools were widely utilized for meetings, workshops, World Day of Prayer, etc.

(f) Initiate Policy, in consultation With the Officers of Council

Most Councils have read, utilized and referred to the guidelines in the *Executive Handbook* to assist them in overseeing the operations of their Councils.

(g) Keep Informed on the Operation of the League and Report Annually to the Membership

Approximately half of Councils summarized the past year's activities in a report to their members, utilizing, again, technological means to reach their members.

(h) Advisory Capacity to All Committees

Although most outreach and events were again cancelled this past year, our membership continued to support wherever they could, in whatever capacity possible. Some of the areas they supported were donations, scholarships and bursaries, funeral lunches, fundraising, teas/bazaars, and visitations/social events.

(i) Official Spokesperson

Although there were very limited opportunities to speak on behalf of the CWL, or represent the CWL at events, one Council was able to speak to Reconciliation and the Residential Schools, and one Council discussed the promotion of the CWL. Presidents did encourage communications with other CWL members. Our membership continued to keep themselves informed and wrote letters, emailed and phoned their MP's and MLA's, and attended virtual conferences and webinars on a variety of topics. When writing on behalf of their CWL Council, Presidents used CWL letterhead.

(j) Perform such Other Duties as may be Incumbent Upon her Office

Transitioning into the Role of President was a daunting task, with challenges being tedious policies and procedures, a lack of a full slate of officers, the amount of paperwork, keeping members interested, recruiting, technology, delegation, resistance to new ideas and criticism, time constraints, trying to find consensus, and member conflict. The result of such challenges was that it fell to the President to "fill in where needed", which contributed to feeling overwhelmed, inadequate, undertrained and inexperienced.

(k) Mentorship When Assuming the Role of President

When assuming their new roles, Presidents sought and received advice and assistance from their current executive, their immediate past president, their Secretary or Treasurer, a Life member, or their Diocesan President.

(I) Theme Changes

Councils found it beneficial to have a National Theme through which they could focus their council's activities. Most Councils felt it beneficial to change the theme with each new National President.

Communication Satisfaction Survey

Overall, Councils reported being satisfied with communication within the League, at all levels. Most Councils felt that the communications were relevant, clear, and usually timely. Councils reported that they either occasionally or never receive duplicate communications.

List the top two or three things about which you are most proud in your Council.

How the members are there for each other, especially during COVID.

Able to continue providing bursaries, and able to fulfill all charitable commitments.

Continuing to meet via zoom, in-person, and via email, newsletters and phone calls; socializing.

Won the Premier's Volunteerism Award; members are active at all levels of the League.

Members who truly value and support the purpose of the CWL

Friendship – work well together, Council is supportive.

Collaboration to compile Winnipeg Diocesan Council's 100th Anniversary Commemoration Book

What was your biggest challenge as President and how do you intend to address it?

Recruiting new members

Recruitment to leadership roles

Motivating members to spiritual growth; to be part of a whole; to see where we can make a difference (i.e. resolutions).

Keeping members engaged and interested

List the greatest challenges in completing the survey.

Technology

Annual Reports

Thanks to all of the CWL Parish Councils, for their work to complete the Annual Reports online, and to the Diocesan Councils for their work to compile their reports; well done!

Thanks are also extended to National for "keeping us all together" by offering events virtually.

Provincial President's final word – despite the many challenges we all faced due to the pandemic, I heard and saw how our ladies reached out to each other with cards, emails and phone calls, to demonstrate their concern for each other. I commend all of you for all of your efforts in this regard; for bringing to fruition my provincial theme, ***"The Seed That Flowers."***

May you be richly blessed for all that you do, and for planting the seeds of kindness!



In keeping with the National Theme, as president of Manitoba Provincial Council, I have chosen for my two year theme, "The Seed that Flowers." Many councils are struggling, with declining memberships, aging, and other priorities. We can all extend a hand – we can make a phone call, drop in for coffee, offer a ride, welcome our sisters to Mass, events or meetings. All of these small gestures will create harmony, community and connection. The small seed that we plant will reward our efforts with beautiful flowers that become a sisterhood of sharing. Likewise, the small acts of service that we give for the beautification of our communities will convert to Care for our Common Home. Will you join me in this endeavor? – Will you reach out to

someone today?

May Our Lady of Good Counsel be always at your side, guiding and protecting you, in everything you do, for God and Canada.

Janet Brunger, President, Manitoba Provincial Council

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KEEWATIN - THE PAS DIOCESAN COUNCIL

PRESIDENT Bernadette Benson

January 1 to December 31, 2021

5 of 5 Parish Councils reporting = 100%

2021 has been an interesting year as well as one filled with challenges. COVID restrictions are still in place and our five Councils have had difficulty in meeting on a regular basis. Our Annual Members' Meeting was held virtually, and election of new executive did take place.

As the new President, I wish to thank the members of the Executive who willingly took on chairperson responsibilities and I look forward to working with each of you.

I also give a heartfelt 'Thank you' to Lucille Rossington for her dedication to our Council these past several years as President. You are an inspiration to those of us who follow!

Now on to the 2021 report.

Spiritual Development was not deterred by COVID. League members continue to pray the Rosary at the beginning of meetings, when held, as well as other times whenever possible; many pray the Rosary daily. They also led Stations of the Cross during Lent. Advent prayer service was held in December. Several members take leadership roles in Church ministries such as music, decorating, welcoming/greeting, prayer chains, parish council, teaching classes for Confirmation and First Communion and being Ministers of the Word and Eucharist.

Organization

Our Council consists of five Parish Councils and a total membership of 123:

- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart - 31
- Our Lady of the Snows, Snow Lake - 7
- St. Ann, Flin Flon - 65
- St. Maria Goretti, Lynn Lake -10
- St. Lawrence, Thompson -10

One council reports welcoming a new member. However, our Diocesan council lost 5 members to death this year. "May their souls rest in peace with our Lord."

St. Ann's Council, Flin Flon held a special Mass on December 6th; Installation of a new executive took place and Years of Service pins were presented: 2x 15 yrs; 1x 20 yrs; 2x 25 yrs; 4x 30 yrs; 2x 35 yrs; 1x 50 yrs; 1x 70 yrs. Thirteen in total. They also presented Donna Coles with the Bellelle Guerin award for her dedication to the League.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Council, The Pas, presented Years of Service pins for 2020 & 2021 at mass on December 7th. Installation of their new executive also took place.

Christian Family Life

Members are encouraged to read the League magazine

Special birthdays are remembered with a card and Mass Intention; sympathy and 'thinking of you' cards are sent to members as well as family and community persons; CWL masks were presented to senior members for their birthdays

A memorial service was held, candles lit, and encouraged people to bring rocks with deceased persons' names and to make a list of deceased persons to be placed in a basket on the altar to be prayed for in the month of November.

Members were informed of the virtual March for Life May 13th to learn more about Bill C-268 and to consider signing the petition. An update on Bill C-7 was provided.

Members made personal contributions to EPC (Euthanasia Prevention Coalition) and the De Veber Institute for Bioethics and Social Research.

Children's missalettes are provided for their use at Mass.

Community Life

Meals on Wheels are delivered by several members.

Metal can tabs are collected and taken to Winnipeg for the Tabs for Wheelchairs project.

Stamps are collected for Development and Peace.

Local Food Banks are assisted with donations of non-perishable foods as well as volunteering and doing baking for them.

Members are involved with their communities as members of Chamber of Commerce, museum, library board, Health Auxiliary

Donations are made to the local Women's Shelters, the Friendship Centres, the Salvation Army, CMIC, Kee-Pas Missions

On September 30th, members of one parish participated in an outdoor procession of the statue of our Holy Mother and recited a decade of the Rosary. Rosaries were handed out and orange shirts were worn by some of the parishioners.

Information cards about ERIK (Emergency Response Information Kit) were handed out to members.

School supplies, clothing and miscellaneous articles were distributed in the north where they are needed.

Monetary donation was made to a local Homeless shelter.

Carnations were purchased for Mother's Day and distributed to mothers in a parish, the hospital and mothers in the community.

Communications

All communiques received from Provincial and/or National are forwarded on to our Diocesan executive and the five parish council presidents to be shared with the respective committees.

Members are kept 'in the know' by newsletters, emails, phone calls, church bulletin, and personal contact.

They are encouraged to read the *Canadian League* magazine and to use the CWL website and, most importantly, to promote membership in the League.

Education and Health

Three parishes offer bursaries to Grade XII graduates; only two (2) bursaries were given out this year as the third had no applicants.

Personal donations from members included Coady International, Operation Smile, Red Cross, Canadian Cancer Society, and Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada.

CWL face masks were ordered by councils.

Resolutions and Legislation

None of the Councils have chairpersons for these two positions. However, all communications received from Provincial and National are forwarded on to ensure that members have the information available

Treasurers keep their Councils well-informed of the financial standings of each Council. Regrettably, COVID, once again created difficulties as fundraisers were not possible during these times.

On line Survey Report: Two council presidents participated in the survey.

- The position of president is filled: 100%
- How long have you been a member? ○11-15 years (1)=50% ○21-25 years (1)=50%
- Have you held this position before? ○Yes (2) = 100%
- What is your age? ○45-54 (1) = 50% ○55-64 (1) = 50%
- Where do you get your information? ○ National website (2) =100%
○National communiques (2) = 100% ○*Canadian League Magazine* (2) =100%
○CCCB (1) = 50% ○Provincial websites or Newsletters (1) = 50%
- What current national priorities have been introduced to and discussed or acted upon by your council this year? ○Care for Our Common Home(2) = 100%
○Bill C-7 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying) (1) = 50%
- How frequently do you meet with your spiritual advisor?
○Monthly (1) = 50% ○Rarely (1) = 50%
- Would you say your spiritual advisor is supportive of the CWL? ○Yes (2)=100%
- In what ways have you engaged your spiritual advisor in the CWL?
○He is on our agenda and is called upon to present or discuss various topics of interest. He attends all meetings and is very supportive of our council
○Asking for input on spiritual programs, at times he prepares the spiritual reflection for the meeting, asking for his opinion on activities we might undertake or changes that we might want to make.
- What resources do you use to preside at meetings?
○ *Robert's Rules of Order* (2) = 100% ○Council policy and procedure manual (1)=50%
○*Executive Handbook* (1) = 50% ○*National Manual of Policy and Procedure* (1) =50%
- What type of documents have you signed on behalf of your council?
○Cheques (1) = 50% ○None of the above (1) = 50%
- At which events did you represent your council? ○Church functions (2) = 100%
○Diocesan meetings and conventions (2) = 100% ○Conferences (1) = 50%
○Retreats (1)=50% ○School ceremonies (1)=50% ○Remembrance Day Services (1)=50%
- Did your council subsidize your cost to attend these events and, if so, by how much?
○Conferences 0% paid (2) = 100%
○Fundraising dinners and events 0% paid (2) = 100% ○Workshops 0% paid (2) = 100%
○Diocesan conventions 100% paid (1) = 50%; 0% paid (1) = 50%
○Provincial convention 100% paid (1) = 50%; 0% paid (1) =50%
○National convention 0% paid (2) = 100%
- Have you read the *Executive Handbook* and understand the duties of your executive team?
○Yes (1) = 50% ○No (1) = 50%

- If yes, has the *Executive Handbook* assisted you in the responsibility of overseeing the operations of your council? ○Yes (1) = 100%
- Do you provide an annual summary of the council's activities to all members? ○Yes (2) = 100%
- By what method? ○Written report (2)= 100% ○e-mail (1) = 50% ○oral report (1) = 50%
- What committees, other than standing committees, does your council have? ○Scholarship or bursary (1) = 50% ○None (1) = 50%
- On what issues have you spoken on behalf of your council this year? ○None that I can recall right now. ○Welcoming parish and community women to spiritual programs, president's oral report at diocesan convention.
- Does your council use League letterhead when corresponding? ○Yes (1) = 50% ○No (1) = 50%
- How satisfied are you with the communication you receive from the following: ○National council: Always (2) = 100% ○Provincial council: Always (2) = 100% ○Diocesan council: Always (1) = 50%; Usually (1) = 50%
- How relevant is the communication your parish council receives from the following: ○National council: Always (2) = 100% ○Provincial council: Always (1) = 50%; Usually (1) = 50% ○Diocesan council: Always (1) = 50%; Usually = (1) = 50%
- Do you find the communications clear and concise from the following: ○National council: Usually (2) = 100% ○Provincial council: Usually (2) = 100% ○Diocesan council: Always (1) = 50%; Usually (1) = 50%
- How often do you receive duplicate communications from national, provincial, and diocesan councils? ○Sometimes (1) = 50% ○Never (1) = 50%
- When you receive communications from another level (national, provincial, diocesan) that invites/requests participation, do you have enough time to do so? ○Usually (1) = 50% ○Sometimes (1) = 50%
- Who provided the greatest assistance to you when you assumed the role of president? ○Immediate past president (2) = 100% ○Former past presidents (2) = 100% ○Diocesan president (1) = 50%
- What were the greatest challenges you faced in transitioning into the role of president? ○Not having a full slate of officers (2) = 100% ○Finding the time (2) = 100% ○Feeling overwhelmed (1) = 50% ○Feeling undertrained (1) = 50% ○Amount of paperwork (1) = 50% ○Running meetings (1) = 50% ○Meeting expectations (1) = 50% ○Keeping members interested (1) = 50% ○Delegation (1) = 50% ○Recruiting (1) = 50%○Organizational skills (1) = 50%
- Do you find it beneficial to have a national theme and/or logo through which you can focus your council activities? ○Yes (2) = 100%
- Do you like the change of theme with each new national president? ○Very good (2) = 100%
- How many years should there be between theme changes? ○Minimum 2 ○Maximum 4
- List the top two or three things about which you are most proud in your council. ○That members are still hanging in there!

- What was your biggest challenge as president and how do you intend to address it?
 - Loss of our hall which was our meeting place. Also, not able to fundraise...as in teas, rummage/garage sales, perogy bees as we have no place right now. Difficulty accessing our League publications, binders, documents, etc. We have been loaned a room, but we need to contact someone to get a key to go.
- List the greatest challenge(s) in completing the survey, if applicable.
 - None...very good.

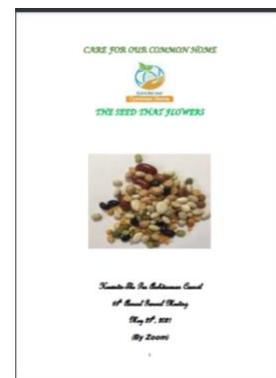
I must admit, since being new to the position of Diocesan president, reading the answers from the parish presidents made me more comfortable, knowing that I am not alone in my feelings of being unsure, at times, of my position. But, knowing there are members available to help, if one only reaches out, is a great comfort. I had a member of Provincial council remind me to "Let go, let God", and with God's help, and each of you members, I know I can do the job I was elected to do.

I pray that our Blessed Mother will guide and protect each of you, as we all work for God and Canada.

May God's blessings be upon you.

**Sept. 28, 1952: The Vicariate of Keewatin Diocesan Council was formed.
Charter # n/a.
The Vicariate of Keewatin was elevated to an Archdiocese July 13, 1967**

5 councils and 132 members in 2021





ST. BONIFACE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

ACTING PRESIDENT Lacey Bernardin

January 1 to December 31, 2021

8 of 14 Parish Councils reporting = 57%

(a) inform the membership of the position of the League on current issues and priorities and new programs

All councils of the reporting councils reported using national communiques. All but one council used *The Canadian League* magazine. The reporting councils have all also used other various forms such as the national website, diocesan newsletters, local newspapers, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, Provincial websites or newsletters, parish bulletins, Google searches, Catholic Organization for Life and Family, books and TV programs.

The current National Priorities acted upon by most reporting councils were *Care for Our Common Home*, Bill C-7 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistant in dying) and the rights of the pre-born under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The method to introduce these topics were all discussed at meetings.

(b) foster open communication with the spiritual advisor on all League matters

Three councils met with the Spiritual Advisor rarely, two never met, one met once, one met monthly and one council met weekly. Seven of the reporting councils reported that the Spiritual Advisor was supportive of the CWL while one council reported that they were not. One of the councils reported that due to COVID, they have not met, one council has a difficult time getting hold of the Spiritual Advisor and they do not attend meetings, all other Spiritual Advisors attend meetings as they are able and are actively involved in the meetings.

(c) preside at all meetings and conventions of the council concerned

Many of the reporting councils used the *Constitution & Bylaws* (5), *Executive Handbooks* (5), *Robert's Rules of Order* (4), council Policy and Procedure Manual (3), *National Manual of Policy and Procedure* (3), *Parliamentary Procedure* (2) and one council did not meet.

Of the reporting councils, seven attended Diocesan meetings and Conventions, four attended church functions, three attended fundraising events and dinners, three attended special masses, two attended Provincial meetings and Conventions, two attended The World Day of Prayer, and one attended these activities: Anniversaries, Workshops, Sacramental events, regional meetings and one did not attend any events or meetings.

Subsidizing the costs for attending these events are as follows: conferences: 1@100%, 1@ 50%, 1@ 25%, 6@ 0%; fundraising dinners and events: 2@ 100%, 6@ 0%; Workshops: 1@ 100%, 7@ 0%; Diocesan Convention: 2@ 100%, 1@ 50%, 5@ 0%; Provincial Convention: 1@ 100%, 1@ 50%, 1@ 25%, 5@ 0%; National Convention: 2@ 50%, 1@ 25%, 5@ 0%.

(d) be a signing officer for all official documents

The documents signed by presidents on behalf of their councils were: cheques (7); banking documents (6); letters directed within the CWL (4); letters directed outside of the CWL (1).

(e) when assuming the role of President

Out of the reporting councils, four had assistance from their current executive, three from their immediate Past President, three from a former Past President, two from their Secretary, and one each from a Life Member, Treasurer, Diocesan President and other (unstated).

When transitioning into the role of President, there were many challenges that they faced. The biggest challenge faced by the majority of the councils was tedious policies and procedures. Following that, the challenges were feeling undertrained, not having a full slate of officers, amount of paperwork, keeping members interested, recruiting, feeling overwhelmed, inexperience, technology, delegation, resistance to new ideas, finding the time, member criticism, trying to please everyone and member conflict.

Out of the reporting councils, six find it beneficial to have a National Theme and/or Logo through which they can focus their councils' activities. Seven out of the councils have a positive feeling in regards to the change of theme with each new National President with one council having a negative feeling.

(f) initiate policy, in consultation with the officers of the council concerned

All of the reporting councils have read and understand the duties of the *Executive Handbook*. All councils have referred to the *Executive Handbook* in order of assistance in the responsibility of overseeing the operations of their councils.

(g) keep fully informed on the operation of the League and report annually to the membership

Six of the reporting councils provide an annual summary of the council's activities to all members while two do not. Some of the methods that were used are email (5), written reports (4), oral reports (3), and newsletters (1).

(h) be an advisory member of all committees except the nominations and elections committee

Some of the committees that were formed are: Fundraising (3); Annual events (teas, bazaars, etc.) (2); Visitation (2); Funeral Lunches (2); Scholarship or Bursary (1); Donations (1); and three councils had no committees.

(i) be the official spokesperson for her council

This past year many councils have had a difficult time in attending any events in which there was need for a spokesperson. One council was able to speak to Reconciliation and the Residential Schools and one council discussed the promotion of the CWL.

(j) perform such other duties as may be incumbent upon her office

When performing correspondence, five of the councils use League letterhead while three do not. Four of those councils reference only the membership total for their council while sending correspondence while one council does not.

Satisfaction of communication within the different levels of the League

Satisfaction levels of the communication received from various levels of the League are as follows: National council: Always @ 38%(3), Usually @38%(3), Sometimes@13%(1), Occasionally @13%(1);

Provincial council: Always @ 50%(4), Usually @ 38%(3), Sometimes @ 13%(1);

Diocesan council: Always @ 50%(4), Usually @ 38%(3), Sometimes @ 13%(1);

Regional council: Usually @ 60%(3), Sometimes @ 20%(1), and Never @ 20%(1).

How relevant are the communications your council receives from the various levels of the League are as follows:

National council: Always @ 38%(3), Sometimes @ 25%(2), Occasionally @ 25%(2), Usually @ 13%(1);

Provincial council: Always @ 25%(2), Usually @ 38%(3), Sometimes @ 25%(2), Occasionally @ 13%(1);

Diocesan council: Always @ 43%(3), Usually @ 29%(2), Sometimes @ 29%(2);

Regional council: Always @ 20%(1), Usually @ 20%(1), Sometimes @ 40%(2), Never @ 20%(1).

Was the communications clear and concise from various levels of the League:

National council: Always @ 25%(2), Usually @ 50%(4), Sometimes @ 13%(1), Occasionally @ 13%(1); Provincial council: Always @ 38%(3), Usually @ 50%(4), Sometimes @ 13%(1);

Diocesan council: Always @ 38%(3), Usually @ 50%(4), Sometimes @13%(1); Regional

council: Always @ 20%(1), Usually @ 40%(2), Sometimes @ 20%(1), Never @ 20%(1).

The majority of the council's reported that they either occasionally or never receive duplicates in communication while one council reported that they sometimes receive duplicates with one council's reporting that they always receive duplicates. When it comes to councils having time to participate in invites/requests from different levels of the League, the majority of the councils sometimes or occasionally have time to participate while two councils usually have the time to participate.

List the top two or three things about which you are most proud in your council.

- How the members are there for each other, especially during COVID. The members of my council support the Executive.
- Running meetings in an organized manner. Bringing in guest speakers on various topics: prayer, Catholic ministry in penitentiaries, Having our council support a child from Chalice.
- We are hanging in there despite not having met for two years.
- Continue to meet via zoom, in person, throughout the year - socialization: Zoom Valentine party, summer get-together, and Christmas party this year - support of members and trying to keep them informed via email, newsletters monthly, and personal phone calls - fundraising: bake sale.
- Will work together, dedicated, prayerful
- We won the Premier's Volunteerism Award, members active in the Parish, Diocesan and National levels of the CWL Executive, continued to meet throughout the pandemic in various forms (in person/virtual).

What was your biggest challenge as president and how do you intend to address it?

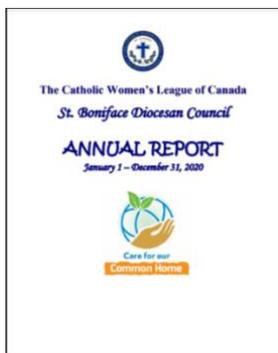
- Lack of more members to Executive. How do we intend to address it - Not sure. There are not many young members (under 60 yrs).
- Motivating our council members to be engaged in spiritual growth, to understand we are part of a whole; and to look at the world around us and see where we can make a difference ie. resolutions
- Encouraging our members other than the executive to get involved in activities. We have a council with an average age of 76 and most say they have done their time. I intend on continuing to invite them to become involved in all League activities. Another challenge this year is maintaining interest.
- My biggest challenge as president is the lack of interest/ability due to the aging population of our CWL group. Recruitment is nil. Don't get me wrong, in the past many of our ladies have been very active members but now there is little interest in taking positions and our vote is next week.
- Recruiting new members - keep trying
- Presiding during the pandemic and not having as large of a group meeting as we normally would have. We were able to include virtual meetings for when we were not able to meet in person.

List the greatest challenge(s) in completing the survey, if applicable.

- Position is VACANT. Why answer the questions. In doing so it does not give you a clear indication of how many answered and now many positions were VACANT (that is why they did not answer.)
- None.
- We were not able to meet regularly this year.
- Not having been as active in everything this year due to COVID either cancelling things or making them virtual.

April 23, 1949: the St. Boniface Diocesan Council was formed becoming the 35th diocesan council in Canada. Charter #1176

14 councils and 515 members in 2021





WINNIPEG DIOCESAN COUNCIL

PRESIDENT Pat Ward

January 1 to December 31, 2021

17 of 27 Parish Councils reporting = 62.96%

(a) inform the membership

The *Canadian League* magazine remains the highest source of information as 88 percent of presidents reported it in the main source of being informed. Technology (the internet) seem to be our method of communication as our reports shows 81% of our League presidents use the national website and the national communiques as their resource. Using the national website gives us access to a multitude of resources and quick links to current news of our League. The parish bulletin is the way in communicating the activities of the League within each parish and is a means of reaching out to possible new members. Members kept in touch with each other by phone and email during the restrictions of the pandemic demonstrating their unity even during diversity.

The list of national priorities that councils continue to act upon were Care for Our Common Home (50%); Bill C-7 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying) at 50% and, Rights of the pre-born under the UN Conventions on the Rights of the Child (25%). The methods used, when possible, were discussed at a meeting and wrote about in newsletters, bulletins, or by mail.

(b) foster open communication with spiritual advisors

The survey indicates minimal communications with their Spiritual Advisor which is understandable during the restrictions we have endured. Councils had indicated a high percentage (94%) of their Spiritual Advisors were supportive of the CWL. Some offer a Mass just before their CWL meetings and attended their meetings.

(c) preside at meetings

The *Constitution & Bylaws*, along with the council policy and procedures manual and the *Executive Handbook* are the main resources used by the Presidents as guides to run their respective meetings. *Robert's Rules of Order* is another go to resource for Presidents. It was also mentioned that the National website workshops and current CWL updates were useful. Most meetings were held online using Zoom.

(d) signing authority

As stated in your reports, the most common signed documents are cheques (88%); banking documents (75%); letters directed within the CWL (69%); letters directed outside of the CWL (44%) and petitions (13%) consecutive.

(e) provide active leadership

Councils continue to do more online communicating with members through online (ZOOM) meetings, Webinars, and other media tools. This was the way to present many activities such as meetings, workshops, World Day of Prayer, and the list goes on.

(f) keep informed

The Presidents were asked if they had read the *Executive Handbook* and understood the duties of their executive team, 75% answered yes and 25% answered no. The *Executive Handbook* was used 100% in assisting Presidents in the responsibility of overseeing the operations of the Council. Only 50% of the councils provided an annual summary of the council's activities. The methods used to provide the annual summary was reported to be by newsletters (75%); e-mail (63%); oral report (63%); written report (50%) and the parish bulletin (25%).

Advisory Capacity

At these following committees, the president shall be an advisory member of all committees except the nominations and elections committee.

Committees, other than CWL standing committees, within councils the replies consecutively were scholarship or bursary (44%); funeral lunches (44%); fundraising (31%); teas, bazaars, etc. (19%) social events (13%) and catering (13%).

Official Spokesperson

In most councils the president did not speak on behalf of councils due to COVID-19. Presidents did encourage communications with other CWL members. Out of the numbers reporting, 75% of the councils use letterhead when corresponding.

Communication Satisfaction Survey

Most presidents reported that they were usually satisfied with their communications as listed:

- (National council) Usually 47% and Always 33%
- (Provincial council) Usually 40% and Always 40%
- (Diocesan council) Usually 45% and Always 47%

Most presidents were satisfied with the communication their parish council received from:

- (National council) Usually 40% and Always 27%
- (Provincial council) Usually 33% and Always 40%
- (Diocesan council) Usually 36% and Always 43%

Listed below are the responses 'do you find the Communication clear and concise from':

- (National council) Usually 67% and Always 20%
- (Provincial Council) Usually 73% and Always 20%
- (Diocesan Council) Usually 67% and Always 20%

The response on how often you receive duplicate communications: National, Provincial, Diocesan and/or Regional Councils were, sometimes 31%; occasionally 25%, never 25%, usually 15%

When you receive communications from another level (national, provincial, diocesan, regional) that invites/requests participation, do you have enough time to do so?

- Sometimes 44%, occasionally 31%, usually 25%

Summary

In the role of parish president, the greatest assistance came from diocesan president (63%); immediate past president (56%); current executive (56%); former past presidents (50%); treasurer (44%); secretary (31%); life member (25%); provincial president (25%); personal mentor (6%) consecutively.

The three main greatest challenges that presidents faced in transitioning into her role were keeping members interested, not having a full slate of officers, recruiting new members, and at times feeling overwhelmed with the amount of paperwork. The number of emails. Concerns due to COVID, inability to hold regular meetings and keeping members engaged and interested.

Eighty-one percent agreed it was beneficial to have a national theme and/or logo through which one can focus their council activities towards. Only 44% liked the change of theme with each new national president.

Presidents were asked to list something of which they are most proud of in their council.

Listed are some comments from the president's list

- We were able to continue the tradition of providing two \$500.00 bursaries to deserving grads from our parish.
- Continued to fulfill all charitable commitments during COVID.
- Members who truly value and support the purpose of CWL.
- Council was able to host World Day of Prayer with 55 participants by Zoom.
- Friendship – work together well – and the council is supportive.

What was your biggest challenge as president and how do you intend to address it?

Listed are some comments of president's challenges

- Recruiting new members
- Recruitment to leadership roles
- Keeping the council going as membership is not increasing
- Keeping everyone interested and encouraging members to attend meetings
- Feeling detached from the 100+ members – no meetings – no gatherings

List the greatest challenge(s) in completing the survey.

- Could be more user friendly
- Too many questions
- Technology
- Time and energy – reports are not needed on a yearly basis
- Difficulty this year is that we have not had many in person meetings – no online meetings with members, therefore, events and gatherings were nil so not much to report

- It is like this COVID pandemic doesn't exist and that there seemed to be no effort to amend this survey or acknowledge the enormous stress and feeling of being all alone and trying to move forward when we are constantly being pushed backwards.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge that in the year of 2021 the Winnipeg Diocesan Council celebrated our 100th Anniversary. Although celebrations in person could not be, we were able to compile our Winnipeg Diocesan Council 100th Year Convention Book, and, had a committee put together the "100th Anniversary Commemorative Book".

Thanks, National for "keeping us all together" by offering events by Zoom."

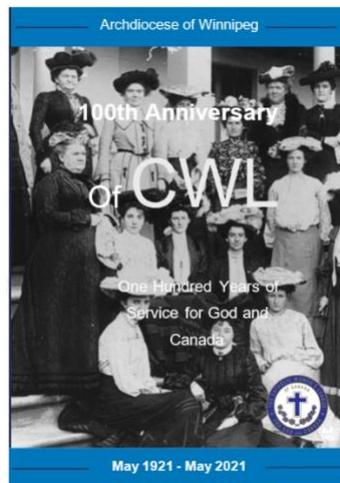
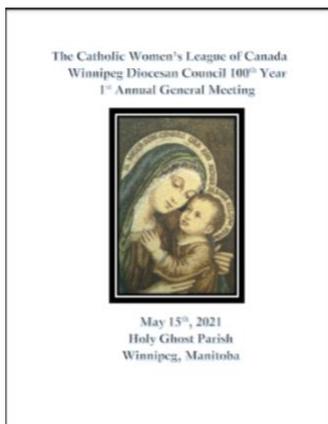
Thank you to all CWL Parish Councils. I was pleased to see that 59% of President's completed their online Annual Report provided by National. You are strong within the League and continue to keep up your good works.

May 21, 1921: the Winnipeg District Subdivision of the Catholic Women's League of Canada was formed in The Archdiocese of Winnipeg. Charter #62 was issued on March 14, 1924.

Due to amendments to the 1947 *Constitution and Bylaws*, a subdivision in every parish was encouraged; so on April 22, 1948 the final annual meeting was held. The bills were paid. Necessary business was conducted. A Life Membership was approved for Mrs. C. C. (Margaret) Quinn. A motion to adjourn was carried and after 27 years, the Winnipeg District Subdivision ceased to exist. Monies were donated to the Winnipeg Diocesan Council (already formed) to be used for organization.

Charter #62 is officially the charter of The Winnipeg Diocesan Council (as per confirmation from National Office).

27 councils and 1229 members in 2021



CHAIRPERSON'S PRAYER

Dear Lord, make me appreciative of the dignity of my standing committee and its many responsibilities.

Never permit me to disgrace it by giving way to coldness, unkindness or impatience.

Please bear with my faults, looking only to my intention, which is to serve You in the person of each member of the Catholic Women's League.

Increase my faith, bless my efforts and work "For God and Canada." Amen



SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Con Marks

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100 %

2021 continued to be a difficult year to meet in person due to pandemic restrictions. A few councils were able to meet sporadically in person but most only met virtually and some not at all. One quarter of councils reporting did not have a chairperson in this position.

(a) spiritual growth of members

Councils were creative in caring for their members' spiritual growth. The following methods and presentations were some of the ways it was done: PowerPoint presentations on First Fridays & First Saturdays; the Ten Evangelical Virtues of Mary & the Chaplet of the Ten Evangelical Virtues of Mary; St. Kateri Tekakwitha, her story, virtues, video, song; Seven Sorrows Rosary; Praise & Worship songs; explanation on Our Lady of Guadalupe/Our Lady of Good Council (Resolution 2000.01); video interview w/Scott Hahn & Fr. Donald Calloway on St. Joseph & Prayer. Some used *Lectio Divina*, and/or attended online retreats such as "Our Sacred Paths in a Diverse World" or a Lenten retreat "I am Sorry, I forgive you, I love you." Others had prayer partners. When able, Holy Mass was attended in person but mostly participation was virtual, either online or via television. One council was able to have an in-person Service of Remembrance for deceased members of their council. Some held virtual services for the Feast of Our Lady of Good Council, while many councils were not able to do so, others participated via televised events.

(b) study of Catholic teachings

EWTN Marian convention attended virtually. Councils use a variety of prayers and spiritual programs (both new and old) when preparing for meetings and para-liturgies. One council has discussions especially about our patroness Mary.

(c) role of women in the church

For the 50th anniversary of St. Therese of Avila, a council read the Pope's letter which explained how she helped show the importance of women in the church.

(d) evangelization and mission assistance

Councils supported the following either with goods, monetary donations or through prayer: Northern Missions, Seminary fund, Archbishop's Mission Fund, Esk-Omi Missions, Kee-Pas Missions, House of Peace, Manitoba Harvest, Sisters of Charity, Development and Peace, Good Shepherd Campaign, and various other charities.

(e) lay ministries

Councils have members who participate in their parish pastoral council, parish committee chairpersons, parish finance committee, diocesan council/committees, trustee, regional pastoral council and pastoral associates. This participation ranges from 63% to 4% in order of listing. Members also continue to perform in the following ministries: catechists, marriage preparation courses, cemetery committee, coordinator parish life administrator, liturgical music/choir, greeters, grief support, maintaining altar linens and making baptismal stoles, hospitality, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, money counters, ushers and R.C.I.A.

(f) ecumenism and interfaith endeavors

Councils promoted or participated in the following: Fellowship of the Least Coin, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada, World Day of Prayer and WUCWO Day. One council used prayers and encouraged members to learn more about Indigenous people while another chose to learn about St. Kateri Tekakwitha in April, her people, her virtues, using video & song. In June, another held a prayer service by their CWL Maple Tree in front of the Church and planted orange Marigolds in memory of children remains found in Kamloops. Councils continue to support charities that work with Indigenous Peoples such as Mamma Bear Clan, Sisters of Charity, Siloam Mission, Rossbrook House, Esk-Omi Missions, Northern Missions, Chez Nous, and Kee-Pas Missions. In September, one council chose a theme of reconciliation so they spent time learning about our area's history, and the issues.

Spiritual Communion



**My Jesus, I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things and desire to receive
You into my soul so I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit
me to be separated from You. Amen.**



ORGANIZATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Crystal Reiter

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100%

Thank you to everyone who took the time to learn how and to complete their oral reports! I know it feels like we have not done anything but you may be surprised by some of the things that other councils have managed to do! The questionnaires completed by parish councils are difficult to completely slide into this template but there are definitely some common themes.

Many councils complained about the lack of computer skills and/or internet access to finish the annual reports. This makes me think that we have work to do as technically savvy members – teaching! But councils also admit that COVID has forced them to increase their computer skills in many ways! Holding virtual meetings has allowed people who may not have been able to take part in meetings and connect and participate in the life of the council.

Many councils (maybe most) are having difficulty filling all of the positions on the executive. Hopefully the changes proposed by the strategic plan will help this become not so difficult a task!

Generally, councils reported that they have not had any special activities - COVID was named as the culprit! Hopefully that excuse has gone!

I am happy to report that 64% of our councils state that they feel informed and up to date on the strategic plan implementation!

(a) recruit members and maintain membership

While the Ethnic questions were not possible to answer as those are not statistics that are kept by councils, it was also felt that general membership does not reflect the ethnic make-up of the parish.

Generally, 20-30% of the membership are active, slightly more in spiritual events. Interestingly the councils in the north reported a much higher percentage of people participating in fundraising, meetings, social events and spiritual events. Good for them! Maybe they have some pointers for the rest of us!

Again and again councils have reinforced that personal invitation remains the best recruitment and retention tool. We need to talk to ladies, members and non-members. Phone calls to members were practiced by many of the councils, some just to check in and others for occasions like birthdays.

In all areas councils admit to being aware of the new tools on the cwl.ca website but not having used them. Embracing Diversity – Tools for Council Use contains a complex calendar of cultural celebrations, maybe someone from your parish can help you find a way to celebrate something from another culture!

Councils have shared diocesan emails with all women of the parish members and non-members. Guest speakers have helped to bring people together. Members have been celebrated with cards, service pins, new member ceremonies, luncheons, teas, and welcoming at meetings. Some councils report using mentoring and having members participate on subcommittees.

Organization chairpersons reported their biggest challenge is membership renewals. I think this is something we should talk to one another about because some councils have a process that works well for this (I think)!

(b) leadership development

COVID cited often as the reason for no leadership development opportunities. Again councils mostly admit to being aware of the Executive Orientation program but they have not used it. This program is very complete and can be accessed on cwl.ca as a recorded presentation or as a PowerPoint presentation. There is a lot of information in this program.

As of this report The Joy of Leadership Through Engagement in Ministry - A Practical Guide For Parish Councils is the newest resource from the Implementation Committee available on the website.

(c) League resource material

I can't say enough about the **website – cwl.ca!** The Strategic Planning working groups have gone over and above with resources for us to use. They are all accessible very easily! Most councils admit to being aware of most of the resources on the website and at the same time most councils state they have not used them.



Most councils use pins to celebrate members – anniversary pins and awards such as Maple Leaf and Bellelle Guerin.

(d) annual reports

Chairpersons were happy with the shorter version of the report, they felt they captured the duties of the chair adequately but there were concerns about the lack of continuity between the council reports and the template for reports used by diocesan and provincial levels. Diocesan chairpersons reported fewer calls for troubleshooting and when they came, they were mostly about computer access.

(e) life membership

Mix of whether councils use a life member resource or not.





CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Marielle Rigaux

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100 %

(a) marriage and family

COVID-19 continued to put restrictions on what councils were able to do. Quite a few yearly events that were previously supported fell by the wayside this year, while other topics were focused on electronically.

The National Family Week was not a celebrated event by any diocese this past year.

The support to women shelters was somewhat diminished. Two councils were able to support people suffering from domestic abuse while Alpha House and 2nd stage housing were supported financially. A few councils were able to help families in need by gathering new and used baby items as well as monetary donations for a young immigrant family.

Christmas hampers were made up and provided for those in need as well as baby necessities for a newborn.

One council had members serve in catechesis at the parish, diocesan and national levels, also grief counselling and baptismal preparation.

Prayers and Novenas to St. Joseph and Blessed Virgin Mary were said for a CWL member's daughter and son-in-law to get their Visas to come to Canada from Nigeria. Their prayers were answered and less than a week after arriving, she delivered her baby.

A council supported family events including children's St. Nicholas party. (A CWL member is on the Parish Events Committee.)

(b) sanctity of life

Members were informed of the virtual March for Life held May 13th to learn about bill C-268 and to consider signing the petition. An update on Bill C-7 was also provided. 30% of Winnipeg diocese members hold a membership in a pro-life organization. Pro-life Organizations such as Pregnancy and Family Support Services and Life Culture are also financially supported by CWL. All councils report participating in the 40 Days for Life campaign, pro-life masses, pro-life walks and pro-life vigils.

CWL members made personal donations to the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition for Bioethics & Social Research (30% of Winnipeg Councils supported EPC)

65% of CWL members pray novenas and hold prayer vigils for the Sanctity of Life and for the legal protection of the unborn.

(c) ministry to: youth, disabled, seniors, widowed, separated and divorced

COVID-19 severely restricted CWL fund raising efforts. Bursaries previously awarded to youth were curtailed in 2021.

Most youth groups have been inactive during COVID restrictions. Some Councils have supported NET.CCO catechism programs.

All 3 dioceses report not having a Catholic Girls' League.

Summer camp for youth was supported.

Parish councils were not able to reach out to the disabled as they wished. Community individuals or family were able to visit bringing Communion, cards, treats and offering rides as needed.

CWL councils supported the Association for Community Living and Home Assist with donations, rides, house cleaning and food items etc. They collected clothing for Chez Nous in support of the homeless. Monetary donations to L'Arche in Transcona in support of the restaurant they operate.

CWL also supported the Knights of Columbus financially in collecting funds for wheelchairs. A very small percentage of councils purchased copies of the brochure "Annulments Today-Merciful and Just". These were made available in the vestibule at church. Councils visited when possible, seniors and the widowed in the community bringing gifts, cards and praying with them and for them as they are isolated.

(d) vocations

A high percentage of councils participated in praying for vocations. Over 50% adopted or supported seminarians either by prayers or financial support of the Good Shepherd Campaign. A young novice with the Sisters of the Holy Cross in Peru is being supported spiritually and financially by her sisters in Christ, the CWL.

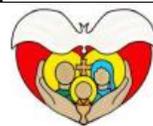
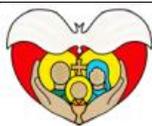
Luncheons were hosted for priests and religious. Families were encouraged to invite their Parish priest into their homes for a visit and a meal.

Priests and Religious were invited to speak on "Vocations".

Due to COVID, CWL has been somewhat inactive as a group. We have met via Zoom, sent out e-mails, FaceTimed, chatted. We cannot say that not much was accomplished in 2021, our CWL members continued in carrying out Christian Family Life values and personally enriched their spiritual and prayer life.

March for Life May 2021 (Winnipeg) WAS HELD VIRTUALLY due to pandemic restrictions

Tri-Diocesan "Mass for Life" in Winnipeg, Manitoba on May 10, 2021 was livestreamed from St. Mary's Cathedral, with celebrants Winnipeg Archbishop Richard Gagnon, St. Boniface Archbishop Albert LeGatt, and Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Winnipeg and Metropolitan Archbishop Lawrence Huculak.



The **Joy** of **Love** experienced by **families**

is also the **Joy** of the **Church**' - Pope Francis *Amoris Laetitia* #1

- To spread the content of the Apostolic Exhortation "**Amoris Laetitia**."
- To proclaim that the **Sacrament of Marriage** is a gift.
- To make families **protagonists in the Domestic Church**.
- To sensitize **Young People**.
- To broaden the gaze and action of the **Domestic Church**.



COMMUNITY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mavis McLaren

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100%

(a) dignity and rights of persons

Throughout the year, councils have supported those suffering from domestic violence, homelessness, poverty, racism, human trafficking, poverty and those who were incarcerated. One council discussed Bill C- 262 United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People.

Some councils have become more aware of the struggles of Indigenous women.

September 30th was designated a federal holiday called the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. In honor of this, one council participated in an outdoor procession with the statue of Our Blessed Mother and recital of the rosary. Rosaries made up of orange beads were handed out. Orange shirts were worn by some parishioners.

February 22nd was designated as Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Day. Some councils became aware of laws and what is being done in the fight against human trafficking and shared them with their members through emails, correspondences or newsletters. It should be noted that no councils participated in the International Day of Prayer and awareness against Human Trafficking on February 8th 2021. Also, no councils read or reviewed the 2018 Human Trafficking Consultation report released on January 14, 2020 'Building Safe and Resilient Canada.'

Additionally, councils supported many causes with prayers, volunteering and donations. One council continued to monitor the Summer Jobs Application forms to see if community organizations are supported.

(b) social and economic justice

Councils continue to pray for help and support as it relates to social and economic justice by providing supplies and participating in the work of organizations that care for the needy. They supported many of these organizations through prayer financial donations and volunteering. Some of these organizations assist with affordable housing, anti-poverty campaigns, school programs, clothing drives, drop-in centres, emergency shelters for homeless and victims of abuse, employment skills, soup kitchens, food hampers, aid to single parents, restorative justice, violence prevention and wish foundations. Others support food resource centres for single persons and skills training. Some councils support the food banks, Meals on Wheels as well as information cards about ERIK (Emergency Response Information Kit) were handed out to members the last week of October. Collection of pop tabs were taken down to Winnipeg for the wheelchair initiative. One council provided food for Rossbrook House and the Sisters of Charity, food and clothing for Mama Bear Clan and Agape Table and they also financially supported Esk-Omi Mission. One council donated \$100.00 to the Thompson Homeless Shelter.

Most councils reported recognizing the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation held on September 30. Two councils marked this day by sending out emails, bulletin announcement and attending a community activity. Another had special prayers at the council meeting and learned the significance of the orange shirt. Members also participated in the 94 in 94 TRC calls to action campaign. One council planted orange marigolds around their Centennial Tree in June in commemoration of the children lost at residential schools. Six councils participated in wearing orange on September 30 to support those impacted by the residential school system. Not all councils participated in prison ministries or restorative justice programs. Two councils supported the Catholic Near East Welfare Association and no council planned services for September 21- the CWL Day of Prayer for Christians in the Holy Land which coincided with the International Day of Peace.

Donations were also made to organizations and facilities that support Indigenous peoples. Some of these are Rossbrook House, Chez Nous, Northern Missions, MC Sisters, Swan River Crisis centres and Ikwe-Widdjittwin.

(c) refugees, immigration and citizenship

Due to the lack of meetings most councils could not gather to discuss official immigration and refugee policies, however members agree they know a fair amount about this topic as it pertains to their communities. Councils reported participating in Remembrance Day services and supporting the poppy campaign. About 1/3 of the reporting councils wore red on Fridays to support our troops. One council informed members about Canada's immigration and refugee policies. It should be noted that the councils felt that they had good knowledge of services to immigrants such as employment, language courses, housing and food, country of origin and how many immigrants and refugees are in their community. About half of the councils who reported know the difference between a temporary foreign worker, an immigrant and a refugee.

No councils participated in citizenship ceremonies.

No councils have been monitoring resolution 2016.01 Equal Access to Permanent Resident status.

(d) Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP)

September 21st was the International Day of Peace. Communique from Provincial Chairperson of Community Life was received and distributed to members along with a *Prayer for Peace in the Holy Land*. Some councils were aware of the League's program for CCODP donation of 1% of the price of luxury items they purchased during the year to CCODP. Three councils donated to CCODP for 2021.

Some councils have individuals who donated to Mary's Meals and some plan to bring this to their councils when they begin meeting again.

One council is continuing their sponsorship for a young girl in Ukraine through Chalice.

(e) developing countries

Members are fairly aware of conditions of child labour in developing countries, economic difficulties of those countries, as well, they are aware of the impact of trade laws on their systems. They criticized structures that put profits before people. However, no councils had guest speakers from developing countries. Councils made donations to Save a Family Plan, Chalice, Habitat for Humanity, Doctors Without Borders, Holy Childhood Association and Pennies for the Poor. These organizations focus solely on developing countries.

Other

Ongoing concerns for councils continue to be: the number of members attending meetings, recruiting new members and convincing members to take leadership roles. One council has adopted a highway and was able to fulfill its obligation of doing highway cleaning twice while respecting public health orders. Some members participated in the virtual fund raising dinner for Centre Flavie Laurent and it continues to collect sacramental clothing for Northern Missions. Another council tried very hard to keep members informed of ongoing items of interest with CWL during COVID by using the phone tree and by sending cards to members to keep up morale. Gatherings were conducted over ZOOM for the executive members. One council has adopted the National's food bank project and is collecting food monthly for the local food bank. Members reported that they were fortunate to participate in a Blanket Exercise as part of the Diocesan Day of Reflection citing that it has provided further impetus to work on furthering the causes of Truth and Reconciliation. Most councils regret that they could not meet so no active work could occur nor could they fundraise for their favorite charities. Overall though members appreciated the value of the CWL making them aware of issues and have come to appreciate the value of Canada and the opportunities it provides. Finally, all members look forward to being able to meet again and hope that members will return.

In collating these reports that were submitted I can see how CWL members exemplify our motto 'For God and Canada'. Some walked/drove miles to lend support to our marginalized brothers and sisters, daughters and sons. Edie Markman and Monica Brechka from St. Alphonsus parish drove to the Pas to donate school supplies, clothing and miscellaneous articles to distribute to the North where there are needs. Faith Anderson brought school supplies to The Pas on November 11. One member continues to organize the operation Christmas Child shoeboxes with non-perishable food items, toiletries, feminine hygiene products, socks, scarves and hats were collected for the fifth World Day of the Poor. All items were taken to the homeless shelter where the director asked if they would consider sharing the donations with the friendship centre, as well members made personal donations to The Pas Friendship Centre, Kee -Pas Missions, Food for the Hungry, CMIC and the Salvation Army. Finally, school supplies, clothing, outerwear and footwear were taken to Pukatawagan by father Dana, also the writer indicated that she was able to pick up an SUV load of school supplies including backpacks from the home of Faith Anderson, National Chairperson for Community Life.

God Bless Manitoba's CWL for the work they are doing, For God and Canada.



EDUCATION and HEALTH STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Position: Vacant

Report prepared by President Janet Brunger

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100 %

The Lord will guide you continually, watering your life when you are dry and keeping you healthy, too. You will be like a well watered garden like an ever-flowing spring. ([Isaiah 58:11](#))

(a) Catholic education

(i) Catholic schools and catechesis

Approximately 66% of the reporting Councils are informed about the quality of religious instruction and have inquired about how to support the programs. Approximately 75% have encouraged parents to participate in their children's education and activities. This is a big improvement over last year. More than half of Councils have identified needs of the Catholic School that they can meet. These needs include scholarships or bursaries, sacramental help or support, extracurricular activities, school supplies, etc.

(ii) Rites of Christian Initiation

There has been a marked increase in Councils becoming involved in Rites of Christian Initiation. This involved being an RCIA contact, being the Catechism coordinator, Sacrament of Baptism preparation, being an RCIA instructor, or becoming involved in the Good Shepherd Program.

(b) literacy and continuing education

In a marked change from last year, almost all Councils encouraged members to assist those who wished to improve their literacy. Some Councils have a list of Catholic universities or colleges in their diocese, and make that information available to their members. A very few Councils reported having a list of scholarships and bursaries that are available and could be accessed by Catholic women to further their education. Other Councils collect school supplies and distribute them to schools in the Archdiocese where there is a need.

(c) scholarships and bursaries

Approximately half of Councils provide a bursary or scholarship; the beneficiaries of which are: Catholic Christian Outreach, Catholic women furthering their education, elementary aged children, high school students, university/college student, and NET Ministries of Canada, with one council reporting that they created an annual CWL Community Award for a student at their local Catholic School, who exemplifies their Catholic faith through interest and work towards social justice in their community. A small percentage of Councils promoted the National Bursary Fund utilizing the new brochures, although only one Council reported that they had a member make application to this fund. None of the Councils in Manitoba reported that they

promoted within their Councils that members can include a legacy in their wills to support the National Bursary Fund. More than half of Councils reported that they have contributed to the Coady International Institute this year.

(d) wellness and sickness/disease

A small number of Councils participated in the CWL Mental Health Postcard campaign. Among the national organizations that focus on health and wellness, at the top were the Alzheimer Society and the Canadian Cancer Society along with MaterCare International, Heart & Stroke Foundation, Ronald McDonald House Charities Canada, Development and Peace, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, Crisis Pregnancy Centre, Life Culture Canada, Serena, etc. Approximately half of our council members participated in the 'Partners for Life Program'.

A large percentage of Councils participated in the '12 Hours of Palliative Care' in various different ways; either by arranging a prayer service in the parish, or by coordinating a prayer space at home. Palliative Care continues to be of crucial importance to our members.

In addition, Councils informed themselves of the new toolkit available on the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops website, entitled "Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care". Advanced Care planning was provided, as was ERIK, the emergency response kit available in Manitoba.

(e) environment

Most Councils participated in the National Theme, Care for Our Common Home, by reducing plastic use, waste clean-up, eliminating the use of single-use plastics and plastic straws, recycling, compost, eliminating plastic water bottles, reducing paper use, reducing water use. More than half of Councils participated in the 100th Anniversary of the League by planting a tree, although COVID restrictions limited the number of members that could participate. No members reported celebrating the UN World Water Day on March 22nd or any Earth Day activities on April 22nd. Further, no Councils reported utilizing the Water for Life Discussion Guide developed by Catholic Relief Services.

One council participated in the "Adopt-A-Highway" roadside clean-up, collecting approximately 20 bags of refuse during their campaign in June and again in September.

(f) genetics

Approximately two-thirds of Councils are described as fair in regards to their knowledge of the advantages and disadvantages of technology to alter genes in light of the teachings of the Catholic Church. All Councils stated that this topic is complex and needs more research or information provided. A future action goal would be to have a presentation on Bioethics.

Summary

A topic that was put forward that would like more information come through on is elder abuse and their needs.

As gatherings in Manitoba were highly limited this past year, Councils did their best, but were largely unable to do much of what is listed in these reports.



**Call 1-800-2DONATE (1-800-236-6283) to donate
to book your appointment
use our CWL # CATH011269**

COMMUNICATIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

Position Vacant

Annual Report prepared by President Janet Brunger

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100 %

“A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.” (Prov 25:11)

(a) *The Canadian League* magazine

All respondents reported that *The Canadian League* magazine is an excellent publication, and is used extensively for the strategic plan, resource, advocacy/action, education, spiritual information and various important content. It appears to be the first go-to for reporting tools, it is valued for keeping our members connected, and is generally widely embraced by all members. Several articles resonated with our members, and were read and shared by our ladies; namely, our President’s message, our National Spiritual Advisor’s comments, and many featured articles relating to important current issues; namely, Pornography Hurts, Caring for our Common Home, Mandatory Age Verification, The Gift of a Sabbath/The Gift of Rest, The Time to Act is Now, Honouring the Gift of Service, Action in the Time of COVID-19, Mary’s Meals: Simple Solution to World Hunger, Experiencing Holy Moments, Handy Hints, Role of Women in the Church, Experiencing Holy Moments, Are You Crazy, Responsible Stewardship, What you Need to Know about Folic Acid and Neural Tube Defects, A Moment in Time, Is it Time to Get Out of Our boat and Walk on Water, to name just a few. One member commented that she “respects all the time and love put into preparing the articles that appear in every League magazine”.



(b) media: for evangelization; to promote the League; evaluation and promotion of good content and newsletters and bulletins

According to reporting, very few Councils reported having members that subscribe to and support Catholic newspapers, periodicals and magazines. Those Councils that do support Catholic media subscribe to EWTN, Vision TV, canadiandailymass.com, the Catholic Register, Mass for Shut-Ins, and Salt & Light TV.

Councils utilize parish bulletins, bulletin boards, email mail-outs and newsletters to keep their members informed of current happenings. Others use Facebook, school and parish websites, community websites and local radio stations and newspaper ads. Most Councils also utilize telephone trees. Another resource that is used is *On The Spot*.

Most Councils send minutes and agenda’s to their members via email.

Many Councils encourage their members to visit the CWL website, or on Facebook and Twitter, apparently with some success, as it is reported that members are becoming more comfortable using social media.

(c) media relations

Several Councils do actively monitor media content, and encourage their members to speak out about inappropriate content; however, it does not appear that letters were written during this past year. Many Councils did report working with their local media for the benefit of the League.

(d) pornography

Most Councils encouraged their members to educate themselves and their families on safe and responsible internet use. Members did so by reading newspaper articles about the influence pornography has on children and adults, followed by requesting that the federal government enact laws requiring mechanisms to prevent minors from accessing pornography, and to continue supporting development of tools to protect children against offensive content on the internet.

The 'Pornography Hurts' postcards did not get distributed this past year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic; in addition, councils were not able to act on Resolution 2017.02 *Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornography Websites*, 2004.11 *Link Between Violent, Graphic Imagery and Aggressive Behaviour and the Mechanics of Killing*, and 2002.11 *Responsible Internet Use for Children*, and generally did not monitor the federal government's response to these issues.



(e) Strategic Planning

More than half of all Councils reported being aware of the strategic planning monthly updates on the National website, and sharing that information with their members.

Other

In summary, although many Councils are experiencing difficulty in finding willing people to fill vacancies, others are moving in to assist in ensuring that the work is getting done. All Councils are phoning members for special events or to inform. Cards and letters are being sent regularly.

Meetings are being held virtually, although it was acknowledged that some of the elder members either do not have the technology to connect, or are not comfortable using it.

One Council was nominated for and received the Premier's Volunteerism Award. They were interviewed and filmed for the Volunteerism Award Virtual Presentation, then got together at the parish to view the ceremony virtually.

It was recognized that during the pandemic, it was more important than ever to stay connected, in whatever way possible.

It was further recognized that we must continue to be vigilant – there are many ways that our children and families can be exposed to values that are not in accordance with Church teachings, and it is only by our efforts that we can work to ensure quality of life for the next generation.



RESOLUTIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

Position Vacant

Report prepared by contact person Con Marks

Sub-committee / committee members: **Jeannette Ali, Rolande Chernichan, Janet Brunger (ex-officio), Rev. Paul Bringleson (ex-officio)**

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100%

During 2021 councils were not always able to meet due to pandemic restrictions and not all have virtual meeting capability. Of the sixteen councils reporting electronically from all dioceses only two had a resolutions chairperson of which one was also the legislation chairperson for her council. Again, this position remains difficult to fill. A combined resolutions and legislation workshop held virtually in November highlighted the new resolutions format.

(a) research and preparation of resolutions and briefs

No councils considered and studied issues that might become resolutions.

(b) study and implementation of resolutions passed by other levels

Three councils wrote via email and regular mail to the federal or provincial governments while one signed a petition. One council phoned their government representative. Mostly though, activity regarding resolutions at any level was minimal.

(c) at provincial and national levels, presentation of resolutions to government

As our premier stepped down mid 2021 and our provincial government was in transition, it was not deemed to be prudent attempting to have a meeting with our government. We were also still dealing with pandemic issues.

Resolutions of today become law tomorrow!

Through the CWL, you can be part of the voice that speaks to government!

VISIT THE MANITOBA PROVINCIAL WEBSITE FOR		
ACTIVE MANITOBA RESOLUTIONS	ARCHIVED MANITOBA RESOLUTIONS	LINK TO NATIONAL RESOLUTIONS



LEGISLATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Paulette Borgfjord

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils = 100 %

(a) monitor and study legislation at all levels of government

Most councils responded that they were well informed of issues at the federal and provincial levels of government, but few were well informed at the municipal level.

At the Federal level most councils were

- knowledgeable of Bill C-7 medical assistance in dying
- some knowledge of Bill C-233 sex selection abortion
- Bill C-268 intimidation of health care professionals (67%).
- 2 councils monitored Bill C-4 conversion therapy.

At the Provincial level

- one council is following Bill 203 The Abortion Protest Buffer Zone Act
- another is monitoring compensation for fire fighters and paramedics.

Lack of a chairperson to bring focus to legislation and inability to meet face to face to discuss issues were the main challenges cited by councils.

(b) preparation of briefs and position papers on proposed legislation

There were no briefs or positions papers prepared by local councils on proposed legislation.

(c) do you know the names of your local, provincial and federal government representatives?

A majority responded (+75%) that they knew who the officials at all levels were. Many reported receiving mailings from their elected officials.

(d) Legislation workshop "Faith in Action"

The National Council's legislation workshop "Faith in Action" was distributed in the fall of 2021 with the National Chairperson's communique. This workshop was also used with our provincial council's 'Resolution and Legislation Workshop' presented in November. Many councils reported that they have not used it but some plan to use it in 2022.

Other

While the legislation standing committee is not often filled, I would like to thank the councils that still educate and keep members informed about important issues. Not meeting face to face to discuss issues was a concern and hopefully we will be able to return to a new normal.

It was also requested that the more remote councils have more Zoom workshops. However internet service can be an issue. It is something to work on in the future.

“Peace cannot exist without justice, justice cannot exist without fairness, fairness cannot exist without development, development cannot exist without democracy, democracy cannot exist without respect for the identity and worth of cultures and peoples.”– Rigoberta Menchutum, Guatemalan Feminist, Indigenous Rights Activist and Peacemaker,

- **The Manitoba website:** <http://www.gov.mb.ca/government/index.html>
- **The Province’s News Releases**
<https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?month=1&year=2020&day=01&bgnG=GO&d>
- **Information on Parliament:** <https://www.ourcommons.ca/en/parliamentary-business>

Resolutions and Legislation Virtual Workshop, Nov. 6, 2021

Con Marks, Resolutions contact, presented the new simplified resolutions format.

Legislation Chairperson, Paulette, presented the new Legislation Workshop (Inv. #839).

The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Manitoba Provincial Council
2021 Resolutions & Legislation
Workshop via Zoom
Saturday, November 6, 2021
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
In your living room
AGENDA

- Ⓞ Present the new resolutions process.
- Ⓞ Health Break
- Ⓞ Present the legislation process.

*Resolutions of today become law tomorrow!
Through the CWL, you can be part of the voice that speaks to government!*

Deadline to register: November 2, 2021 **Cost:** FREE

To register please send email to:
Con Marks
Manitoba Provincial Contact for Resolutions
conmarks.cwl@gmail.com

Legislation Workshop

Betty Colaneri
National Chairperson of Legislation (2018-2021)



PAST PRESIDENT

Rolande Chernichan

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100%

Of our three diocesan councils in Manitoba, 23 of 47 parish councils participated in the online survey for past presidents (almost 50%). The percentage of participation is actually higher when one factors in prayer councils who pay membership dues but who would not participate in the online surveys. The effort by councils to do annual reporting gives me much hope that despite the negative effects of the pandemic, parish councils have stayed the course as best they could. Results of online surveys revealed that almost 80% of past president positions were filled and that over half of the past presidents have served the League for more than 25 years. Seventy percent reported they held the position before and fewer than 25% are under 65 years of age.

(a) serve in a consultative capacity

Past presidents reported having attended executive and general meetings and social events faithfully (over 80%). With our province having been in various stages of pandemic lockdown throughout 2021, those attendance reports are perplexing. Diocesan past presidents reported being disappointed that a minority of past presidents (39%) had been called upon monthly for advice, and that 22% had been called upon for advice two to three times per month. There was expectation that the past president would be consulted more frequently. On a positive note, a large percentage (80%) reported they felt their president had felt supported and encouraged by the help of the past president.

(b) responsible for archives and history

Most past presidents are responsible for archives (78%), with the balance of councils reporting that the task is done by another member or not at all. Almost all councils reported that their archives are stored at the church, parish office, or hall, with a small percentage storing their archives at a diocesan office. Almost all councils know where their charter is located (91%). Storage methods for archives is mostly by filing cabinets and photo albums (78%+), with banker boxes, scrapbooks and USB sticks also utilized (30%). Labelled photo albums are maintained by 83% of councils. DVD's account for 13%; CDs are no longer being used.

Annual reports of parish councils are kept indefinitely by just over half of reporting councils; 13% reported they do not keep annual reports. The *Book of Life* is kept indefinitely by 91% of councils, with the balance reporting they do not maintain a book. Deceased members' history, membership renewal data, minutes of executive meetings are kept indefinitely by most councils (75%). Past executive lists are kept indefinitely by most councils (87%), as are minutes of general meetings (83%) and more than half keep financial information indefinitely. These statistics reveal that most organizational records of archival and historical value are being retained by most parish councils.

The rich history of CWL members and their years of service also form an important part of League history. Records of pin and award recipients are kept indefinitely by 70% or reporting councils, with 22% not keeping records. Written reports of executive members are kept indefinitely by half of reporting councils. Years of service of members are kept indefinitely by 91% of councils. Most councils (87%) reported reviewing their archives as needed; only 9% do it annually and 4% biannually. A council history book is maintained by 57% of councils.

(c) facilitate the study and implementation of the *Constitution & Bylaws*

Almost all councils reported having a copy of the *Constitution & Bylaws*; however, half of the councils reported rarely consulting it to guide their decisions.

(d) facilitate the study and implementation of the *Manual of Policy and Procedure* (national and provincial)

All councils reported having a copy of the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*; however, it is rarely used by almost half of reporting councils. Almost all councils have their own policy manual (78%) and half report it is updated whenever a policy is changed. One-third of the councils review their manual biannually. Of the councils who do not have a manual, 80% reported being disinterested in developing one, though all reported they would consult their diocesan council if there is interest to develop a policy manual.

One-third of councils reported consulting their diocesan level quarterly or annually, and an equal percentage reported rarely consulting the diocesan level. Half of the councils reported rarely consulting provincial level; and almost all councils reported that national level is rarely or never consulted. National office is rarely consulted by 65% of councils. This statistic appears to be a positive one where the communication policy of the League is being adhered to and that their questions are being answered via the diocesan level. One-third of councils reported consulting their spiritual advisor rarely; one-quarter reported consulting the spiritual advisor monthly. Few councils seek the advice of their bishop. It was troubling that seventy percent (70%) of councils rarely or never consult life members and that their available mentorship and advice is not being sought.

(e) other duties as assigned by the president

In half of reporting councils, the past president fills the role of a vacant position. One-quarter of past presidents have not been asked to do other duties. The remaining councils utilize the past president to chair meetings (39%), promote the council (35%), represent the council at conventions (30%), chair a committee or task force (26%), check national and provincial websites for information to share (26%), or to chair the nominations and elections committee (17%). Past presidents reported also doing the work of acting president, secretary, typing financial reports or doing annual online reports for the council. A diocesan president reported some "that they could have let the president fly solo sooner as she depended on the past president too much." Also reported was that "they should have involved the successor in more decision making and planning prior to the change of executive."

Almost all councils reported being satisfied with communication received from national office and the same was reported about communication from provincial level, with a slightly higher percentage of satisfaction reported about communication from the diocesan level. The

percentage of relevancy of the communication received was slightly higher for the diocesan level. Diocesan communication was reported being slightly more clear and concise. Forty-four percent (44%) of councils reported receiving duplicate communications from other levels. Most councils reported that where communication invited or requested participation, it had been received with sufficient time frame to do so.

Past presidents reported their successor's experience could be more enjoyable and fulfilling by:

- Encouraging having a co-chairperson to read over communiques, etc. to assist with meeting prep
- Lessening dependence on the past president so the president gains experience and confidence
- Ensuring new president is known in the community and that all materials are passed on to her
- Having executive positions filled to share the workload and give the president support
- Working together in friendship and cooperation; more members willing to say yes when help is being sought
- Promoting CWL and its goals in the parish
- Involving the president-elect in more decision making and planning

Sixty-two percent (62%) of councils supported the implementation of the envisioned future of the League through Planning Strategically 2018-2023. Past presidents offered their support by attending workshops via Zoom and sharing the information received, volunteering time and resources as feasible, checking the national website regularly and sharing new information to members. Past presidents also reported filling out questionnaires and surveys of Implementation Committee, promoting the Strategic Plan to council members, and serving on the Implementation Committee.

Greatest successes for 2021 reported by parish past presidents included:

- Preparing a power point for the Instructed Votes
- Hosting the Zoom meetings for her diocesan council
- Delivering service pins to members' homes during the pandemic
- Sharing with council members in receiving Manitoba Premier's Volunteerism Award
- Helping to organize a tea cup sale in support of a school
- Helping the council in a successful fundraiser and took part in three online spiritual workshops
- Helping to keep council from disbanding through emails and phone calls
- Keeping in touch with members throughout the pandemic

Diocesan past presidents also reported that the absence of in-person meetings and activities during 2021 COVID restrictions allowed some past presidents to update their archives as well as to revise their policy and procedure manuals. Councils ventured to meet virtually using Zoom, though it restricted attendance to those who had internet. Some councils had fundraisers which could be carried out by phone and email. The news of a parish council receiving the Manitoba Premier's Volunteerism award was a great boost to that council and the

morale of members. The award's publicity highlighted *The Catholic Women's League of Canada* in its service and advocacy.

Greatest challenges reported by past presidents were:

- COVID-19 pandemic and the isolation imposed by it
- Getting members to hold office
- Recruitment and attracting new members
- Ongoing pandemic that prevented meeting in person
- Increasing attendance to meetings and events
- Aging membership who do not use computers; it is difficult to stay in touch with them
- Few projects were undertaken
- Lack of personal contact because many members do not have email
- Keeping members interested and preventing the council from disbanding
- Language barrier to recruit new members
- Leading fundraising activities
- Decreasing membership, and the challenge to renew memberships

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic extending into a second full year and the resulting restrictions on in-person gatherings, most councils struggled to attract new members, to maintain membership, and to get members to hold office. Being unable to socialize was a drawback that online virtual meetings could not fill satisfactorily. Few projects, workshops and fundraising activities could be initiated.

A diocesan president offered closing remarks in her annual report: "In order for our League to prosper, we must recruit new members and give them something to look forward to in the future... we must put our faith in God and proceed onwards, promoting the League and all the good works it does."

Manitoba Provincial Council

Councils at all levels of the League had their terms extended by one year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. 2021 was a celebratory year for Manitoba; in particular Winnipeg Diocesan Council, who celebrated its 100th anniversary despite the restrictions of not being able to meet in-person. Not captured by the annual report of the Winnipeg Diocesan past president, is that all diocesan archives were reviewed by a diligent committee and that a commemorative booklet was assembled to capture the centenary of Winnipeg Diocesan Council as well as its significance to the eventual formation of Manitoba Provincial Council several years later.

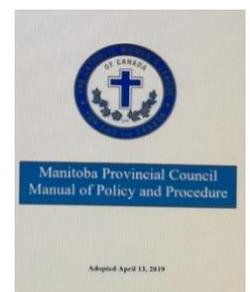
The excellent annual reports from the diocesan past presidents that I received summarize what the online surveys revealed about parish councils in each diocese. As provincial past president, my report conveys the compilation of parish level stats for my province. Currently, there is no way of capturing what is being done by my counterparts at a diocesan level. Similarly, there is no way of capturing what is being done by provincial counterparts when reporting to national level.

In order that national level remains informed of the communication, leadership and other aspects of the organization being carried out by each officer of each level of the League, I believe that some of the same questions being asked of each officer of a parish council, should also be asked of the diocesan and provincial executives. Such surveys could provide for diocesan and provincial executive members to report their initiatives pertaining to their office, how many communiques they issued, their engagement in League meetings and events, their use of the national and provincial websites, etc. I believe that they too, should be participating in online surveys from a diocesan or provincial perspective at the same time that parish councils do their reporting. Their responses to online surveys could be insightful about the effectiveness and leadership of our diocesan and provincial levels as the League transitions to full implementation of Planning Strategically. The surveys could also give insight to the national level about the age range, years of experience, and years of membership of potential future members of the national executive.

Serving in my third year as past president, I have continued to mentor the diocesan past presidents when called upon. Most of their inquiries were concerning national policy and procedure and chiring elections. I have encouraged their independence and provided tips to quickly search information they seek that is readily accessible from online League manuals by using 'word search' features.

As pandemic restrictions prevented in-person meetings, I have participated in all Zoom meetings of our provincial executive as well as the Day of Celebration, the Resolutions and Legislation Workshop, and the 2020 and 2021 provincial AMMs also held virtually. Besides virtual meetings, much of the business of Manitoba Provincial Council in 2021 was carried out through email consultation. I have consistently provided feedback by email on the various topics that President Janet sought input about from her executive. I have been supportive and affirming of Janet and her vision for her presidency; and have provided counsel and rendered assistance when called upon. I have affirmed my sisters of the provincial executive and mentored them when they have sought me out for guidance or information.

I oversaw the required biannual review of our provincial council's policy and procedure manual for necessary revisions. I also submitted several revisions to the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*. I issued communiques, served on the provincial website committee, and I assisted in promoting and explaining to councils the Instructed Vote process pertaining to the national per capita increase and proposed amendments to the *Constitution & Bylaws*. I accepted to serve as Chairperson of the Nominations and Elections Committee. I have faithfully forwarded the communiques issued by National Past President, Anne Marie Gorman.



My communiques have promoted knowledge and use of the *Constitution & Bylaws* and the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*, as well as archiving suggestions. The history of Manitoba Provincial Council is posted on our provincial website; reports about the Day of Celebration, provincial conventions, executive lists and memorable moments are being documented. Annual report booklets of diocesan councils as well as Manitoba Provincial Council are accessible on our provincial website. Photos and biographies of the executive are posted as

well as information regarding upcoming important provincial or diocesan events. Our provincial website ensures that a digital record of the key history of Manitoba Provincial Council is available online, supported by paper documents being archived by the past presidents, as well as those in storage at Manitoba Archives.

I have actively and enthusiastically promoted and supported the implementation of Planning Strategically 2018-2023 and the envisioned future of the League. I have participated in all online surveys sent out by national office to monitor the implementation. I have participated online in the 2020 and 2021 partially virtual national AMMs held in August that were offered in lieu of a national convention. I was elected to national executive and currently serve as chairperson of resolutions standing committee.

The League is in the final half of the implementation of Planning Strategically. In the midst of it all, we were challenged to rise above the setbacks of the COVID-19 pandemic that none of us could have imagined. I remain optimistic that the League will emerge from the prolonged two-year pandemic even more resilient and innovative. Members will have acquired new digital skills and will have become comfortable with online virtual meetings and the convenience they provide. The energy and the sisterhood of the League will once again be experienced when in-person gatherings are permitted. Inspired by the history of the League, and being guided through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, I believe that the mission of the League will be revealed by life circumstances that we are presented with in the here and now. Our collective response and action through faith, service and social justice will define the next chapters of our beloved League's history.



National Manual of Policy & Procedure



Inv# 601 Archives Guidelines



Provincial Archives



C&B 2013



Inv #601b Archives Brochure



MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL LIFE MEMBER LIAISON

Albertine Moran

January 1 to December 31, 2020

What is a Life Member?

A Life Member is a member that has earned and been rewarded for her love of the League, her devotion and her commitment over the years. She has served in many positions at her council, and at other levels, and she has gained much knowledge about the League. Manitoba Provincial council has 18 Life Members. Winnipeg Diocesan has 10, St. Boniface has 6, and Keewatin-The Pas has 2. Also, Manitoba is proud to have 1 Military Ordinariate Life Member.

Our Manitoba Life Members serve at the Parish, Diocesan, Provincial and National levels of the League, as executive members. They support and give advice to our members across the province, as well as to each other. They are happy to share their expertise, passion and love of the League. They are mentors to our members and are ready to assist in any way they can. Like a good friend, you can call on them at any time for advice, be it, special workshops, spiritual devotions, matters of the League, etc. They are ready to accompany you on your journey as a Sister in the League.

Due to COVID, no social functions or gatherings were held amongst life members this year. All communiqués received from our National Life Member Liaison Chairperson, Doreen Gowans, were immediately forwarded to Life Members. All changes and updates regarding our Life Members were forwarded to the National Liaison Chairperson.

Every month greetings were sent to those who were celebrating a birthday or anniversary. Prayer requests, death notifications or any other information received from our Provincial President or, from the three Diocesan Presidents were immediately forwarded to all Life Members.

It has been a pleasure and an enlightening journey, serving as your Life Member Liaison for the past three years.

May God's blessings be with you always.

NOTE: Please see the tribute to Life Member Dr. Rayleen De Luca who passed away March 22, 2022.





TREASURER'S REPORT

Lea Colbeck

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting = 100 %

(a) maintain the financial records of the council

The tools that were mostly used by the councils (89% to 100%) are bank statements, cheque book and deposit book. Other means that are used vary from excel spreadsheet to ledger/columnar books to computer programs. They also make use of receipt books and disbursement books.

(b) receive all League monies

Membership dues range from \$20.00 to \$40.00. Treasurers submit the membership. The treasurers also collect the monies from the very few fund raising events that were held.

(c) pay all accounts as authorized

All councils pay their bills as authorized and by cheque.

(d) be a signing officer for all official documents

Most Councils require two signatures on every cheque. Most Councils have at least three signatories but some Councils have more. The treasurer and council president are the most often signatories.

(e) prepare and monitor annual budget

Seventeen out of the reporting 28 councils prepare a yearly budget.

(f) present a report of revenues and expenditures at meetings

Oral reports were given on the finances and recorded in the minutes at the meetings.

(g) prepare annual financial statement and have them appropriately examined annually

Of the 28 councils reporting, more than half stated that they did have their books examined by an accountant, bookkeeper or experienced individual this year.

Other

Donations were given to the following: Coady Institute, Catholic Missions in Canada, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, Catholic Near East Welfare Association and National Bursary Fund. Donations were also made under the following: Spiritual Development Organization, Education & Health, Christian Family Life, Community Life, Parish and others.

Communication

Most Councils reported being satisfied with communication from the three levels. There was not a great difference between the levels as far as the information being relevant. Most felt that the information from National Council was the most concise. Duplication occurred at some occasions. When invited to participate in activities from other levels, councils were limited by COVID restrictions.

Manitoba Provincial Treasurer CWL Council

As Provincial CWL Treasurer, I maintain the Financial Records of the Provincial Council. A financial statement was prepared for the members whenever required. I use the Excel Spreadsheet program along with bank statements and deposit slips to prepare the statement. I keep track of the GIC's and reinvest them as instructed.

All monies that were turned in to me were then deposited and I pay authorized invoices with cheques.

The Provincial Council has three signing officers with two names being required on the cheques.

As we were unable to meet and my schedule had changed to a great degree, our President prepared a budget for 2022 which was distributed to the members for review over two zoom meetings.

I prepare the yearly financial statement and remit it for examination by a certified examiner.

The Donations Statement has been removed as it is only pertinent to Manitoba Provincial Council. The donation statement is available upon request. Should you personally wish to receive this statement, please contact the Manitoba Provincial Council President via the Provincial Council website. www.cwlmanitoba.ca

This total figure is down from 2020 by about \$4700.00. This is understandable due to COVID but is not as much of a decrease as one might expect. Many councils still report that they were unable to do any fund raising.

The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Manitoba Provincial Council Financial Statement
January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

The financial statements have been removed as They are only pertinent to the Manitoba Provincial Council. The financial statements are available upon request. Should you personally wish to receive these statements, please contact the Manitoba Provincial Council President via the Manitoba Provincial Council website. www.cwlmanitoba.ca

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Manitoba Provincial Council Financial Statement
January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

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The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Manitoba Provincial Council



May 12th, 2022

To the Members of the CWL of Manitoba,

I am writing this letter to state that the account books of the Manitoba Provincial CWL have been reviewed by MNP.

MNP is unable to issue a letter as they have in the past few years. Due to the many changes and rules in the accounting world, it is complicated as to exactly what they can state in any form. A complete review is a very expensive undertaking by an accounting firm.

Thanking you for your understanding, I remain,

Sincerely Yours,

Lea M. Colbeck
Treasurer
Manitoba Provincial CWL Council



RECORDING & CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Ann Schenkeveld

January 1 to December 31, 2021

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100%

Recording Secretary

(a) record the minutes of all meetings and AGM/AMM of the Manitoba Provincial Council

- Zoom informal meeting to discuss several topics – January 14, 2021
- Zoom Winter meeting – February 25, 2021
- Zoom AMM planning meeting – May 17, 2021
- Zoom special meeting regarding AMM/AGM – May 26, 2021
- Zoom Pre-Convention Executive meeting – June 16, 2021
- Zoom AMM/AGM – June 26, 2021
- Zoom Post AMM/AGM Executive meeting – August 26, 2021
- Zoom 2022 Convention Planning meeting – September 16, 2021
- Zoom Fall Executive meeting – October 7, 2021
- Zoom Executive meeting – November 30, 2021

(b) retain all Zoom notes/Minutes of the Provincial Council

- Minutes of all meetings are kept in a binder in paper form and also on an external drive. These will be archived and kept as a permanent record

(c) be a signing officer for all official documents

- I am an alternate signing officer for banking documents if the Treasurer is not available
- An Annual Report is prepared and submitted each year to be included in the Convention booklet. This report is a compilation of the secretarial reports from the Winnipeg Diocesan Council, Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Council and St. Boniface Diocesan Council.

(d) update the Elections Register for the council annually by January 1st

- The Elections Register was updated in January and submitted.

Corresponding Secretary

(a) send out all correspondence as directed

- A sympathy card was sent this year to Father Shantha on the death of his mother and also to Paulette Chase on the death of her father
- A congratulations card was sent to the Lorette Council of the Catholic Women's League on receiving the Premier's Voluntary Service Award in recognition of three decades of service to the community

Annual reports have been received from the three Diocesan councils (Winnipeg, Keewatin-The Pas and St. Boniface).

Winnipeg Diocesan Council (16 out of 27 reporting):

All reporting councils take the minutes at the meetings and about half of them are the recording secretary and the other half are both recording and correspondence secretary. Of these about half were elected and a little less were appointed and one council reported the positions vacant.

Almost all secretaries retain the minutes of meetings and conventions as a permanent record for their council.

Out of the councils reporting, 12 councils reported that the recording secretary was a signing officer and the other 3 councils said they were not.

Almost all the councils know where the council charter is located and they also maintain a list of the executive with their contact information. About three quarters of the reporting councils have a motion books. The remainder do not.

Most are responsible for the reports as required. Of the reporting councils about half have a copy of the *Handbook for Secretaries*, about one quarter do not have a copy and the rest do not know.

Ten councils are usually satisfied, but only 2 are always satisfied, 2 are never satisfied and 1 council is sometimes satisfied with communication from National. More than half are usually satisfied, but only about 1 percent are always and never satisfied and less than 1 percent are sometimes or occasionally satisfied with Provincial correspondence. More than half of the councils are satisfied with the communication received from Diocesan Council. About half of the councils reporting are satisfied with the communications from Regional Council.

Less than half reported that they usually find the Communications from National as relevant. A little less than a quarter of the councils always find the communications from Provincial as relevant and a quarter of the remaining councils always find the communications relevant. Exactly half of the reporting council usually find the communications from the Diocesan council relevant and about one quarter always find the communications relevant. Half of the councils never find the Regional Council relevant and about one quarter sometimes find the communication relevant.

About three quarters of the councils usually find the communications clear and concise from all levels. Less than a quarter of the councils find the communications always clear and concise.

Almost half reported that they occasionally receive duplicate communications and more than one quarter never receive duplicates.

Re: communications from another Level that is time sensitive but received too late.

Almost half of the reporting councils reported that it occurs occasionally and one quarter reported that it usually occurs.

Only two councils reported. She reported that all communications are sent to the President and then forwarded to the Executive. The only Secretary Handbook she has is a Duo Tang folder from 2004. She receives an occasional memo to remind the secretary of other executive duties.

The other secretary reported that the President prepares the Agenda (and makes copies for those at meeting). After the meeting, the president emails the Agenda so that she can copy and paste and fill in the information (saves a lot of typing). President includes any website/names so they can be inserted correctly. The minutes are then prepared and emailed back to the President for proofreading. The President ensures there are copies for those present at the meeting and emails the minutes to those not in attendance.

The COVID pandemic was by far the biggest challenge in 2021. Meetings were held by Zoom and keeping the members connected through the church bulletin, newsletters and well-being phone calls was difficult. One council reported that the Instructed Vote was the biggest challenge but their President ensured that she contacted everyone who was not at the instructed vote meeting and explained it all to them. As COVID continued to play a huge part in our lives, it was impossible to hold in-person general meetings. The executive meet monthly via Zoom and the minutes are recorded and circulated to the executive. Chairperson's reports were sent to the general membership as requested. Many members miss the interaction that they so enjoyed pre-COVID. One council reported that they had no challenges but the general message from all others was communicating during COVID.

Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Council:

2021 has been an interesting year as well as one filled with challenges. COVID restrictions are still in place and our five Councils have had difficulty in meeting on a regular basis. Our Annual Members' Meeting was held virtually, and election of new executive did take place. As the new President, I wish to thank the members of the Executive who willingly took on chairperson responsibilities and I look forward to working with each of you.

I also give a heartfelt 'Thank you' to Lucille Rossington for her dedication to our Council these past several years as President. 'You are an inspiration to those of us who follow'.

Secretary

Notice of meeting sent to all Diocesan Executives, Chairpersons and Spiritual Advisor prior to all teleconference, zoom meetings and Diocesan Convention.

Teleconference held January 9, 2021 at 10:00 am. Agenda circulated prior. Minutes circulated by email to CWL Keewatin-The Pas Archdiocesan Council, Fr. Shantha Kumar, Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Spiritual Advisor and parish presidents.

First Zoom Meeting of Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Council April 24, 2021. Agenda circulated prior. Minutes of Teleconference January 9, and Zoom Minutes circulated. Manual of Policy and Procedure 7th Revision updated and sent by email.

Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Pre-Convention Meeting by Zoom was held May 28, 2021. Minutes taken. Minutes of the April 24th Zoom Meeting circulated by email to Diocesan Executives, Chairpersons and Spiritual Advisor (prior to pre-convention meeting).

Keewatin-The Pas 69th Diocesan Convention by Zoom was held May 29. Minutes taken. Minutes of the 67th and 68th Diocesan Conventions circulated and read at the Convention. Thank you to Jacqueline for taking and getting the minutes done.

Sent Sympathy Card and Mass intention cards to Fr Shantha on the loss of his mother.

Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Zoom Meeting held Saturday October 30th. Minutes taken.

Pre-convention Minutes of May 28, 2021 circulated to all Diocesan Executives, Chairpersons, and Spiritual Advisor (prior to Zoom Meeting).

Reviewing the Secretary Annual Online Survey for 2021 - 2 councils did the survey.

One council has a recording secretary; One has both recording & corresponding secretaries. Both were elected. Number of years in this position ranged from 4 to 6 years. Both take minutes at the meetings.

One is also a signing officer. Both know where the council charters are located. Both maintain a list of the executive with their contact information. Both councils have minute books. One receives written reports from the executive. One knows that their council has a copy of the *Handbook for Secretaries*; the other doesn't know. The answer re: copy of the *CWL Personal Letter Writing* guide was the same - one yes, the other doesn't know.

Biggest challenge as a secretary in 2021 and how addressed:

Getting motions passed during COVID-19. The secretary would email, text or phone the members with the motion and enter the proceedings in the motion book.

Zoom meetings were held but the secretary could not get Zoom and sometimes had a problem to hear.

Satisfaction with communication from national and provincial and how relevant it is: 1 said always; 1 said usually 50%. Both were always satisfied with the communications from Diocesan. 100%, both feel the communications are clear and concise from all levels. Both said they sometimes receive duplicate communications from national, provincial and diocesan. When they receive communications from the above levels that invites/requests participation, both said they have enough time to do so sometimes. Neither had anything more to add.

In closing I would like to thank the two councils for taking the time to complete the Online surveys. This has been a year of new experiences during this time of COVID, May Our Lady of Good Council continue to pray for us during these trying times.

St. Boniface Diocesan Council: 7 out of 14 councils responded.

The National Council provided a survey for "Secretary" only and did not differentiate between Recording and/or Corresponding Secretary, except for one question. Approximately half of all

councils reporting stated that they had a recording secretary only; the rest either did not have a corresponding secretary or the recording secretary fulfilled both positions for the council.

- (a) record the minutes of all meetings and conventions of the council**
- (b) retain the minutes of all meetings and conventions of the council as a permanent record**

All recording secretaries recorded and maintained the council's meeting minutes. All minutes were retained as a permanent record for the council. Two-thirds of the secretaries also maintained a list of the executive with their contact information.

- (c) be a signing officer for all official documents**
- (d) have charge of all papers and records of the council concerned**
- (e) be responsible for reports as required**

Two-thirds of the secretaries were also signing officers for the council. The majority of secretaries have a copy of *Handbook for Secretaries* from national office, as well as a motions book and the *CWL Personal Letter Writing Guide*. Most of the secretaries knew where their council charter is located. Most executive members provided written reports for their meetings.

- (f) update the Elections Register for the council annually by January 1st**

The National Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada suspended elections for a year, so no Elections were held in councils in the diocese.

- (g) Communications from different levels of the League**

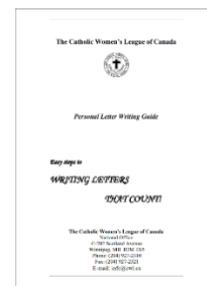
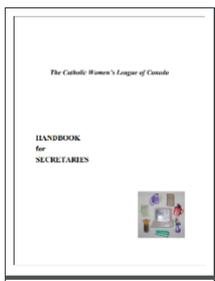
Most councils reported being usually or always satisfied with the communication they received from National Council and found the information relevant to their council. About half of them found the communications clear and concise.

Approximately two-thirds of the councils were satisfied with the communications received from both the Provincial and Diocesan Councils, but the majority found this information more relevant to the parish council than that of the National Council. About two-thirds found the communications clear and concise. Half of the councils found that the material received from that level was a duplicate from another level of the League.

When asked by different levels if councils had time to participate in events when invited to do so, most reported that they were able to so.

Other

The biggest challenges for 2021 were due to COVID-19 virus and its subsequent restrictions regarding gathering for meetings. Some councils held no in-person meetings until fall. Some councils began meeting online via ZOOM but that limited the number of participants due to lack of technology. Councils had to depend considerably on electronic communications during 2021.



22nd MB PROVINCIAL DAY OF CELEBRATION 2021

This Day of Celebration was delivered in two parts. It was a new experience for us to have our day via Zoom. On **February 24th** we had Tim Killoran from Catholic Christian Outreach speak to us under the topic **"The Power of Prayer"**. The presentation was attended by 50 people on the Zoom connection.

Mr. Killoran was a great inspiring, personable, relaxed and down to earth speaker. He seems to really love his faith and enjoy sharing it with others. He talked about encountering Jesus for the first time, placing ourselves in front of God and seeing him like a person. What a way to make God more present in prayer time. If you could know God personally, would you want to? Many of you remarked on the wonderful letter from Saint Mother Theresa to her Sisters that Mr. Killoran shared with us.

He concluded by calling us to go out and share with others – our Holiness Mission!

The second part of the Day of Celebration took place on **March 13**, also via Zoom. Gina Hoe led us in a **Lenten Retreat** which she called **"I am Sorry, I Forgive You, I Love You"**. It was a perfect presentation when some of us may have been feeling down because of the pandemic restrictions. Some little tidbits from the presentation are – I am loved! I forgive, recognize our weaknesses and how we deal with our own flaws and learn to forgive ourselves for our mistakes and we can never know what another person has been through. God is present in every person! She talked about something called The Forgiveness Project and that we cannot do forgiveness alone!

"Anyone can love you while the sun is shining. In the storm is where you learn who truly cares for you!"



The Manitoba Provincial CWL Council

invites you to

The Provincial Day of Celebration

GUEST SPEAKER

Tim Killoran from Catholic Christian Outreach

TOPIC

The Power of Prayer
How prayer can help others
How prayer can also change us
How we can encounter God in Prayer

LOCATION

Your living room, den, kitchen, etc. via Zoom

DATE

Wednesday February 24, 2021 @ 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

REGISTRATION

You must register your name and email address in advance. The zoom invitation containing the meeting ID and password will be sent to that email address. Please register with Con Marks via email by Tuesday February 23rd the latest. We have a maximum capacity for 100 participants.

Registration Contact:

Con Marks

Spiritual Development Chairperson

conmarks.cwl@gmail.com

Manitoba Provincial Council of the Catholic
Women's League of Canada

Invites you to a

One hour LENTEN RETREAT

"I AM SORRY, I FORGIVE YOU,
I LOVE YOU"

Presented by Gina Hoe
Saturday, March 13, 2021
10:00 am – 11:00 am



The color yellow and daffodils
symbolize "forgiveness" and a "new start"

RSVP to Con Marks at conmarks.cwl@gmail.com
By Wednesday, March 10, 2021
To receive your zoom invite.

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS June 26, 2021

With Covid restrictions still in place, the Annual Provincial Meeting of Members could not be held in person so it was held by Zoom. Attendance was 36. Even though not gathering in person, the program followed the usual order of business. Many items were shown on the Zoom site so all could follow along and participate when needed. A few highlights are listed here.

President Janet Brunger welcomed all and a special welcome to the new Kee-Pas Diocesan President Bernadette Benson. Provincial Spiritual Advisor Fr. Paul Bringleton, expressed his "gratitude to all we did" as we have adapted to this new normal, despite our doubts for the League, and ourselves, in these pandemic times.

Greetings were shared from the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League and Military Ordinariate. Evaluations from the last in person convention in 2019 were reported by President-Elect Crystal Reiter.

Provincial Executive Reports had previously been e-mailed to those registered for this AMM. Any further information was presented and any questions or concerns on them were addressed. A "Question and Answer" session followed.

President Janet thanked Crystal for arranging again to have the Annual Report Book prepared. Crystal thanked Donna Candelaria for her 'magic fingers' in preparing the booklet again that will be available on the provincial website shortly.

President Janet lowered the Canadian Flag beside her as the meeting was adjourned at 10.38am. Members stayed on Zoom to visit with each other until 11:25am. It was "Nice to see each other" even though we were on Zoom.



The Catholic Women's League of Canada
**NOTICE OF
ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**

Manitoba Provincial Council
June 26th, 2021
9:00 a.m. - Noon
hosted by
Manitoba Provincial Council

Registration to Con Marks at conmarks.cwl@email.com
Registration is limited to 100 people on an early response basis
Every effort will be made to accommodate Accredited Delegates at each level.

AGENDA

9:00 a.m.	Opening remarks, Welcome
9:15 a.m.	Spiritual Program
9:25 a.m.	Greetings, Notice of Meeting, Roll Call
10:05 a.m.	Snack, Refill & Stretch
10:15 a.m.	Reports
11:20 a.m.	Snack, Refill & Stretch
11:30 a.m.	Continuing Reports, 2021 Convention Invitation
11:40 a.m.	Question & Answer, Final Business
11:55 a.m.	Closing Prayer, Blessing & Adjournment



Care for our
Common Home

STANDING RULES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

Each Annual Meeting of Members (AMM) sets its own standing rules in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*. They are applicable for the duration of the AMM in session only. Even though the standard rules may be the same from one year to the next, the rules must be adopted by each new AMM.

At the beginning of the business session of an AMM, a motion is proposed, debated and voted on to adopt the standing rules of the AMM. This motion requires a two-thirds vote. To rescind or amend the rules once they have been adopted requires a two-thirds vote. To suspend a rule requires a majority vote. (*National Manual of Policy and Procedure*)

Standing Rules for the 75th Annual Meeting of Members of the Manitoba Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Registration

1. Each person attending the AMM shall register at the AMM registration desk and shall be required to wear the official AMM badge for admission to all meetings.
2. Registrants shall be classified as voting delegates (diocesan presidents), accredited delegates (provincial accredited, diocesan accredited, parish accredited, honorary life members, life members), CWL members, spiritual advisors, and guests.
3. The registration and credentials committee [provincial treasurer and the host council registration chairperson with her assistant(s)], at the beginning of the first business session, shall provide a credentials report summarizing the number of voting members registered at the AMM and shall submit a list of the names of voting members for the roll call. When adopted, the credentials report shall be the official roll of voting members. If additional voting members register after the report has been adopted, a supplementary report shall be given and adopted at the beginning of the afternoon session of AMM business. Due notice having been given, ten percent (10%) of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.

Seating Arrangements

4. The business sessions of the AMM shall have a designated area in which all voting members will be seated. All members are requested to be in their seats at least five (5) minutes before the scheduled sessions open.

Debate

5. The chair shall: (a) state all questions, motions and resolutions to the meeting before they are open to discussion; and (b) put all questions, motions and resolutions to the meeting before the vote is taken thereon.
6. Every motion shall have a seconder. The mover of a motion shall have the privilege of speaking first to a motion (no longer than three (3) minutes).
7. The mover of a motion or her designate may speak to open and close debate. No other member shall speak more than once on the same motion or longer than three (3) minutes without permission of the assembly granted by a two-thirds vote without debate.
8. Those wishing to speak shall use the microphones and upon being recognized by the chair, state name, status and diocese.

9. When time is of the essence, voting members shall be given priority to speak over non-voting members.

Voting

10. Voting members attending the AMM must have a signed credential and shall submit it to the AMM registration desk.
 - (a) As voting delegates, diocesan council presidents shall have the power to vote on all questions.
 - (b) Accredited delegates may vote on any question except the election of officers, amendments to the *Constitution and Bylaws* and increases in per capita fees.
11. Voting cards shall be issued to the voting members and these cards shall be exhibited when a member votes.
12. The chair shall ask for affirmative and negative votes only. A voting member wishing her abstention to be recorded in the minutes shall request same before the vote is taken.

Resolutions

13. Only resolutions submitted to the resolutions committee by diocesan councils or provincial chairpersons by the deadline date set by the provincial resolutions chairperson shall be considered for presentation to this AMM.
14. Resolutions concerning urgent matters may be accepted after the deadline date and shall be presented to the AMM at the discretion of the resolutions committee.
15. The procedure for presenting resolutions to the business session shall be:
 - (a) the resolutions chairperson shall read the resolution after the appropriate chairperson's report
 - (b) the president of the diocesan/provincial council submitting the resolution shall move its adoption
 - (c) the president of the diocesan/provincial council submitting the resolution, or her designate, shall speak first to the resolution.
16. Final wording of titles, briefs and action plans shall be the responsibility of the resolutions committee.
17. Adopted provincial resolutions shall be posted to the Manitoba Provincial Council website.

Miscellaneous

18. No materials shall be distributed, displayed or sold at this AMM without the prior approval of the provincial executive.
19. No appeals for support or collections of any kind or circulation of petitions shall be made unless a written request is presented in advance to the provincial president and approved by the provincial executive.
20. Any motion adopted at this AMM shall become effective at the adjournment of the AMM unless the motion has set an alternative time for the action to become effective and has been stipulated in the motion.

Minutes

21. The Provincial president shall appoint a Minutes Review Committee to verify the minutes of all meetings of the AMM.
22. The provincial executive shall approve the minutes of this AMM at its fall meeting.
23. The approved minutes of the AMM shall be circulated to all voting members of that AMM. If corrections are necessary after approval, they may be made by motion.



OUR APPRECIATION GOES TO...

- St. Dominic's Council Acting President, **Donna Huck**, and all members of the **Convention Committee** for graciously hosting our convention and for their enthusiastic and heartwarming hospitality.
- A special thank you to ladies of St. Dominic's Parish who also helped so willingly in preparations for hosting our provincial convention.
- Winnipeg Diocesan President, Chris Carlyle, for her warm welcome to their diocese.
- **Fr. Mark Filips**, pastor of St. Dominic's, for his support of The Catholic Women's League of Canada and for sharing the convention with us.
- The **parishioners of St. Dominic's** and ministry leaders for the experience of faith community in the Celebration of the Eucharist.
- **Most Reverend Archbishop Richard Gagnon**, Archbishop of Winnipeg, for presiding at the Celebration of the Eucharist and for his support of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.
- **Fr. Paul Bringleston**, Provincial Spiritual Advisor, for his inspired messages and support of the provincial executive and the League in Manitoba.
- **Fran Lucas**, national president-elect, for gracing our convention by her presence and for her inspiring presentation at our Convention.
- **Crystal Reiter** and **Clarence Fisher**, for sharing their inspiring testimonials.
- **Orysia Hull**, for sharing her personal experiences regarding the plight of the Ukrainian people.
- All the **Life Members** who participated in this convention and for their mentoring and support to sisters of the League.
- **Con Marks** for her inspired spiritual program based on *Catholic and Living It!*
- **Members of the Provincial Executive** who by their service, promote the objectives of the League and who by their communiques, guide and inform members.
- Past President and Life Member, **Rolande Chernichan**, for chairing the Nominations and Elections Committee, and for conducting the elections with the assistance of **Jacqueline Nogier** and **Monica Brechka**.
- League member **Monika Bingham**, for consenting to be the Elections Secretary.
- President-Elect, **Crystal Reiter**, for collecting the League reports to produce an Annual Report Book that captures the many good works and dedication by members in Manitoba throughout 2021.
- **Donna Candelaria** for her gift of creativity and time in compiling the Annual Report Book for 2021.
- <https://www.bing.com/images/search?q=thank+you+clipart&view=detailv2&&id=28D29EE4E6139C244A556350F5F27030464593B&selectedIndex=37&ccid=ae/LLPhv&simid=608055902830527045&thid=OIP.M69efcb2cf86f1cef14fd433df9056a39H0> **All CWL members** in Keewatin-The Pas, St. Boniface and Winnipeg Dioceses whose dedicated service to 'God and Canada', persevered, particularly during a pandemic year



A BIG BOUQUET TO



St. Dominic's Convention Committee



Valerie Speiss

Norma Kerkowich



Mary Platt

Donna Huck





Leonie Therrien



Glennis Black

Residential Schools – A Prayer for Healing

Our Father and Creator, we acknowledge all the gifts we have received from you. We especially acknowledge the gift of children which points towards a future of hope. We express our sorrow for all those Indigenous children and young people who have suffered through their time at Residential Schools over these past many decades. A suffering that continues for many. We also remember with grieving hearts the children who have died during these years. We remember the pain experienced by their families, relatives and friends and the helplessness that many have felt when they heard of their deaths.

We know that you are a God of mercy and compassion as we see in the love your Son Jesus had for us. We ask for comfort, healing and consolation for all Indigenous peoples who are experiencing pain and sorrow over the Residential Schools legacy. Send your Holy Spirit into all hearts giving courage, humility and wisdom so that all the inhabitants of this land can walk the path of truth and reconciliation in justice, peace, and love. We acknowledge your gifts Father, and we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Prayer for Vocations

Lord Jesus Christ, You took to Yourself a body and soul like ours, to teach us the glory of self-sacrifice and service.

Mercifully instill in our hearts the desire to dedicate our lives to you.

Give us priests and deacons to stand at the altar and to speak the words of the gospel; brothers and sisters to teach the young, nurse the sick and minister charity to all; lay people to imitate You

Prayer for The Holy Father

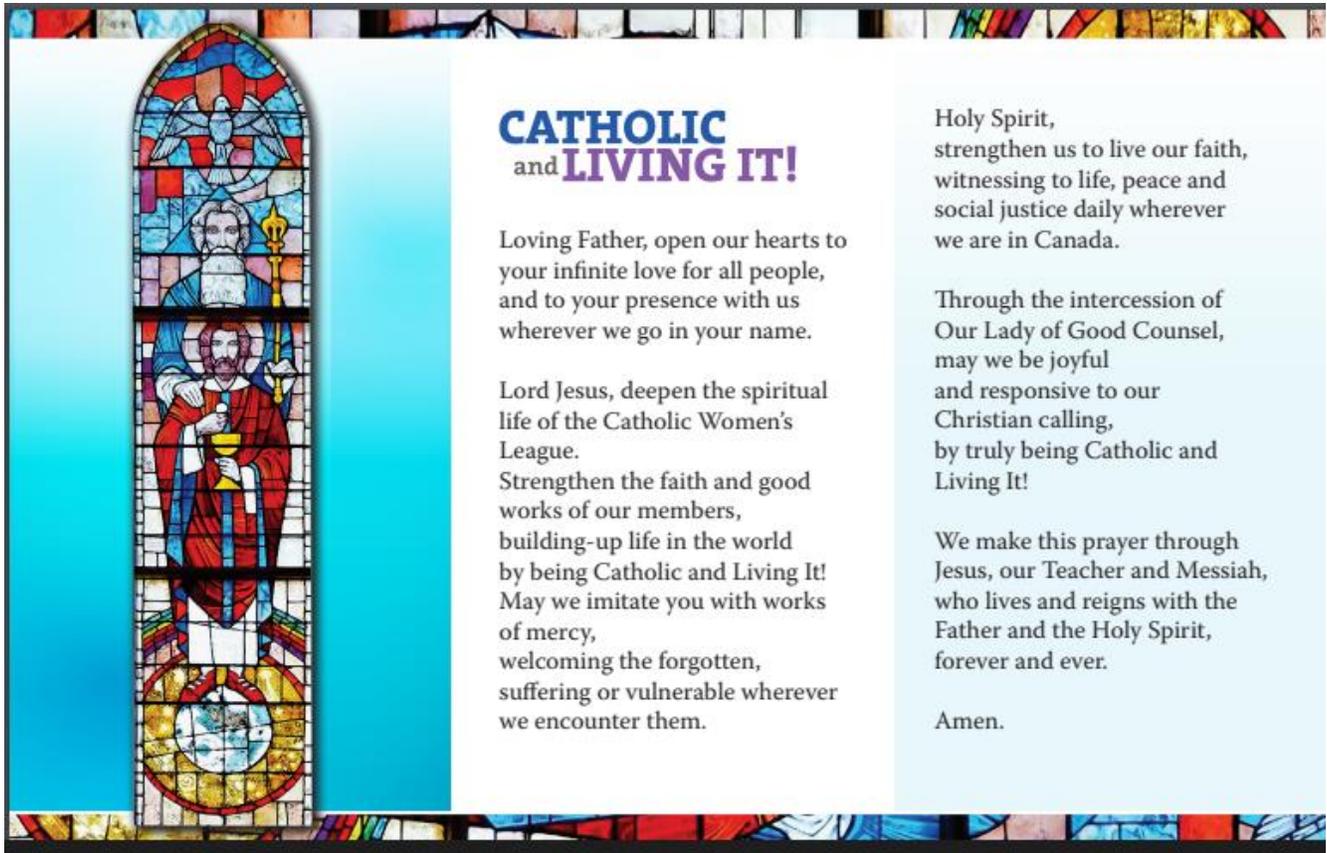
O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful, look with favour upon Your servant Pope Francis, whom You have chosen shepherd of Your Church.

Grant him, we beseech You, that by word and example he may so benefit those in his charge, that, together with the flock entrusted to his care, he may attain everlasting life.

NOTES

NOTES

National Theme January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023



CATHOLIC
and **LIVING IT!**

Loving Father, open our hearts to your infinite love for all people, and to your presence with us wherever we go in your name.

Lord Jesus, deepen the spiritual life of the Catholic Women's League.
Strengthen the faith and good works of our members, building-up life in the world by being Catholic and Living It! May we imitate you with works of mercy, welcoming the forgotten, suffering or vulnerable wherever we encounter them.

Holy Spirit, strengthen us to live our faith, witnessing to life, peace and social justice daily wherever we are in Canada.

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, may we be joyful and responsive to our Christian calling, by truly being Catholic and Living It!

We make this prayer through Jesus, our Teacher and Messiah, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

Amen.



Prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel

**Patroness of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada**

Mary, Our Lady of Good Counsel: filled with the Holy Spirit, you were a faithful disciple of Jesus, your Son.

Intercede with your Son for us that we may be faithful to our baptism, fervent in prayer, and generous in the service we give to our sisters and brothers.

May the spirit of the living God, who graced you with the gift of counsel, lead us in the way of truth and love.

With the help of your prayers, may we come to rejoice forever with you and the great company of saints in the kingdom of heaven.

Amen