The Catholic Women's League of Canada Winnipeg Diocesan Council 97th Annual Convention



April 13 & 14, 2018

St. Michael's Parish Gimli, Manitoba



Our Grateful Appreciation to our Host Council **St. Michael's Parish** Gimli, Manitoba

President- Mary Desveaux

And

The Members of the Convention Committee

Convention Chair – Angela Zalewich
Liturgy – Angela Zalewich
Silent Auction – Christine Swanson
Registration/Credentials – Gail Hurak, Christine Swanson & Marilee Patteson
Hospitality – Mary Desveaux
Treasurer – Barb Magnusson
Banquet – Christine Swanson
Secretary – Marilee Patteson

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is a national organization rooted in gospel values calling its members to holiness through service to the people of God.

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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

OPENING PRAYER

Prayer for Oneself Before a Meeting

Lord, before I go into this meeting, I place myself before You, for You are filled with beauty and light and care deeply about me.

Help me to listen, before speaking.

Help me to respect and understand the opinions of others.

Help me to value and appreciate those I am about to meet.

May Your light enfold me. May Your Spirit guide me.

May Your grace abound in me. I make this prayer through Christ the Lord. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

St. Augustine's Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in us, O Holy Spirit, that our thoughts may all be holy.

Act in us, O Holy Spirit, that our work, too may be holy.

Draw our hearts, O Holy Spirit, that we may love but what is holy.

Strengthen us, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.

Guard us, then O Holy Spirit, that we always may be holy. Amen.



Archdiocese of Winnipeg

Office of the Archbishop

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Dear Members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada,

It is a joy to bring you greetings from the Archdiocese of Winnipeg on the occasion of your 97th Annual Convention of the Archdiocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada. This year's theme is, "Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call." The idea of being inspired by the Holy Spirit and responding to God's call is very timely as 2018 is the concluding year of our Archdiocesan Synod. The Synod closing Liturgy will be on the Solemnity of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday, May 20, 2018 at St. Mary's Cathedral.

One of the greatest lessons that we are learning during our Synodal process, is how to listen to one another and to the voice of the Spirit within our hearts. We must do this if we are to authentically respond to God's call in our lives. And this is absolutely necessary if we are to do what is best for our whole faith community, our Local Church and beyond.

The Catholic Women's League has been listening to God's call for many years in order to do what is best for God and Canada. In the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, the members of the League have admirably sought to build our Church communion and seek to help those in need.

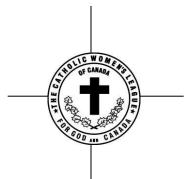
I pray for a very successful convention and that God will bring much good fruit through these days of convention.

With faith filled solidarity, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

*Richard Gagnon Archbishop of Winnipeg

+ Richard Som



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

March 6, 2018

Dear Members of Winnipeg Diocesan Council,

I am delighted to bring greetings on the occasion of your 97th annual convention.

What a wonderful opportunity for members to gather together to celebrate faith, recognize the many achievements of such dedicated, selfless women, share fellowship and deepen their commitment to the League!

Many opportunities will be offered to encounter new ideas, foster new techniques and nourish new hopeful possibilities for the council to undertake. Then inspired by the spirit members can go forth with joy, courage and renewed enthusiasm to respond to God's call.

"Blessed are those whose hearts are ever open to God's inspiration; they will never lack what they need to live good holy lives or perform properly the duties of their state in life." (St. Francis de Sales, *Treatise on the Love of God*)

May God continue to bless the council and all the lives touched with loving kindness and compassion.

Your sister in the League,

margaret ann Jacobs

Margaret Ann Jacobs National President

MAJ/nb

C-702 Scotland Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3M 1X5 Tel: (204) 927-2310 Fax: (204) 927-2321



The Catholic Women's League of Canada MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

National theme: Inspired by the Spirit: Women Respond to God's Call

Dear sisters in the League and friends:

Greetings and blessings! On behalf of Manitoba Provincial Council, it is an honour to bring congratulations and greetings to Winnipeg Diocesan Council's 97th annual convention. You share part of the longevity and the amazing history that The Catholic Women's League of Canada has as it journeys towards 2020 to mark its 100th anniversary of organization. It is because of the many parish councils in Winnipeg Diocese that your diocesan council was organized and several years later, Manitoba Provincial Council came into being.

Parish councils and members who comprise them are the "heartbeat of the League". Your annual reports of the service and dedication by members at the parish level leave no doubt that Winnipeg diocese has been afire in response to our national theme, *Inspired by the Spirit: Women Respond to God's Call!* May God bless you for your good works and advocacy regarding the needs of the marginalized and the many societal injustices that prompted you into action. I affirm you in striving to keep a balance of faith, fun and fulfillment in your meetings. I congratulate you for adjusting to the changing times, especially in the field of technology, where your annual reports are now required to be submitted online. A special 'thank you' goes out to those members who share their time and computer skills to make that possible.

On behalf of Manitoba Provincial Council, I also take this opportunity to thank the many members in your diocese who have volunteered on committees for the planning of the 2018 national convention that will be hosted this year in Manitoba. Planning has been five years in process and we are officially months away from completing the task at hand. May you be joyful ambassadors of the League and of Manitoba, as you greet the many delegates that visit our fair city of Winnipeg to attend the national convention!

I am heartened and encouraged by the dedication and engagement in League events and leadership opportunities that members have shown. The future of the League looks bright because of the many capable and enthusiastic leaders that continue to emerge from parish councils. Continue to affirm and encourage members to serve at the diocesan and provincial levels. Manitoba needs them, the League needs them!

Congratulations for having made your voices heard and for having taken part in the strategic planning initiated by national council at its 2017 convention in Charlottetown, PEI. The process has been extensive, and the ongoing consultations will contribute to what our members from across Canada envision for the League of the future. Please pray that members will accept and embrace change with open hearts and minds, believing that every step of the way, the League has been led through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

May your convention experience be one of prayer, laughter and hugs as you renew friendships and make new ones. May you benefit from the business portion, the reports, the speakers, the resolutions that form part of a convention. My hope for all is that you will be energized and affirmed for having participated and that the Holy Spirit will inspire and help you discern new ways to respond to serving God and Canada through membership in the League.

With prayerful best wishes, Rolande Chernichan Provincial President

St. Anthony of Padua Hungarian RC Church

371 Burnell Street, Winnipeg, MB

Our Lady of Lourdes Slovenian RC Church

95 MacDonald Avenue, Winnipeg, MB

† † †

Office: 365 Burnell Street, Winnipeg, MB, R3G 2B1 Phone: 204-772-8140; Email: alpastor@mymts.net

Dear Sisters of the Catholic Women's League,

I am grateful for this opportunity to greet you all with God's grace, joy, and peace as we gather for our 97th annual convention in Gimli, Manitoba!

The Lord Jesus calls and sends us to the world we live in to proclaim the Good News of love, forgiveness, and holiness.

In Luke 10:1-3 Jesus called and sent 72 disciples two by two, and saying "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Prayer helps us immensely in our work for our families, parishes and country. I believe that God make things possible even when we thought that they are impossible.

The scriptures laid out for us to experience daily the following three processes in our Christian discipleship. First, Jesus calls us to himself, to make us strong and holy. Second, he sends us to our world to spread his compassion and transformation. He said, "Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves." (Luke 10:3).

And thirdly, he gives us the power we need to fulfill His will. Again in Luke 10:17, the seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

Let us therefore be open to these processes and our Lord will use us, CWL of Canada, powerfully for the good of our country.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph protect our families and Canada.

Peace.



Fr. Dado Parrenas, Winnipeg Diocesan Spiritual Advisor

Winnipeg Diocesan Council Spiritual Advisors



1921-23	Fr. William Heffron
1923-26	Fr. Thomas W Morton
1926-28	Fr. William Heffron
1928-30	Fr. Joseph A. Webb
1932-34	Fr. Cornelius B. Collins
1938-39	Fr. Auguste Dorion Rheaume
1939-40	Fr. Frank Ryder Wood
1940-44	Fr. Gaston J. St. Jacques
1944-46	Fr. Charles J. Kelly, S.J.
1946-48	Fr. Christopher Keenan, S.J.
1949-55	Fr. Joseph E. Campbell
1955-63	Msgr. Ignatius Edward Zielonka
1963-70	Fr. Eugene Ludwig Oroskovits
1970-75	Fr. Arthur F. Seaman
1975-77	Fr. Alois Justen, S.A.C.
1977-82	Fr. Christian H. Soeterbock
1982-87	Fr. Louis J. McCloskey
1987-92	Fr. Stanislaus A. Jaworski
1992-97	Fr. Leo M. Fernandes
1997-98	Fr. Samuel N. Argenziano
1998-03	Fr. Terrance P. McGrath
2003-13	Fr. Barry D. Schoonbaert
2013-17	Fr. Michael M. Wollbaum
2017-	Fr. Diosdado Parrenas

O Jesus, our great High Priest, Hear my humble prayers on behalf of your priest, Father [N]. Give him a deep faith, a bright and firm hope and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of his priestly life.

In his loneliness, comfort him In his sorrows, strengthen him In his frustrations, point out to him that it is through suffering that the soul is purified, and show him that he is needed by the Church, he is needed by souls, he is needed for the work of redemption.

O loving Mother Mary, Mother of Priests, take to your heart your son who is close to you because of his priestly ordination, and because of the power which he has received to carry on the work of Christ in a world which needs him so much.

Be his comfort, be his joy, be his strength, and especially help him to live and to defend the ideals of consecrated celibacy.

Amen.

Winnipeg Diocesan Council Presidents

1921-22 1923	Mrs. M. G. McNeill Mrs. C. E. Kennedy	1964-66 1966-67	Mrs. Patricia Johnston Mrs. Ethel Barker
1924	Mrs. Donald McKenty	1967-69	Mrs. Viola Specht
1925	Mrs. Martin Murphy (Acting President)	1969-71	Mrs. Kathleen Williams
1926-27	Mrs. Janet Philley	1971-73	Miss. Bernadette Russell
1928	Mrs. Katherine McPike (Wpg, Dst Sub Div)	1973-75	Mrs. Katherine Komatich
1926-28	Mrs. J. Hughes (Wpg. Dst. Sub Div)	1975-77	Mrs. Elsie Litwin
1928-29	Mrs. T. J. Rice	1977-79	Mrs. Jean Keating
1929-32	Mrs. Annie H. Murphy	1979-81	Mrs. Inge Rau
1932	Jennie Rice	1981-83	Mrs. Mary Bennett
Oct 1932 -34	Mrs. Harry Walsh	1983-85	Mrs. Helen Bembenek
1934-35	Mrs. E. McPike	1985-87	Mrs. Betty David
1935-37	Mrs. McMahon	1987-89	Mrs. Linda Parker
1937-39	Mrs. D. O'Meara	1989-91	Mrs. Rita O'Neill
Jan 39-Mar 39	9 Mrs. J. O. Latremouille	1991-93	Mrs. Yvonne Lewandoski
Mar 39-Jan 4	1 Mrs. B.M. Mooney	1993-95	Dr. Rayleen DeLuca
Jan 41-Oct 42	2 Mrs. Mulvaney	1995-97	Mrs. Suzanne Kiazyk
1942-44	Mrs. Florence Fabris	1997-99	Mrs. Bernice Mandzik
1944-46	Mrs. W. A. Sullivan	1999-01	Mrs. Dolores Blanchard
1946-48	Mrs. W. E. Reade	2001-03	Mrs. Jeanne Tinsley
1948-50	Mrs. Margaret Kelly	2003-05	Miss. Melba Rous
1950-52	Mrs. Mary Panaro	2005-07	Mrs. Dina Auriti
1952-54	Miss. Margaret Delaney	2007-09	Mrs. Albertine Moran
1954-55	Miss. Rhoda Tucker	2009-11	Mrs.Mary-Margaret Patterson
1956-58	Miss. Mary C. Geraghty	2011-13	Mrs. Janet Brunger
1958-60	Mrs. Evelyn Pound	2013-15	Mrs. Lea Colbeck
1960-62	Miss. Ethel MacDonald	2015-17	Mrs. Con Marks
1962-64	Mrs. Mary Pungente	2017-	Mrs. Rose Anne Seymour

Ultimately, leadership is not about glorious crowning acts. It's about keeping your team focused on a goal and motivated to do their best to achieve it,

especially when the stakes are high and the consequences really matter.

It is about laying the groundwork for others' success, and then standing back and letting them shine.

-Chris Hadfield

Life Members

Faith Anderson – St. Boniface Susan Bernier - St. Boniface Dolores Blanchard - Winnipeg Monica Brechka - St. Boniface Rolande Chernichan - St. Boniface Rayleen De Luca – Winnipeg Beatrice Gross – Winnipeg Patricia Johnston – Winnipeg Suzanne Kiazyk – Winnipeg Albertine Moran - Winnipeg Ella Nogier- Keewatin - The Pas Jacqueline Nogier - Keewatin-The Pas Linda Parker – Winnipeg Mary-Margaret Patterson - Winnipeg Shirley Scaletta - St. Boniface Terri Scott – Winnipeg Margaret Silverthorne - St. Boniface Jeanne Tinsley - Winnipeg

Bellelle Guerin Award Recipients

Dina Auriti
Alice Belanger
Donna Candalaria
Georgina Cielen
Jacqueline DeCorby
Joyce Ewatski
Barbara Hamm
Yvonne Levandoski
Bernice Mandzik
Inge Rau

Please remember in your prayers, our Deceased Members of 2017

Blanche Audet

Barbara Bakensztos

Pauline Banash

Yvonne Barnett

Lynn Bashuski

Louise Begyn

Georgette Bradshaw

Marjorie Chranowksi

Julia Cooper

Eva Durston

Anne Franz

Theresa Gryba

Theresia Huetter

Myrtle Janisse

Patricia Johnston

Julianna Karigity

Virginia Kenney

Jean Kiazyk

Stella Kwiatkowski Loretta Langlois Magdelene Lavallee

Anne Marcinkow

Polly Merckx

Sandra Mosienko

Annie Mosset

Cathy Nizio

Amelita PinPin

Doreen Pitzel

Mary Anne Rojeski

Claire Sarna

Dolores Sitarz

Lena Tanguay

Patricia Tennescoe

Isa Vandaele

Margaret Vaneenoo

Adela Vanrobaeys

Janina Wasilewski

Rita Joanne Wasslen

Kathryna Wilkie

97TH ANNUAL WINNIPEG DIOCESAN CONVENTION APRIL 13TH AND 14TH, 2018

AGENDA

FRIDAY, APRIL 13TH

11:30 am - 1:00 pm Registration

1:00 pm - 4:15 pm *Opening Ceremonies*

Procession of Flags and Banners

Welcome

Housekeeping

Spiritual Program

Roll Call

Accreditation Report

Adoption of:

- Agenda
- Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure
- Standing Rules of Convention
- 2017 Convention Minutes

Greetings

Spiritual Advisor's Remarks

Parish Presidents' Reports

Diocesan Policy and Procedure Manual

Treasurer's Report

Correspondence Report

Diocesan Executive Reports

5:00 pm Opening Mass at St. Michael's Church with installation of

new Diocesan Spiritual Advisor

6:30 pm Gathering and Banquet at the Waterfront Center

SATURDAY, APRIL 14th

8:00 am - 9:00 am Registration

9:00 am - 11:30 am *Welcome*

Housekeeping

Spiritual Program

Roll Call

Credentials Report

Greetings (if anyone missed)

Executive Reports (if required)

2018 CWL National Convention - Susan Bernier

CWL Leadership Program - Faith Anderson

Mass Collection Donation to Charity

11:30 am - 12:15 pm Mass at St. Michael's Church with reaffirmation of officers

12:15 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm - 1:05 pm Registration Report

1:05 pm - 2:00 pm CWL National Office speaker- Kim Scammell

2:00 pm - 2:10 pm Stretch Break

2:10 pm - 3:00 pm Spiritual Presentation - Deacon Philip Durant

3:00 pm - 3:10 pm Stretch Break

3:10 pm - 4:00 pm Speaker- RCMP member Paul Human

4:00 pm - 4:10 pm Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Lowering of Flags



Winnipeg Diocesan Council Diocesan Executive 2017-2019

Spiritual Advisor
President
President Elect
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Treasurer
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary

Past President

Rev. Diosdado Parrenas Rose Anne Seymour Pat Ward Colleen Zaluski Chris Carlyle Beverly Struch Carol Mackenzie-Gruber

Maria Mikawoz Con Marks

Chairpersons of Standing Committees

Spiritual Development Organization Christian Family Life Community Life Education & Health Communications Resolutions Legislation Colleen Zaluski
Pat Ward
Jacqueline Derksen
Monika Bingham
Chris Carlyle
Mary Bibik
Alane Cason
Judy Albiani



Winnipeg Diocesan Councils 2017-2019

W1	Sacred Heart - prayer council	Melita
W3	Holy Ghost	Winnipeg
W7	Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Winnipeg
W9	Our Lady of Victory - prayer council	Winnipeg
W10	Notre Dame	Selkirk
W11	Sacred Heart	Virden
W13	St. Antoninus - prayer council	Deloraine
W14	St. Anthony of Padua	Winnipeg
W15	St. Augustine of Canterbury	Brandon
W16	Our Lady of Lourdes	Winnipeg
W17	St. Columba	Swan River
W18	St. Edward the Confessor	Winnipeg
W19	St. James-Assiniboia	Winnipeg
W23	St. John Brebeuf	Winnipeg
W24	St. John Cantius	Winnipeg
W28	St. Mary's Cathedral	Winnipeg
W29	St. Joseph's	Winnipeg
W30	St. Joseph the Worker	Russell
W32	St. Theresa's - prayer council	Middlechurch
W33	St. Michael's	Gimli
W34	St. Peter's	Winnipeg
W35	St. Vital	Winnipeg
W38	St. Viator's	Dauphin
W41	St. Dominic's	Neepawa
W42	Good Shepherd	Portage la Prairie
W43	Sacred Heart	Roblin
W44	St. Gianna Beretta Molla - prayer council	Winnipeg

Winnipeg Diocesan Executive Reports



The following report is taken from information provided by the national summary of presidents' annual reports.

STATISTICS

I have taken the time to read over the reports from the different Winnipeg Diocesan chairs and have found a sense of pride and hard work that was achieved last year. The presidents' report participation rate was 57.7%. Each council had a president or contact person and that person personally filled out the report.

INFORM THE MEMBERSHIP

The number one-way council presidents informed their members was with the help of diocesan newsletters. The Canadian League magazine and national communiques followed in second and third place respectively. As in the previous year, physician – assisted dying, palliative care and conscience of rights of healthcare providers were the top three current national priorities that were discussed or acted upon by the councils. The majority of councils set aside time at the general meetings to discuss and take action on these subjects.

FOSTER OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

Councils fostered open communication by meeting with their spiritual advisor at least once a month but about one third rarely met with him even though support was high.

PRESIDE AT MEETINGS

Constitution and Bylaws, the policy and procedure manual and Robert's Rules of Orderrevised were the top three resources used to preside at meeting. Councils also used the executive handbook and the National Manual of Policy and Procedure. From the replies on the survey, it seems that councils know where to go to get information.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Over 93 % of presidents have signed cheques on behalf of their council. 60 % signed banking documents and letters directed within the CWL.

PROVIDE ACTIVE LEADERSHIP

The number one event where the presidents have represented their council was church functions. Diocesan meetings and conventions followed close behind with 93% and 86 % respectively. It was also nice to see representation at conferences and the World Day of Prayer. When attending conferences, over 50 % of presidents did not have their expenses paid while 40% had all their expenses paid for. A majority of presidents had all their diocesan convention expenses paid for. For fundraising dinners and events, the numbers were the same as attending conferences. None of the presidents had their expenses paid for to attend the National convention. The numbers were a bit better for the Provincial convention with 22% having no expenses paid for while 44 % had all their expenses paid for. Over half of the presidents had all their expenses paid for to attend workshops while one third had no expenses paid for. It is good to see that presidents attend and support diocesan and provincial conventions and workshops.

INITIATE POLICY

The councils were asked what new policies have been included in their manual in 2017. Some of the responses were – award recipients, the council policy and procedure manual was brought up to date and approved by the council, expense policies, and progress on council financial decisions. The number one policy was funeral protocol and honor guard with three councils listing this as their new policy.

KEEP INFORMED

Over 93% of presidents have read the executive handbook and understand the duties of their executive team. The executive handbook has assisted a majority of the presidents in the responsibility of overseeing the councils' operations.

ADVISORY CAPACITY

Email was the number one method used to provide an annual summary of the council's activities to all members. It was closely followed by a newsletter. Only 13% do not provide a summary. The top three committees, other than standing committees, that councils have are fundraising, annual events such as teas, bazaars etc and scholarships or bursaries.

OFFICIAL SPOKESPERSON

The council presidents have spoken on behalf of their council on issues like palliative care, membership, local charitable projects and council social events. Euthanasia was reported at over one third of the presidents—and this was the same percentage as to no issues were spoken on. That comes out to 6 councils. Three quarters of the presidents use League letterhead when corresponding outside the League. The majority of presidents ensure that in all of their external correspondence, they reference only the membership total for the council that they represent.

SUMMARY AND FINAL THOUGHTS

It was heartwarming to see that when the presidents assumed their role, they replied on assistance from the former past presidents, immediate past presidents, the current executive and diocesan council. One council really praised the Lap Blanket Project

and hopes to continue this practice with their visitation of their elderly members or anyone that is suffering. Another council described the trying times in getting a full executive. She is chairperson of 7 other committees so that the CWL structure can be maintained. One of the prayer councils keeps up with diocesan, provincial and national issues but still manages to do good works in the community. Another president shared that she is pleased with the presence of the CWL in the parish community. They are seeing the results of their increased visibility in the parish. One council has mentioned the very common thread seen in many councils- aging CWL population. Many of their members do not know how to use a computer. They are having problems printing out blank forms so that the convenors would be able to use them to fill out. They have requested that this is something that could be discussed before we go completely paperless.

It is heart breaking to read of councils having issues with getting new members and then having to deal with the electronic age. Some councils have embraced the new age and some councils are having issues. It is wonderful that it has come to our attention and I am hoping help is on its way to answer your many questions.

On a final note, out of 27 active and prayer councils, only 15 councils have completed the president annual report survey for 2017. Twelve have not completed the report. This report gives us a small glimpse into the life of the councils. It would of been nice to have more presidents complete the report but we are happy with those who have and wish that next year, more councils join us in reporting their good works in their councils. Remember help is always a phone call or email away. You have received assistance from your past presidents. But reach out further and contact your diocesan executive. We are there for you.

This concludes my report,



Rose Anne Seymour, CWL Winnipeg Diocesan President

WINNIPEG CWL DIOCESAN COUNCIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 2017 TO DECEMBER 31, 2017

The financial statements have been removed as they are only pertinent to Winnipeg Diocesan Council.

The financial statements are available upon request. Should you personally wish to receive the financial statements, please contact the Winnipeg Diocesan Council President.

WINNIPEG CWL DIOCESAN COUNCIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 2017 TO DECEMBER 31, 2017

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SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Number of Councils reporting 15 out of 27 = 55.56%

SPIRITUAL GROWTH OF MEMBERS

12 councils studied the theme. Very little used suggested resources but did us other resources for meeting spiritual programs. 4 councils reported that they did not know there were resources on the CWL website. 8 councils said that 1/3 of their meetings are Spiritual. They all use a variety of Liturgy Programs. I was surprised to see that 6 councils did not celebrate Our Lady of Good Council Feast day in some way

STUDY OF CATHOLIC TEACHINGS

Half of the councils attended lay formation of some kind. 1 council reported that their spiritual adviser does not attend meetings. This could be because of the day they hold meetings. 12 councils are able to attend mass before or after meetings. 12 have not reviewed funeral protocols that were in the League Magazine. Not one council reported studying Encyclicals. 11 councils reported that they do not encourage its members to enroll in groups that study the teachings. I find this very disheartening. Continuing education of our faith should be part of our everyday life, there is always something new to learn.

ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

3 councils rook part in studies of women in scripture yet 10 say they promote awareness of women's place in the church and society. All councils responded some participation in leadership roles in their parishes.

EVANGELIZATION AND MISSION ASSISTANCE

6 councils participate with their K of C councils in the Keep Christ in Christmas program and 10 have supported Catholic Missions in Canada.

LAY MINISTRIES

Our councils confirmed participation in the following lay ministries as Spiritual Development chairs and members: Catechists, Choir, Cleaning, Decorating, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Facilitators, Hospitality, Lectors and Sacristans.

ECUMENISM AND INTERFAITH ENDEAVOURS

More information is needed to be passed on to councils regarding Week of Christian Unity and WUCWO as only 3 and 2 councils participated (respectively) in these events.

PERSONAL NOTE.

As Diocesan Spiritual Chair, I was a little saddened by these reports. Although many members participate and are active in their parish life - spiritual growth at meetings, and personal growth are not encouraged at parish level. I have brought a few programs in to help spiritual growth of

members however parishioners participation out number CWL participation. I am not sure how we could remedy this situation, but I will continue to provide studies, workshops and programs and would be happy to help bring them to any parish whether you would like me to lead them or if you would like to borrow them. Please let me know if you are interested.

This concludes my report



Colleen Zaluski, Spiritual Development Chair

God, our Creator, You give us life and support us with love.

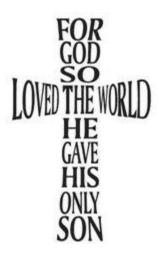
Send your Spirit of compassion to dwell in our midst as we meet here today.

Help us to be respectful and just in our discernment and decisions.

May we be mindful of the needs of all in our community

and help us to honor one another in a courteous manner.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



ORGANIZATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Number of councils reporting 14 out of 26 = 53.85%

RECRUIT MEMBERS AND MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to the councils that did their reports electronically as this is still in the early stage (year two) of doing our reports online. 14 out of 26 reports were received. We encourage all councils to submit their next annual report online.

Recruitment is the ACTION of finding new members to join our wonderful league. By believing in the league and with prayers our membership numbers can climb! The following percentages reflect the recruitment efforts of the reporting councils. A high percentage of councils advertise in their church bulletins (85.71%); some councils have CWL Sundays (50%); presentations at masses (50%) and also do personal invitations (78.57%). Other methods of recruitment were promotional displays (21.43%), Spiritual Advisor's support (14.29%) and the telephone tree (7.14%). For the members that no longer are able to participate, they receive newsletters and/or minutes, as well as cards. Some councils give them gifts on special occasions; share baking with them. Although we can see that the recruitment highest percentage of 71.43% was for personal visits and 50% for inviting former member to events.

Recognizing members has been mostly achieved by presentation of service pins (85.71%); followed by presentation of the Maple Leaf pin (42.86%). Some councils have awarded members with the honour of receiving the Bellelle Guerin Award. Other ways to recognize our members were New Member Ceremonies, Presentation of Awards, and Reaffirmation Ceremonies.

In some councils the new members received a new member's kit. To engage members in conversations (64.29%) and invitations to CWL events are the most common methods. Member renewal has a higher percentage of being done online. Reminder of membership fees are done by announcements at Mass and in meetings (100%); church bulletins (50%) and by email (64.29%). For some councils by phone (85.71%) is the preferred method.

For membership drives the highest percentage of materials purchased were service pins at 71.43%. Next in line at 21.43% are Invitation Cards, Mass Cards, Membership Certificates, Prayer Cards, and prepared material by council itself.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The response for whether members participated in League Development Days offered were 38.46% Yes, with 61.54% No. Members participating in Diocesan Convention, Diocesan Retreat Days, Leadership Workshops, National Convention and Provincial Conventions are not highly attended. Here again, a role on another level of the League could be much better.

LEAGUE RESOURCE MATERIAL

As you know there is an abundance of League resource material available to councils. The major resource material used by councils are Constitution & Bylaws (92.86%); Executive Handbook (92.86%); League Prayers (92.86%); and The Canadian League Magazine (92.86%). Next in line would be CWL Prays and National Manual of Policy and Procedure are at 78.57%.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The response for using guidelines to assist executive members in completing their reports, 53.85% Yes and 46.15% No. Meeting as a group and having minutes available were of the highest with 69.23% method used to complete annual reports.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The response for Life Members belonging to parish councils are 28.57% Yes, and 71.43% No. Life Members within a council providing guidance and wisdom on issues of concern to members show the percentage as 35.71%. A high percentage 42.86% have not benefitted as there are no Life Members within their area.

Under summary and final thoughts, I chose two stories submitted by councils to close with and they are:

"Our Council of women enjoy engaging within parish activities of service. They are involved in all areas of parish activities. We use the guidance of our senior members, one who is a Bellelle Guerin award recipient. We do all areas of reception. This year we held a drive for supplies for seniors, for babies, and to raise money with a raffle and a tea for Agape Table. We work funeral lunches, sacramental receptions, and most recently hosted the reception for a fundraiser for Chez Nous."

"As I am also the President I do this position as well so that the CWL structure can be maintained. I rely on the council treasurer who really puts her heart and soul into collecting the membership, many times making arrangements to visit a member and ultimately collect their membership, especially those who are not able to get out. If not for her our council numbers would be very low. It is hard to get someone to do this despite asking, noting at every meeting, but NO ONE COMES FORWARD, MOST OF OUR MEMBERS ARE ELDERLY. It is very disheartening at times as our council was always very vibrant for many years (many have passed) but the cultural makeup now of our large parish is not supportive of the CWL."

This concludes my report,



Pat Ward, Organization



CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

Number of councils reporting 14 out of 27 = 51.85%

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

A number of resources have been suggested in 2017 to assist parish council chairpersons in their planning. Two councils accessed "The Joy of Love" at the Heart of the Family Publication, five councils the CCCB Life and Family Website, two councils the Laityfamilylife.va website and one council the Prayers and Rituals for the Home booklet. One council promoted Encounter weekends for engaged couples, two promoted Marriage encounter weekends, four councils promoted marriage preparation courses, two councils promoted natural family planning methods. Seventy-five percent of councils did not make this a priority for them.

Forty-one percent of the councils planned to promote the next World Meeting of Families to be held in Dublin, Ireland in 2018. Four councils or 33% attended workshops or seminars on the topic of family life. A few councils celebrated or organized events for Father's Day, Liturgical celebrations for Married Couples, Mother's Day, National Family Week and Special Anniversaries.

SANCTITY OF LIFE

Six out of 14 councils responding hold memberships in a local pro-life organization. Councils attended the following: 40 Days of Life, Life Chain, March for Life, National Week for Life and Family Events, Pro-life dinners, Pro-life masses, Pro-life vigils and pro-life walks. Councils donated money or gifts to the following organizations that advocate for sanctity of life issues: Campaign Life Coalition, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, Life Canada, Pregnancy & Family Support Services (now called THRIVE), and Priests for Life. Ten councils or 71% have lent their support to pro-life legislators. One council placed a bassinette in their vestibule for parishioners to donate baby items and then these items were given to two babies in the parish.

MINISTRY TO:

Youth – Two councils have begun promoting the World Youth Day in Panama in 2019. Six councils have participated in programs for young people in their parish. Ten councils have encouraged young people to share their gifts in ministry. Councils promoted Girl Guides of Canada, Leadership camps or retreats, NET Ministries, summer camps, Sunday school, World Youth Day and Youth Conferences. Four councils or 28% purchased subscriptions to Catholic magazines, videos or books for use in the local community, school or parish library.

Disabled - Five councils invited disabled persons to take part in liturgical celebrations. Four councils organized or participated in support groups and respite for caregivers. Thirteen councils provide assistance to disabled persons living on their own. One council has urged communities to make churches and other public buildings more accessible. Four councils supported shelters or programs to assist the disabled. Council members have reached out to the disabled by bringing them communion, giving them gifts on special occasions, organizing special events, prayed for them, provided transportation and sent cards or called or visited them.

Seniors – Council members have helped seniors in their community by doing the following: bringing them communion, gifted senior members with membership, invited newly-retired women to join their councils, invited them to share their faith story, involved them in CWL events, involved them in intercessory prayer, organized social events, prayed with them in their home, provided respite care for caregivers, provided transportation for them, sent cads of encouragement, shared a meal with them, supported shelters for abused seniors, visited or called them. Quilts were delivered to three nursing homes.

Widowed – Council members have done the following with widows and widowers in their community: - arranged memorial services and/or funeral lunches, encouraged participation in programs offered by the parish, ensured there is a bereavement program in the parish, gifted them with prayer shawls, included them in family outings, invited them to attend community events, invited widows to attend CWL meetings and events, provided prayer and support after the death of the spouse, sent cards of condolence, visited or called them.

Separated & Divorced – Very few councils focused on this ministry. Two councils have invited them to join group outings and one council has offered their time should they need a confidant.

Vocations – Councils and their members have undertaken a variety of options to promote religious vocations. They have adopted or supported seminarians, encouraged families to discuss vocations with their children, encouraged families to invite priests and religious into their home, hosted luncheons for priests and religious, invited priests and religious to speak on vocations, offered mass for vocations, sent spiritual bouquets, supported discernment events for youths, supported priestly retirement funds and supported Serra.

<u>COMMENTS</u> – To commemorate the Year of Mercy a parish collection of toiletries, undergarments and socks for the homeless was undertaken and donated to Siloam Mission & Resource Assistance for Youth.

Members were encouraged to send e-mails of protest to Global Television regarding their release of their euthanasia focused new series "Mary Kills People". One council organized the children of the parish to bring flowers to Mary prior to the beginning of mass on Mother's Day. One council organized a screening of the DVD "Euthanasia Deception" at their parish hall. A silver collection was taken up and sent to Euthanasia Deception Coalition. One council provided through their bulletin and gathering rites messages on the topics of Marriage & Family, Sanctity of Life, and Ministry to the youth, disabled, seniors, widowed, separated & divorced.

One council held a respect life collection drive for seniors, and for infants at the same time, to show respect for life, through the age continuum.

May our Lady of Good Counsel continue to bless each and every one of you.

This concludes my report,



Jacqueline Derksen, Christian Family Life

COMMUNICATIONS

Number of councils reporting 12 out of 27 = 44.44%

THE CANADIAN LEAGUE MAGAZINE

Thank you to the 12 councils for submitting your annual reports. Noted that some councils do not have a communications chairperson and so it is very gratifying to have others step up and send out communication about their parish council. Thank you for doing that. 50% of councils found the League magazine to be a very important resource for advocacy action, resource for new ideas and a great spiritual resource. Wonderful to report 66% found the Canadian League magazine to be a very good educational tool.

MEDIA: FOR EVANGELIZATION; TO PROMOTE THE LEAGUE; EVALUATION AND PROMOTION OF GOOD CONTENT AND NEWSLETTERS AND BULLETINS

50% of councils reported they did not promote World Communication Day in June. 50 supported or viewed Salt & Light T.V. and 41% the Prairie Messenger. 66% encourage faith-oriented programs. Regarding the live- feed on cwl.ca of the 2017 National Convention in Charlottetown, 25% reported watching the speaker, Ken Yasinski on the topic: Becoming a Living Thank you. 58% of councils produce newsletters and 28% do this quarterly. The newsletter is distributed by e-mail but hard copies are made available for those without access to computer. Information from the parish council is usually posted in the parish bulletin and their bulletin board.

MEDIA RELATIONS

5 out of 12 councils encouraged members to monitor media content. 83% reported voicing their objection regarding the television series Mary Kills People to the Global Television Network and the Canadian Broadcasting Standards Council.

Most councils use their weekly parish bulletins to get out information as well as using their bulletin boards to display posters, yearly calendars, list of Executive council, and any important correspondence as well as Thank you cards. Our CWL Facebook site is a great place to post pictures along with the activities done by the council. Another is the League website in On the Spot.

PORNOGRAPH

83% of councils chose not to participate this year (2017) in distributing the postcard Pornography Hurts. Those that did participate did so in February and March. 33% of councils encouraged members to become educated on internet safety and responsible and appropriate technology. Regarding Sanctity of Life 41% submitted material for publication to the media.

COMMENTS

One council responded that they had a screening of Euthanasia Deception (July 7, 2017) that was attended by about 30 people and the proceeds from silver collection went to Euthanasia Deception Coalition.

Another council reported that an article on their council activities is submitted monthly for the parish newsletter and a copy is sent to the diocesan communications chairperson. I have contacted communication chairs in the various parishes to please send me updates on their councils activities and so I Thank you to those that have followed through and encourage all councils to do so. Even if you do not have a Communications chairperson perhaps the president or other executive members can do so. Your updates on your council activities is very inspiring and is a good tool for inspiring other councils to get some fresh ideas. It seems that there is a lot of information past on through e-mails and beyond that, through Facebook and the CWL site 'On the Spot'. This awesome!

One last note is that one council has just become aware of Sony's move to delete explicit violence and sexuality, and bad language of films, to make the movies family friendly. Wouldn't this be a great accomplishment!

This concludes my report,



Mary Bibik, Communications



COMMUNITY LIFE

Number of Councils Reporting: 13 out of 27 = 48.15%

Thank you to the councils who were able to complete this annual report. Of the 13 councils that submitted information, one indicated that the position was vacant. I would strongly encourage that all councils report vacancies so that we can realistically understand the organization's strengths and challenges. As we become more accustomed to the electronic reporting, I anticipate that the number of responses will grow. Unfortunately, there was a technical issue at National Office that affected the collation of your submitted data and you may find that some of the information you included in your reports, is not reflected in my report. This is a one-time problem that will be corrected for the future.

DIGNITY AND RIGHTS OF PERSONS

Nine of the responding councils indicated that they were familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In previous years, councils reported that they supported minority groups in a variety of ways. Unfortunately, the information about the activities that provide the support to minority groups was not available this year because of technical issues. We all know that our councils have continued with these very essential initiatives. The general comment section of your reports indicated that councils engage in activities to support seniors in their communities and they participate in recycling efforts. Additionally, one council indicated that they participated in a fundraiser for Christians in the Holy Land. This work is the one of the primary focus points for our organization.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Nine chairpersons indicated that they had gained awareness of the struggles of our Indigenous sisters and 1 council invited an Indigenous woman to lead a workshop. Resolution 2017.01, which directed the federal courts in Canada to ensure that Gladue reports are provided to federal judges before sentencing Indigenous offenders, was monitored by 2 councils.

Eleven councils reported that they had encouraged members to participate in the work of organizations caring for those in need, but unfortunately, the data which itemizes the organizations councils support and whether the support is prayerful, volunteer or financial, was not available. Again, we are all aware that these critical activities continue, but they cannot be itemized at this time.

Five councils indicated that they support organizations geared toward assisting Indigenous people and 2 councils indicated that they became more familiar with restorative justice and prison ministry.

Only 2 councils indicated that they had assisted in the online consultation process regarding the Canada Poverty Reduction Strategy.

REFUGEES, IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP

CWL members celebrated Canada's 150th birthday in a variety of ways. In one community the ladies were the torch bearers! In another, the CWL donated 150 different school supplies to a local drop in centre so that some children could have new school supplies in September. This group also donated 150 notebooks and pencils to MCC for distribution in other countries. In addition to celebrating through prayer and in their own ways, ladies participated in a living flag, in various other community celebrations and in multicultural Canada Day celebrations. It is clear that Catholic women love to celebrate and do so quite creatively.

Catholic Women are informing themselves about Canada's official immigration and refugee policies and are gaining insight into the needs of immigrants and refugees in their communities. The majority indicated that they could differentiate between temporary foreign workers, refugees and immigrants. The reports indicated that members feel that they have fair to good understanding of:

- * availability of employment services
- * availability of English language courses
- * countries of origin of immigrants and refugees
- * available financial assistance for food and rent
- * numbers of immigrants and refugees in their communities

A majority of councils indicated, that other than monitoring it, they have not implemented the action plan called for in resolution 2016.01 (Equal access to Permanent Resident Status, An Amendment to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act). Three councils did write letters to the Prime Minister, the minister of immigration and their members of parliament.

As Canadian citizens, members participated in Remembrance Day services, wore red on Friday in support of Canadian troops and supported the Royal Canadian Legion's poppy campaign. Additionally, 2 councils participated in citizenship ceremonies.

In March of 2017, our national president wrote to the prime minister to express concern about the 650 million taxpayer dollars provided to developing countries by the federal government for the support of sexual health and reproductive health programs, including abortion. Unfortunately, the data about council responses and actions on this critical issue are not available due to technical reasons.

Chairpersons are gaining awareness of child labour in developing countries and indicate that they need to learn more about the implications of trade laws and practices in the global economy.

CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE (CCODP)

Unfortunately, the data about the implementation of CCODP's fall campaign and participation in the 1% national voluntary fund and the 50th Share Lent Campaign – Women at the Heart of Change are not available for technical reasons.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Our councils are strong supporters of CCODP who support many organizations that focus solely on developing countries. The most common groups that councils support include:

- * Canadian Red Cross
- * Catholic Near East Welfare Association
- * Chalice
- * Holy Childhood Association
- * Save a Family Plan

Your reports indicate that our councils and our organization are as busy and vibrant as ever. I commend you for the work you do. I know that a report cannot possibly reflect all the issues you follow and all the matters about which you pray. Keep up the amazing work. May Our Lady of Good Counsel guide your work and bless your lives.

This concludes my report,



Monika Bingham, Community Life



EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Number of councils reporting 15 out of 27 = 55.55%

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

- (i) Catholic schools and catechesis
- (ii) Rites of Christian Initiation

Of the 12 responses about Catholic education, 75% have been informed about the Catholic education in their area. 9% report their council has been involved in Sacramental/faith development in the school system but 66.6% of reporting councils have been involved in sacramental initiation programs at the parish level.

LITERACY AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Of the 12 councils responding to this topic, 33.3% have encouraged members to assist those wishing to improve their literacy skills. With an ever increasing immigrate and refugee population, this may be an opportunity for more councils to take part in.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

All of the 12 reporting councils have been involved in bursaries and scholarships at different levels of education. The most common area for funding was at the high school level with 9 councils involved. Other funds were directed to Catholic Outreach, Catholic women support, elementary school age children, university and NET Ministries of Canada. 5 councils also supported Coady Institute.

WELLNESS AND SICKNESS/DISEASE

Of the many health related topics, 3 councils or 20% of reporting councils focused on chemical and environmental sensitivities informing their members about the issues. Heart and Stoke related food and beverage marketing was addressed by 1 council and mental health topic was also presented in 1 council.

4 councils or 26.6% addressed the topic of labelling on food and drug products. 5 Councils or 33.3% educated their council members on Canada Food Guide as related to the Resolution 2016-02.

The most common national organizations supported financially by councils were Canadian Cancer Society -30%, Canadian Red Cross - 40%, Matercare – 50%, Heart and Stroke – 40%. Although many councils did not financially support organizations, members as individuals have supported these organizations financially for many years.

Support for Palliative Care in the form of prayer, discussion, lap quilts, or donations continues to be a focus for our council members. All 15 councils reporting have addressed palliative care at one level or another.

ENVIRONMENT

9 of the 15 reporting councils or 60% have reduced use of styrofoam cups and a further 66.6% of the councils have promoted recycling. 3 councils or 20% have eliminated use of plastic water bottles. And 40% of reporting councils have reduced use of paper at council meetings.

GENETICS

11 of the 12 reporting councils or 92% rate their knowledge of technological development in light of the teachings of the Catholic Church as poor to good.

In general comments, more information is being asked for in regards to dementia, Alzheimers, care of seniors, and institutional care. Also more information on fetal alcohol spectrum and mental health education and how it affects social and economic costs in our society. It was felt we need to be informed and protect those most vulnerable in our society.

This concludes my report,



Chris Carlyle, Education and Health



LEGISLATION

Number of councils reporting 14 out of 27 = 51.85%

Legislation is a very interesting committee, with much to learn. It seems daunting, and we ask ourselves "What will my little bit do to help?". Remember that a small pebble in the ocean creates a ripple that can go on to create a wave. We must remember that every letter we write or call we make to an elected official is important. If our elected officials don't hear from us, how are they to know what our concerns are.

In Manitoba, members of the Catholic Women's League have been very active in supporting bills regarding Medical Assistance in Dying, Palliative Care and Health Care issues.

All councils are well informed regarding their governmental representatives and many receive communications from different levels of government. Several councils have attended information sessions on MAID (Medical Assistance in Dying) and Palliative Care, as well as local concerns. Many are actively informing their council and community on issues, such as the need for improved Palliative Care and Home Care. These issues are very important to our members.

Members did an outstanding job of lobbying the government with regards to Bill C-34 regarding the Conscience Rights of Health Care Professionals. Letters were written and/or personal calls were made to several members of the Manitoba Legislature. It was with great exultation that this Bill was passed through the Manitoba government in December and is now law.

Update on Federal Bills mentioned in the past:

Bill C 277 – Framework on Palliative Care in Canada received Royal Assent on December 12, 2017.

Bill C-51 - On November 8, 2017, the House of Commons Standing Committee of Justice and Human Rights voted to retain Section 176 of the Criminal Code of Canada with some amendments. There will no longer be attempts to remove protections in law for clergy and worship services.

Legislation is a very interesting committee and we must realize that we CAN help to lobby the government and advise of our views. What we do today can help create a better tomorrow for our children and grandchildren.

This concludes my report,



Judy Albiani, Legislation



RESOLUTIONS

Number of councils reporting 7 out of 27 = 26%

RESEARCH AND PREPARATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND BRIEFS

There were no new resolutions prepared by diocesan councils in 2017.

Many councils (42.86%) reported attendance at diocesan and provincial development days or at workshops that outline the resolution process. Catch the Fire or S'Mores (28.57%) and diocesan, provincial or national conventions (28.57%) were other avenues used. Interest seemed to be particularly in the areas of euthanasia and assisted dying (23.08%) and Palliative care (30.77%). Abortion and Healthy Eating are also noted.

One hundred percent of councils report referencing communiques and/or annual reports from other levels to obtain information. A high number of councils (71.43%) report consideration and discussion of ideas for resolutions with their members, however at the same time they site underlying challenges, such as council too small, no chairperson and no interest or time to prepare a resolution as reasons for not going forward. Almost half (46.15%) report their councils' discussed action was already done by other councils or at other levels.

I would like to point out that National Office was unable to provide answers from councils on two of the questions posed in the survey.

STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY OTHER LEVELS

There were four Provincial level resolutions adopted at the 97th Annual National Convention in Prince Edward Island. They are:

- 2017.01 Full Implementation of the Supreme court Decision in R. v. Gladue for Indigenous Offenders
- 2017.02 Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornographic Websites
- 2017.03 Zero-Rated Status Under the Goods and Services Tax Provisions of the Excise Tax Act for Child Safety Products
- 2017.04 Protection from Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals

Of these, one council reported acting upon Resolution:

#2017.04 - Protection from Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals.

Another council reports on the following resolutions:

#2016.04 – Amend the *Canada Health Act* to Identify Palliative Care as an Insured Health Service

#2016.05 – Amend the *Canada Health Act* to Include Home Care as an Insured Health Service

One member reports bringing resolutions at all levels to the attention of her council, however no action was taken as a council.

No diocesan resolutions were reported on.

A variety of ways are used to bring information to members. The most widely used form of communicating information was reported to be at council meetings and through email or newsletters (76.92%) followed by signed petitions (61.54%) and then letter writing sessions (23.08%). Guest speakers and writing to federal or provincial governments are also used.

Members appear to have the knowledge that dialogue sessions at national conventions are interesting and informative and plan to attend in the future since this years' convention is in Winnipeg.

SUMMARY / FINAL THOUGHTS

Councils report that even though no action has been taken with regard to preparing resolutions, the interest in them still remains. Once again, dwindling membership and no Resolutions chairperson were mentioned as factors.

Members need to be encouraged to become involved in the process. A Resolution workshop in the Westman area was suggested.

This concludes my report,



Alane Cason, Resolutions

PAST PRESIDENT

Number of councils reporting 13 out of 27 - 5 (prayer councils/no report) = 22 active = $\sim 59 \%$

SERVE THE COUNCIL AND PRESIDENT IN A CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY

The majority of past presidents are called upon for advice between a few times a week to once a month. Seventy percent feel their presidents are supported and encouraged by this. One council reported that the past president position was vacant.

BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ARCHIVES AND HISTORY OF THE COUNCIL

Almost 85% of councils reporting have past presidents responsible for their archives. Storage of archives is mostly in the CWL room, cupboard or a filing cabinet at church. The next most popular place was in the church hall or office. Only two councils reported keeping archives at home or in a home of another member. Only one council reported archiving records at the diocesan office.

Archives storage consists of many councils using multiple ways such as filing cabinets and photo albums – both of which were the most popular at greater than 90%. Scrapbooks, banker boxes, memory sticks and CDs were also popular. One council used a DVD.

Most councils stored the following indefinitely: annual reports, books of life, deceased members histories, lists of past executives, membership renewal data, minutes of executive meetings, minutes of general meetings, records of pin and award recipients, written reports of executive members and years of service for members. Surprisingly one council kept their financial information for only one year. All others kept it for a minimum of 5-8 years or greater. One to two councils do not keep any minutes of executive or general meetings, or the written reports of executive members. Only one council reported not keeping records of pins or awards and years of service by members.

Over 90% of councils review their archives as needed while 8 councils maintain a history book. All councils maintain labeled photo albums.

Most past presidents (greater that 70%) are aware of where their council charter is kept.

FACILITATE AND ENCOURAGE THE STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

Twelve of thirteen councils reported having a copy of the Constitution & Bylaws. Three councils review it multiple times a year while four check it once in a two year term. Four councils rarely look at it.

Only nine councils reported that they have a copy of the National Policy and Procedure Manual. Almost half of the councils report that they rarely refer to it. Six councils report having a parish council manual of policy and procedure which gets updated at least once in a two year term or as policy is changed.

The majority of councils report contacting their diocesan executive two to four times a year. The national executive is rarely contacted while approximately half obtain information from the national office. About half of the councils report contacting provincial executive for information a one to four times a year.

A majority of past presidents, besides being a resource for their council and presidents; also chair a standing committee or taskforce when asked to do so. Over half run their councils elections, prepare newsletters or correspondence and promote their councils in the parish. Five report checking national and provincial websites for information to share.

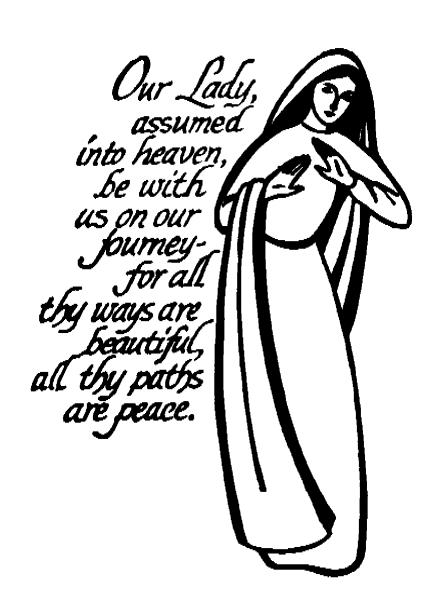
This concludes my report,



Con Marks, Past President



Parish Council Highlights 2017



W1 SACRED HEART - PRAYER COUNCIL

MELITA

Contact: Irene Mason

Spiritual Advior: Fr. Paul Bisson

Members: 12

Delivered Meals on Wheels in July and delivered Congregate Meals in September.

- Presented a \$200.00 Citizenship Award as a scholarship to a student at grad; and we sponsor a family from India.
- We collect tabs for wheelchairs, although this a more of a parish thing; and we also collect food for the Samaratin House in Brandon.

W3 HOLY GHOST

WINNIPEG

President: Barb Gysel & Betty Pietkiewicz Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jacek Nosowicz

Members: 58

- Hosted reception for parishioners and guests on the 1st Anniversary
 of the Canonization of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta following the
 Eucharistic Celebration by His Grace, Archbishop Richard Gagnon in
 our Parish.
- Hosted spaghetti supper in our parish hall for the children and youth participating in the Summer Camp under the direction of the Missionaries of Charity. Each year the number attending increases and this year the attendance was close to 100.
- Provided 2 bursaries to two female students of Holy Ghost School.
 One of our criteria is that they must continue their education in a Catholic School to quality for acceptance of a bursary.

W7 OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

WINNIPEG

President: Janet Brunger

Spiritual Advisor: Msgr. Maurice Comeault

Members: 132 Life Members: 2

Hosted Lenten Spaghetti Night on March 31st for approximately 80 people. This will become an annual event.

- Created Past President's Banner, which is proudly hanging in our Parish Gathering Area.
- Held our Annual Brunch on April 30th, with approximately 65 people in attendance. Handed our 14 years of service pins to deserving recipients.
 Welcomed speakers from Homes for Hope, which is a home in the Ukraine for girls who have no where else to go except onto the streets.
 Donated \$200.00 to them.

W9 OUR LADY OF VICTORY- PRAYER COUNCIL

WINNIPEG

Contact: Florence Bevel

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Eric Zadji Members: 37 Life Member: 1

- We had a pancake breakfast for our parish before Lent.
- We gave bursaries to a boy and girl going to a Catholic High School.
- For the month of May, we set up a statue of Mary with a crown on her head, in front of the altar, and prayed the rosary before Mass each Sunday.



W10 NOTRE DAME SELKIRK

President: Linda Parker

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Stan Gacek

Members: 89

• On May 14, 2017 our council was pleased to present the Bellelle Guerin Award to Alice Belanger.

- Our second highlight, a motion was made to give a member \$300.00 from our Health Care Fund to help cover some of the costs of plane fare and accommodations. This motion was approved for a member who was approved to take part in a new study taking place in Toronto for cancer. After our meeting, many others expressed their concern, which resulted in an additional amount of \$1,325.00 given to this member.
- We are involved in the Selkirk Community's monthly Blood Donor Clinic.
 Our convener organizes the workers, puts up monthly advertising posters, makes sure there are drinks and donuts on hand and anything else needed to assist in this monthly clinic.

W 11 SACRED HEART

VIRDEN

President: Bev Eilers

Spiritual Advisor: Reverend Leo Fernandes

Members: 60

- We hosted the 2017 CWL Provincial Convention June 3 & 4.
- We made 142 dresses and 112 pairs of shorts. They were taken to Benin, West Africa, Haiti and The Philippines. 31 Pillowcases were made and taken to the Salvation Army in Brandon.
- Our CWL ladies put together a layette for the Crisis Pregnancy Centre in Brandon. We delivered 8 boxes of clothing and supplies valued at \$800.

W 13 ST. ANTONINUS- PRAYER COUNCIL

DELORAINE

Contact: Dolores Howden

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Paul Bisson

Members: 58

Organized and served over 450 people for our Fall Supper.

- Worked with all the churches in the community at the Vocational Bible Study Week.
- Served at a 50th Anniversary Tea and Supper.

W 14 ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

WINNIPEG

President: Chris Handkamer

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Dominic Yuen

Members: 100

- Hosted a very successful Winnipeg Diocesan Convention in which we had over 120 delegates over 2 days.
- Held a very much enjoyed Fall Fashion Show and Luncheon. All of our models were members of our council.
- We implemented a parish volunteer program at Winnipeg Harvest and began a new charitable program called the Kindred Project.

W 15 ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

BRANDON

President: Arlene Elves

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Michael Savarimuthu

Members: 119 Life Members: 4

 As our coffers were getting low, we held a Sud/Spud fundraiser at Houstons Country Roadhouse May 4th. The food was good, the company was great and we all had a wonderful time. We were able to raise \$1,735.44.

- Members of our council completed a lap quilt in response to the centenary challenge. At the Diocesan Convention our quilt was chosen to go to the Provincial Convention, and from there to the National Convention in P.E.I.
- At our June wind-up we were delighted to present Dina Auriti with the prestigious Bellelle Guerin Award.

W 16 OUR LADY OF LOURDES

WINNIPEG

President: Vera (Vladka) Mohoric

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Diosdado Parrenas

Members: 50

- We continue to raise money by coordinating the Sunday Coffee/brunches, which are hosted every Sunday by our parishioners after 9:30 Mass. Our parish also supported a refugee couple by donating new winter clothing, furniture and house hold items for their apartment. Our CWL hosted a parish breakfast for our 1st Communion Candidates.
- Sr. Leslie Souceman was our guest speaker on Sunday, March 26, 2017.
 She spoke about Refugee Women in Transition. A coffee collection of \$554.00 from that Sunday was donated to Holy Names House of Peace.
- This year, our five most elderly shut-ins were presented with Prayer Shawls and attached prayer blessing tag. To date eight prayer shawls have been donated to our parishioners.

W 17 ST. COLUMBA

SWAN RIVER

President: Shari Eggie

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Roy George Vazhaplankudiyil

Members: 20

• Fall Tea, Bazaar and Bake Sale helped to celebrate our 60th Anniversary as a Council.

- Members continue to serve in various Ministries of our Parish lectors, altar servers, Eucharistic Ministers, decorating, visiting the sick and shutins.
- Welcomed a new member.

W 18 ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

WINNIPEG

President: Doreen Lloyd

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Jorge Mante

- One of our yearly events is to have a theme social. This social is one of our major fundraisers which we host every spring. The 2017 theme was Denim and Plaid.
- In March we hosted the World Day of Prayer. We chose to host 2017 because the country was the Philippines and we saw this as an opportune time to involve our parish and school, mainly because our demographic population are Filipino. Some of our school children were involved in the program as well as CWL members and parishioners. Following the prayers, we served a lunch which included a variety of Filipino dishes.
- In May we were involved in the planning of a Mission at our parish on Mission Sunday. The Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions,RNDM, which were a part of our parish for many years, approached us with this idea and asked if we could help. They wanted to talk about their Mission work in the Philippines. Over two thousand dollars was raised for the Sisters Mission work and we were happy to be part of this event.



W 19 ST. JAMES ASSINIBOIA

WINNIPEG

President: Marilyn Begg

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Michael Wollbaum Members: 146 Life Members 1

- Council members attending our CWL Christmas Dinner made a monetary donation to go towards the children in an orphanage/school in Haiti. Louise Dansereau, our past-president will be in Haiti for the next two months working with these children.
- We collected and distributed knitted toques, mitts, scarves, et. to Brooklands School and local refugee families through the Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council.
- At our monthly general meeting in October, we worked in small groups to make no-sew fleece blankets and then donated them to the Grace Hospital Hospice. This was our participation in the Lap Quilt Challenge.

W 23 ST. JOHN BREBEUF

WINNIPEG

Presidents: Janice Alderdice/ Janice Dobson

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Wayne Morrissey

- To celebrate Respect Life we held a two-fold collection, Giving Thanks for our Senior – where collected products for nursing homes residents and lap quilts, which were donated to Tuxedo Villa, and Welcome the Child – which involved collecting infant supplies and formula which was donated to Pregnancy and Family Support Services.
- We participated in the 12 hour prayer for palliative care and walked in the Hike for Hospice – Palliative Care walk-a-thon to raise money for that organization.
- We held a raffle and tea in support of Agape Table as they move from the current location.

W 24 ST. JOHN CANTIUS

WINNIPEG

President: Pauline Bauer

Spiritual Advisor: Fr Yolando Gamallo

Members: 54

- Our council took part in the Lap Quilt/Blanket Project and we presented 13
 lap quilts to our infirm members, or anyone who was ill or anyone who
 needed a special "hug", just to let them know we are thinking about them
 and offering our prayers. I hope to make the lap project an annual tradition.
- Our biggest highlight would have to be hosting the Diocesan Annual Fall Meeting and Workshop on Saturday, October 28, 2017. Our Guest Speaker, Fr. Peter Nemcek spoke on vocations and how we can promote discernment. It was a wonderful experience for both new and old members.
- Our Annual Advent Perogy and Bake Sale was just held on Sunday,
 December 3, 2017. This year we also sold cabbage rolls and we had three baskets for raffle.

W 28 ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL

WINNIPEG

Presidents: Eileen Reiger and Eleanor Ulasy

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Geoffrey Angeles

- We a busy summer. On July 13 and 20, we assisted the parish in hosting a Summer Day Camp for children served by the Missionaries of Charity. These were poor children from the North End and Immigrant families. We enjoyed the time with the children, St. Mary's Catechists and Rector and The Missionary Sisters.
- On July 16, with parishioners and the Knights of Columbus we organized and presented a community birthday lunch reception in honour of Fr. Angeles. Attendance, food and entertainment were outstanding.

 In November, we organized a session for the parish on the topic of Conscience Rights and End of Life Issues presented by Tim Scatliff, Director of Culture of Life for the Knights of Columbus – Manitoba State.

W 29 ST. JOSEPH

WINNIPEG

President: Kathleen Darlington

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Boguslaw Wardzinski

Members: 30

- During the year of 2017, our Council held two Communion Breakfasts.
 We were very pleased with the high number in attendance.
- We cooked and served dinner for a Deanery Meeting that was held at our church with 14 in attendance.
- Assisted and served at our St. Joseph Day Supper, March 19 where we had 400 in attendance.

W 30 ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

RUSSELL

President: Joan Havelange

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Norberto Monton

- We had a Valentine's Luncheon for the Personal Care Home.
- Mother's Day Luncheon for the Personal Care Home.
- Hosted a Chrismas Party for the ladies of the Parish as a thank you to them for all their help all year long.



W 32 ST. THERESA'S - Prayer Council

MIDDLECHURCH

President: Caroline Meseric, Joan Shaw, Joan Sobieski (All Past

President)

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. David Kowalski

Members: 67

- The Prayer Shawl Group has been busier making than presenting prayer shawls; we gave ten so far this year. As a group we have been making hats, scarves, mitts, etc. for other charities as well as continuing with the prayer shawls. Our St. Theresa's Charity quilters continue to make and donate quilts to those in need. Quilts are also given to the Knights of Columbus for their fundraising events. Quilts are also given to the Benedictine Sisters as fund raisers for retreats for the unemployed and people with HIV.
- At Middlechurch Home we provide portering and assistance at Mass and Liturgies and recite the rosary once a month with the residents. Our visitations have expanded to Misericordia Interim Care, to Oakview and Golden West Lodge. To attend Sunday Mass at St. Theresa's a senior member is transported from Middlechurch Home and returned.
- Perogy making is our major fund raiser as well as providing a social outing for the participants. Women and men not only from our Council and within the parish, but also from the community take part in making perogies.

W 33 ST. MICHAEL'S

GIMLI

President: Mary Desveaux

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Mike Nwosu

- Donated \$500.00 towards a power stretcher for EMS, Gimli Healthcare Centre.
- Donated \$1,500.00 towards an ultrasound machine for Gimli Healthcare Centre.

 We held a Palliative Care Service and we Blessed two lap quilts which we presented to our Chemotherapy room at our hospital

W 34 ST. PETER'S

WINNIPEG

President: Donna Candelaria

Spiritual Advisors: Msgr. Enrique M. Samson Jr. and Fr. Christopher Dubois

Members: 52

 We hosted the MB Provincial CWL Day of Celebration (125 in attendance) in February. In March we hosted the World Day of Prayer and some members shared their wardrobe so many of us could dress in Filipino attire that day.

- Our two perogy fundraisers allowed us to subsidise our memberships and to attend Diocesan and Provincial Conventions as well as Workshops and other events; support many charities and our parish.
 Some of our activities were showcased in "On the Spot". We continued with our annual collection of items for the need at Christmas and gave large donations to 7 different places this year.
- We made an "End of Life" blanket, had it blessed by our Spiritual Advisor and gave it to Joseph's Residence for their spiritual care program. This blanket will be placed over the body of all deceased residents as they leave their home there and are placed into the funeral home's care.

W 35 ST. VITAL

WINNIPEG

President: Jo-Anne Souyri

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Mark A. Tarrant

Members: 35

 Volunteer at Our Place/Chez Nous (weekly) and Siloam Mission (monthly) (drop in centers in Winnipeg's core area)

- Fundraising bake sale held on December 3 and 4. The funds will be divided between Canadian Missions, Missionaries of Charity and Our Place/Chez Nous.
- Sold memory angels to support the recitation of the rosary on the radio, and hosted Coffee Sunday in our Parish community.

W 38 ST. VIATOR'S

DAUPHIN

President: Linda Zazuliak

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. John Legitimas

Members: 92

- St. Viator's CWL organized a pilgrimage in July, beginning at St. Viator's Parish with Morning Prayer. From there 30 pilgrims hopped in their cars and headed out. First stop Notre Dame De Toutes Aides Parish on the shores of Lake Manitoba. Next stop was on the shores of Lake Winnipegosis at Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Church in Camperville. Following Mass celebrated at Camperville, we were invited into the hall, where we brought our picnic lunches to share in a fellowship lunch. This was an amazing pilgrimage and all within 100 miles of Dauphin.
- For the summer the CWL organized a Rosary Walk. Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. we would walk around the parking lot (weather permitting) and say the Rosary.
- In April the CWL sponsored a Food Safety Course for the Parish. We decided at a CWL general meeting to pay for any members who wish to attend this course. 13 members accepted and attended and graduated with the Food Safety Certificate benefitting the CWL and the Parish.

W 41 ST. DOMINIC'S

NEEPAWA

Presidents: Donna Huck

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Mark Filips

- We celebrated our 40th Anniversary with a catered meal, special guests and entertainment.
- Hosted a Lenten Retreat and invited women from our neighbouring parishes to attend.
- We invited all our members to attend a Canada 150 party in June. We got into the spirit and everything was red and white – for God and Canada.

W 42 GOOD SHEPHERD

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE

President: Bernadette LeLieve

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Gerald Langevin

Members: 42

- A Bursary was set up in our council for a graduating grade 12 Catholic student from our parish in 2016. We were happy to hand our first Bursary. The recipient is going to University of Montreal.
- Our council had a very successful fund raiser. We were able to purchase new robes for our altar servers and help with a new program in our parish called catechesis of the Good Shepherd.
- We had 3 of our members who are over 100 years old and one of our members received her 60 year pin.

W 43 SACRED HEART

ROBLIN

President-Vacant

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Bastin Gnna Arockiyam

- We did the 40 days for Life Rosary.
- Some of our council took part at the Provincial Convention at Virden MB.
- We volunteer at our Personal Care Home here in Roblin.

W 44 ST. GIANNA BERETTA MOLLA-PRAYER COUNCIL WINNIPEG

President: Rebecca Skinner (Acting)
Spirutal Advisor: Fr. Darren Gurr

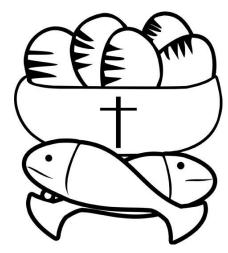
- May 2017 (new focus) St. Gianna Prayer Council is formed.
- As a Prayer Council we engaged the ladies in participating for a Novena for a fellow CWL member who has end stage cancer and is in Palliative Care. We attended 9 consecutive Novena Masses weekly at St. Gianna Beretta Molla through to August and prayed for her to have Peace in her final journey on this earth. Some ladies that had never been to this Mass are now continuing to do so on a weekly basis.
- September 2017 We gathered 15 members of the CWL and shared prayer and fellowship as we continue to discern our calling as a League. To conclude our meeting we gathered in a tight circle over our ill CWL member and prayed for the Light of Christ to heal her and bring her Peace.

WINNIPEG DIOCESAN COUNCIL STANDING RULES OF 96th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Each convention sets its own standing rules in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*. They are applicable for the duration of the convention 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 convention.

At the beginning of the business session of a convention, the rules are read and a motion is proposed, discussed and voted on to adopt the standing rules of the convention. The motion to adopt the standing rules requires a two-thirds majority vote; a motion to rescind or amend the rules once they have been adopted required a two-thirds majority vote; and a motion to suspend a rule requires a majority vote.

- 1. Each person attending the convention shall register at the convention registration desk and shall be required to wear the official convention badge for admission to all meetings.
- 2. Voting cards shall be issued to the voting members (of the Winnipeg Diocese) and these cards must be exhibited when a member votes.
- 3. Voting and accredited delegates shall sit within the areas designated for them at all business sessions of the convention unless prior arrangement has been made with the Chair.
- 4. No member shall speak more than once or longer than two minutes on the same motion, without permission of the Chair, but the mover may reply before the vote is taken.
- 5. Only resolutions submitted to the Resolutions Standing Committee in advance of this convention shall be considered for presentation to the convention.
- 6. No member shall speak longer than two minutes on any issue without prior authorization of the chair.
- 7. No goods shall be distributed, displayed or sold at this convention without the prior approval of the Chair.



RULES OF ORDER

The League follows Robert's Rules of Order. A booklet titled 'Parliamentary Procedure at a Glance' by O. Garfield Jones based on Robert's Rules of Order is available from the CWL National Office. (Item No. 53)

Section 1 – 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.

Section 2 – All motions shall be submitted in writing before they are presented to the meeting except

- a) to postpone the reading of the minutes;
- b) to suspend the order of business;
- c) to lay on the table;
- d) to postpone a discussion;
- e) to call the previous question;
- f) for a vote of thanks;
- g) to adjourn;
- h) to nominate.

Section 3 – Every motion shall have a seconder except a motion to nominate. A motion that is not seconded shall not be put to the meeting and shall not be recorded in the minutes.

Section 4 – Members, when speaking, shall stand, address the Chair, and endeavor to be terse and audible.

Section 5 – The mover shall have the privilege of speaking first to a motion and the seconder next.

Section 6 – When two or more members stand at the same time to speak, the Chair shall determine the order in which those members shall speak.

Section 7 – During the discussion of a question, each speaker shall be limited to three minutes.

Section 8 – A member may request that the question or motion be repeated or re-read but must not interrupt a speaker.

Section 9 – No member shall speak more than once to the same question or motion without the consent of the Chair, but the mover may reply before the vote is taken.

Section 10 – No member shall speak to a question or motion after the Chair has asked for the yeas and nays.

Section 11 – Only one amendment to the amendment shall be allowed, but when an amendment to the amendment has been disposed of, another amendment may be proposed. An amendment to the amendment shall be voted on first, the amendment next, and the motion last

Section 12 – When a question has been decided, any member who has voted in the majority may move for a reconsideration of the question at the same meeting or, subject to previous notice being given, at the next regular meeting. No discussion of the main question shall be allowed unless the motion for reconsideration has been carried by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.

Section 13 – There shall be no circulation of material, petitions, or solicitation of funds during any meeting without the prior authorization and/or approval of the Chair.

Acknowledgements

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To fit into the convention book, some reports have been re-formatted and edited by the Convention Book Committee.

