

*The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Manitoba Provincial Council  
Annual Reports 2019*



Care for our

**Common Home**

**72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention**

*May 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020*

*Winnipeg Diocesan Council*

*St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish Council*

*Brandon, Manitoba*

*The Theme Message (Jan. 1, 2019 – Dec, 31, 2020)*

*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)

<i>Focus 2019 – Water – at home</i>	<i>Focus 2020 – Water - abroad</i>
<p>Members were encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• review and act on the following national resolutions relating to water: 2004.07 Water Use in Canada 2001.04 Water Quality in Canada 1999.09 Bulk Fresh Water Resources 1990.07 Environmental Concerns (the pollution of our oceans, rivers, and lakes)</li><li>• study part II The Issue of Water (Section 27-31) of Pope Francis’ encyclical letter ‘Laudato Si’</li><li>• fill out, sign, and submit a personal ‘Water Challenge Pledge Form’ for ways to conserve water at home for the National Education and Health Chairperson</li></ul>	<p>Members are encouraged to financially support the CWL partnership with Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) to support the Pieta Bhaven (House of Mercy) Project, with a need for a drinking water well.</p> <p>Pieta Bhavan, located in Kerala, India, is a Christian home for more than 60 women with intellectual disabilities. Due to severe flooding during the monsoon season the past two years, the only well, an open well, is in need of repair to prevent contamination from flooding to ensure there is safe drinking water.</p> <p>CNEWA, 1247 Kilborn Place, Ottawa, ON K1H 6K9 att’n. Melodie Gabriel, memo: “CWL India” or <a href="http://www.cnewa.ca">www.cnewa.ca</a> (comment: “CWL India”)</p>

***Winnipeg Diocesan Council***

***and***

***St. Augustine of Canterbury  
Parish Council,  
Brandon, MB***



***WELCOME YOU***

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# AGENDA

## Friday, May 29, 2020

### **St Augustine of Canterbury, 327-4<sup>th</sup> Street, Brandon, MB**

- 9:00 a.m. Pre-convention meeting Manitoba Provincial Executive
- 5:00 p.m. Eucharistic Celebration, St. Augustine of Canterbury Church
- 6:15 p.m. Gathering (Parish Hall adjoining the church)
- 7:00 p.m. Banquet (Parish Hall adjoining the church)

## Saturday, May 30, 2020

### **St Augustine of Canterbury, 327-4<sup>th</sup> Street, Brandon, MB**

- 7:30 a.m. Registration and Hospitality, (Parish Hall adjoining the church)
  
- 8:30 a.m. Procession of Flags & Banners, Official opening of convention
- 8:35 a.m. Spiritual Program
- 9:00 a.m. Greetings
- 9:15 a.m. Business Meeting
  
- 12:00 noon Luncheon
  
- 1:00 p.m. Gathering Prayer
  
- 1:15 pm. Video "Common Strength"
  
- 1:45 p.m. Speaker, Food Matters Manitoba
  
- 2:30 p.m. Business Resumes
  
- 3:15 p.m. Questions & Answers
  
- 3:30 p.m. Lowering of Flags and Adjournment

## **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



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# MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE 2019 - 2020

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SPIRITUAL ADVISOR  
PRESIDENT  
PRESIDENT-ELECT  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT  
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT  
RECORDING SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY  
TREASURER  
PAST PRESIDENT

Father Paul Bringleston  
Janet Brunger  
Crystal Reiter  
Con Marks  
VACANT  
Ann Schenkeveld  
Ann Schenkeveld  
Lea Colbeck  
Rolande Chernichan

## **CHAIRPERSONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

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SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT  
ORGANIZATION  
CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE  
COMMUNITY LIFE  
EDUCATION AND HEALTH  
COMMUNICATIONS  
RESOLUTIONS  
LEGISLATION

Con Marks  
Crystal Reiter  
Marielle Rigaux  
Mavis McLaren  
VACANT  
VACANT  
VACANT  
Paulette Borgfjord  
Albertine Moran

### **LIFE MEMBER LIAISON**

## **DIOCESAN PRESIDENTS**

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KEEWATIN-THE PAS  
ST. BONIFACE  
WINNIPEG

Lucille Rossington  
Paulette Chase  
Rose Anne Seymour (Jan-Apr)  
Pat Ward (Apr-Dec)

# **MANITOBA LIFE MEMBERS**



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

***Dr. Rayleen De Luca (2002)W***

***Shirley Scaletta (1975)SB †***

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

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

***Suzanne Kiazzyk (2002)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.***

## **SHIRLEY SCALETTA**



In 1928, Shirley June Elhatton was born in Winnipeg to Patrick and Edith Elhatton who were also blessed with two more daughters and three sons. After completing her education she joined the staff of The Manitoba and Northwest Ontario Headquarters of The Boy Scouts of Canada. After five years of secretarial and leadership service in the Association she married Ignatius (known as Seano) Scaletta. Shirley and Seano raised three beautiful children, Lynn, Dean and Todd.

Shirley joined The Catholic Women's League of Canada in 1956 at her home Parish of Christ the King in the St. Boniface Diocese serving as President 1961-1963. Later on after a move from St. Vital she was a member of St. Bernadette Council. She went on to serve on the St. Boniface Diocesan Council 1967-1969 and as Manitoba Provincial President 1977-1979. She was made a Life Member in the League in 1975. Shirley also served on National Council as Education Convener 1979-1980; Spiritual Convener 1980-1982; and Legislation Convener 1984-1986 where she had the privilege of taking Resolutions to Parliament on the League's behalf.

Years of continuous and active membership in The Catholic Women's League has been the stepping stone to many and varied experiences and committees both in the church and secular areas of action. Along with her good friend, Pat Johnston+, she was an Associate Member of The Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk.

Shirley shared her gifts with League members so often, facilitating workshops; Leadership Days and mentoring Members. In 1983, Shirley talked of her experiences at The World Council of Churches in Vancouver and in 2010, spoke of her trip to Bangladesh to visit Brother Sulal Roozario and Bishop Costa who took her around some of the villages to meet their people. She encouraged us to put aside our spare change and she would send it on to help the poor people that she had met.

In 1977, Shirley was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal presented to individuals who have made a significant contribution to their fellow citizens, their community or to Canada. On June 5, 1989, on The Feast of St. Boniface, Msgr. Antoine Hacault, Archbishop of the St. Boniface Diocese presented Shirley with The Evangelium Award which honours individuals who show a dedication to evangelization in their daily lives and exemplify positive Christian attributes and the missionary attitude of St. Boniface. Shirley always responded to the call of her ideals and day to day through her example spread the word of God wherever she was and to whomever she met. The Shirley we all knew and loved. Thank you for this write-up by Nadine Catalano.

The Red Hat Society was introduced to Manitoba in 2000 by Shirley who, along with her husband wintered in Arizona where she was invited to enjoy the Red Hat concept. She registered her Chapter and called it "The Prairie Pearls" and soon there were 50 Chapters in numerous communities throughout the Province.

Among a variety of interests, Shirley enjoyed sports, music, home decorating and entertaining, as well, she took piano lessons and learned sign language. In her latter years, she became a woodcarver and produced many interesting wood spirits, birds and reliefs.

For several years Shirley struggled with short-term memory and symptoms of dementia but never lost her sense of humour. She slipped peacefully from this life into the waiting arms of God on September 26, 2019. Shirley was predeceased by her loving husband, Seano of 62 years in 2015; and will be missed by her three children; seven grandchildren, three great grandchildren and three great, great, grandchildren. The members of the League from sea to sea will lovingly remember and cherish Shirley. Rest in peace dear Sister!



*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) (1970)W  
Evelyn Wyrzykowski (1979) (1990)SB*



### **LIFE MEMBERS †**

*Winnifred Alexander (1961)W*

*Helen Bembenek (1994)W*

*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*

*Florence Gallagher (19\_\_ )W*

*Patricia Johnston (1973)W*

*Jean Keating (1981)W*

*Margaret Kelly (1951)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 (1956)W*

*Elizabeth Pawells (1951)W*

*Mary Pungente (1975)W*

*Margaret Quinn (1948)W*

*Jeanne Regan (1971)KP*

*Bernadette Russell (1981)W*

*Viola Specht (1979)W*

*Yvonne Smith (1948)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

		<u>Diocese (town if not lived in Winnipeg)</u>
1948	Margaret KELLY †	Winnipeg
1948-1951	Elizabeth PAWELLS †	Winnipeg
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
1961-1963	Florence FABRIS †	Winnipeg
1963-1965	Marion TRUDELL †	St. Boniface
1965-1967	Rose DION †	St. Boniface
1967-1969	Catherine BIRD †	St. Boniface
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
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 (Lorette)
2019-	Janet BRUNGER	Winnipeg



*"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 1948 it consisted only of parish subdivisions in the Winnipeg Diocese, so consequently, Mrs. E. F. Kelly who was the President of The Winnipeg District Subdivision of The Catholic Women's League of Canada automatically became the first Provincial President.*  
 (History of Manitoba Provincial Council 1948-1988.. Jean Keating)

# MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

## SPIRITUAL ADVISORS

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

***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*

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May 2020

Dear Members of the Provincial Council of the Catholic Women's League and all convention attendees,

I bring you greetings from the Archdiocese of Winnipeg as you gather in convention in Brandon for 2020. This year marks your 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention and you have done well to choose the beautiful parish church of St. Augustine as the venue for your convention liturgies. This year you wish to emphasize the importance of the beautiful environment of God's creation in which we live. Your theme is entitled, "Care for our Common Home", an idea inspired by the writings of Pope Francis in *Laudato Si*. Just as we are grateful and look after the dwelling where we live with our family, so in a broader sense we wish to care for God's creation as a gift for all humanity. This great common home in which we live includes many things. It includes not only the immediate environment surrounding us but it also includes the many aspects that form part of the ecological system God has brought into being. We must also say, along with Pope Francis, that care for the sanctity of human life is a central part of the vision of responsible stewardship of creation.

The Catholic Women's League of Canada has stood for a caring attitude towards both the natural world and the needs of human beings for over a century in our country. The League began in Eastern Canada with the inspiration to help women in need as they came to this new land. They were really early examples of what Pope Francis encourages us to do in reaching out to the peripheries in society. The Catholic Women's League has been continually blessed by strong faith-filled women who have shown countless examples of Christian leadership both within the Church and beyond. On an individual basis, the CWL has proven to be a place where individual women have grown in their faith, have contributed to the building up of local Christian communities and have sustained and encouraged faith within their families.

I wish you every blessing as you gather in convention this year in Brandon and I pray that God will bring much good fruit through your deliberations and gatherings during this, your 72<sup>nd</sup> Convention for the Provincial Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada.

Yours in Christ,

\*Richard Gagnon  
Archbishop of Winnipeg



May 2020

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

As I write these words of greeting, encouragement and friendship to all of you, I do so on the very cusp of the month of May, the month of Mary. When you read these words of mine, we will have consecrated all of our dioceses, our parishes and our family homes, and especially ourselves to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church.

Over the centuries of Christian faith and Christian art, Mary has been presented and depicted in many ways, all complementary. In the first centuries, Mary was seen as the Theotokos, the Mother of God. This is still especially so in eastern Christian iconography.

Later centuries would successively bring images of the Madonna and Child, of the Mater Dolorosa and the Pieta, of the Immaculate Conception, of Our Lady of Lourdes and Our Lady of Fatima, of Our Lady of La Vang (Vietnam) and Our Lady of Aparecida (Brazil). All are signs of the great love and great devotion of Catholics toward our Blessed Mother throughout all centuries and all cultures.

I know that, in like manner, the Catholic Women's League has always turned in prayer to its patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel, asking for her intercession and guidance in all its endeavours. And now, along with all the Catholic faithful across Canada, your members are surely asking Mary, our Mother and the Mother of the whole Church, to intercede for us that this COVID-19 pandemic may soon end. By her protection and love, may we all turn to Her Son Jesus for strength, consolation and enduring charity towards all.

I wish all the CWL Members of the Manitoba Provincial Council the very best of God's blessings. Even during these uncharted often chaotic times may Mary lead us all to trust Jesus completely and to be a sign of compassion for all, especially the frail elderly and weak amongst us.

And when this pandemic is past may each of your Councils take up again all your good works with even more zeal and joy.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

+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](mailto:chancery@keepas.ca)

March 5, 2020

Greeting Ladies of the CWL.

We warmly welcome you to the Provincial Convention for this year. Your theme "Care for Our Common Home" is filled with hope. It reminds us of the need for balance between what **we** are doing and fretting about and what **God** is doing.

There is a story of a priest walking by a yard where baba was working in the garden. The priest remarked, "Baba you and God are sure doing a great job of that garden." Baba responded, "Hah, you should have seen it when only God was looking after it!"

God certainly wants us to continue to plant the seeds of faith and hope and love in our communities. With our families it is not just about if they are coming to Mass, but we continue to encourage them in the values and strength of our Catholic faith. Every effort you make to teach your families about the sacredness of life at all stages, to respect our common home, to put your faith into action by good deeds is doing the work we are missioned to in our baptism. Do we succeed? That is not up to us. Do not be discouraged. We prepare the soil, plant the seed and water. The growth and flowering is up to God.

May God bless the good seeding work of your Provincial Convention and your Council.

*Yours in Christ,*

*Archbishop Murray Chatlain*  
*Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas*



## St. Ann's Parish

163 Centre St. Flin Flon, MB R8A 1R1  
204.687.3312

16 May 2020

My Dear Sisters in the League,

I write this in the same manner in which you will receive it: under unforeseeable circumstances. Traditionally you would read this at the beginning of our annual Provincial Convention. All things are not always equal, in spite of, or despite our heart long desire to make them so or to believe them to be. We will not be gathering this year as we have done so for several generations. We can look upon this as frustrating and upsetting (and rightfully so) or we can look upon it as Christ has taught us to look upon these moments.

Back in February when I addressed you, I had invited you to see the changes needed within the League as being less about practice and more about the opportunity to allow your own personal spiritual renewal to shape the future of the League. Our current circumstances have removed the onus of which way to embrace the future of the League from you. In a matter of weeks the climate of prayer and service in the church was laid flat and placed upon a level field. In short order the will of bishops, priests, leadership of organizations, schools, governments and homes were all at the same place once more, in history. We all stood before God equally powerless, equally in need. We might not have appreciated it then but what great hope there is in appreciating it now. In spite of the feeling of a loss of freedom we now have a tremendous freedom to find new ways in which to share the Gospel. These months have proven we can truly rely on fewer meetings and organization and embrace more of the very basics of Early Christian community life which sustained itself not through policy but through an insatiable desire to love God and serve our neighbour. It's an exciting time to live our faith. We cannot become so afraid of dying that we become more afraid of actually living. You are amazing women who have seen worst days in your lifetimes. You may draw courage from Our Lord in St. John's Gospel:

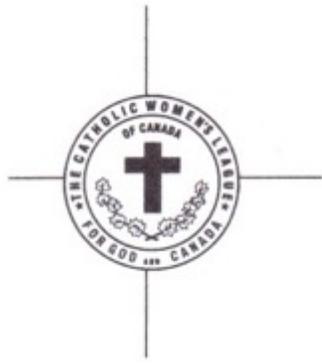
*Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.*

John 14.12-14

We will not be physically together this weekend, but we will be closer to God and faithfully united with one another in our communion of prayer. That's pretty impressive considering our current state. There is little to be gained in reminding each other of what is not happening – I invite you this weekend to instead speak of what is happening, not because of you, but because of your willingness to be used by God for His glory.

Faithfully,

(Fr.) Paul Bringleson  
Spiritual Advisor



## The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Greetings to my dear sisters in the Manitoba Provincial Council!

Congratulations on 72 years of service "For God and Canada!" Another convention is upon you which presents several opportunities through your reports and programs to reflect on all the good things your membership has accomplished in the past year.

The parts of the world we call home in Canada are blessed with diversity in cultures, climate, numbers, and topography. While each of us shares the common bond of suffering, we have generally been blessed with peace and some prosperity. Having said this, it comes with a great responsibility.

Many councils have been focusing attention on the disadvantaged, the homeless, migrants and refugees, who have fallen prey to situations that in many cases are beyond their control. It is our duty and responsibility to "feed" those among us in whatever way we can. His Holiness, Pope Francis, in his address on the anniversary of World Day of Migrants and Refugees, in January, 2018, said it is our duty "to welcome, to protect, to promote, and to integrate" all who need care. While His Holiness spoke directly of migrants and refugees, this applies as well to those among us who are vulnerable in so many ways. "Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him?" (James 2:5).

As members of your provincial council, you have attempted to emulate what Jesus did. "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour" (Luke 4:18-19).

When I reflect on the scripture passages, it connects me to the commands that are directed to each of us as Christian Catholic women. I am confident that as members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, each woman in this provincial council does her utmost to support the least among us.

God bless all your efforts in the past year to make your community a place of welcome and sustainability. You deserve to take time to reflect upon your accomplishments as you meet in convention. A well-deserved pat on the back is something you can give each other while together and once you return to your parishes.

We have many challenges ahead, but with the intercession of the Holy Spirit and Our Lady of Good Counsel, there is so much reason to continue to be hopeful women of faith in service to God and Canada. "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and will be repaid in full" (Prov. 19:17).

Anne-Marie Gorman  
National President



## Catholic Women's League of Canada

### Manitoba Provincial Council

May, 2020

Greetings to my dear Sisters in the League!

On this, the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, we have much to be grateful for. The wise women that have gone before us, with their vision and foresight to lay the foundation for the incredible organization that is the League of today, and the Spiritual Advisors that we've been blessed to enjoy their wise counsel, their support, and their vision. As well, the many organizations and supporters of our League; they are too numerous to mention, but their contribution is not lessened because of it.

I would also like to recognize and salute our Life Members; these dedicated women have and continue to give generously of themselves in any way that is asked. They are a fountain of knowledge, and are always willing to mentor, advise and support. On behalf of our Manitoba members, **Thank You!** to each of these ladies!

The League is multi-faceted; each one of us brings our own gifts and flavours to share, and together, in our communities, our Dioceses, our Province, and Nationally, we are all individuals that contribute to build a League that will encompass the depth and breadth of Canada. It is my sincere hope that each of us realizes the magnitude of the gift that is the Catholic Women's League and welcomes the qualities and gifts of each person, both within and outside of the League.

Your Annual Reports convey the extent of your compassion and generosity towards those who may be experiencing adversity in their daily lives, whether it be in your community, nationally, or globally. May each one of you be richly blessed for the kindness you so freely give from the heart.

Although our lives are by no means perfect, we know that through the CWL, we will always have sisters that are there to support us along the way. The same is true of our Councils; there are always challenges, in getting women willing to take on a Standing Committee, or the role of President, or Secretary, or whatever. At times it's tempting to take the easy way out and "throw in the towel", so to speak. Please know that whatever you are willing to give, and whatever role you take on, you are giving of yourself, and that **it is valued**. If you were not there, you would be missed, and if your Council is not there, it would surely be missed. It is up to all of us to support each other and to affirm the value that we and our Councils are to the League. Our National Executive is working hard to restructure our League to take us into the next 100 years and beyond – let's all do our part to support this initiative so that we have a vibrant, active organization to pass on to the next generation!

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

Janet Brunger  
President



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## PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT

**Janet BRUNGER**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100%**

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***Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.*** (Philippians 2:3-4)

***(a) inform the membership of the League's position re: current issues, priorities, new programs***

The *Canadian League* magazine appears to be the primary source for our membership to obtain information, followed closely by Diocesan/Provincial/National Communiques, parish bulletins, National website, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Provincial website or newsletters. Also accessed was the Catholic Organization for Life and Family.

Current National priorities which were introduced or discussed or acted upon by the Councils this year were: Medical Assistance in Dying from Palliative Care/Hospice Facilities; Care for our Common Home; Rights of the Pre-Born under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and Removing Canada Summer Jobs Program Attestation; and Standards of Testing and Labelling for Produces deemed "flushable".

***(b) foster open communication with the Spiritual Advisor on all League matters***

Most Councils feel that their Spiritual Advisor is supportive of the CWL and are extremely appreciative of their Spiritual Advisor's involvement in League activities. For those whose Spiritual Advisor does not attend meetings and events, reasons cited were duties outside the parish and lack of tradition of having him at meetings. It was recognized 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 *Manual of Policy and Procedure*, either Council or National, the *Constitution & Bylaws*, *Robert's Rules of Order*, or *Parliamentary Procedure*. It was noted that attending

conventions, either Diocesan, Provincial or National, does help to foster knowledge of how to run meetings.

**(d) signing authority**

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

**(e) provide active leadership**

Presidents represented their Councils by attending parish functions, anniversaries, fundraisers, dinners, sacramental events, special Masses, provincial and diocesan meetings, conferences and conventions. They attended pro-life events, workshops, school ceremonies, Remembrance Day services, and World Day of Prayer.

Less than one-half were reimbursed for their expenses to attend these events by their Councils

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

Most Councils have policy manuals, utilize them, and update them regularly. Others incorporated policies regarding Years of Service and Bellelle Guerin awards, and adjustments to the value of honorariums for speakers and gifts for shut-ins and members who have been ill.

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

Councils utilized the *Executive Handbook* as well as their Past Presidents as an active resource tool. Many summarized the past year's activities in a report to their members. Most Councils struck sub-committees for the purpose of fulfilling a goal; namely, fundraisers of various kinds, the collection of goods for social outreach, collecting signatures for petitions, visitations, and funeral lunches, to name just a few. It is worthwhile to mention that in addition to visiting shut-ins, many Council members will assist with Mass for residents of nursing homes and hosting Christmas and birthday parties. Following special Masses, they will host a coffee social and offer rides if needed. Others, in addition to bringing communion to shut-ins will also take them Christmas Dainty Trays, take some seniors out for a meal and entertain them with games and special treats, as needed or warranted.

**(h) advisory capacity to all committees**

Presidents spoke on behalf of their Councils regarding Medical Assistance in Dying, Rights of the Unborn, Homelessness, Child Poverty, Right to Clean Water, Water Conservation in our Homes, Pro-Life March, Heart Health, Pornography, Human and Child Trafficking, National and Provincial Voluntary Funds, Kids North Program, Operation Christmas Child Campaign, "A Port in a Storm", Samaritan

Purse, Chalice, Save a Family Plan, World Vision, Women's Safe Haven/Shelters, CMIC New Year's Baby, support for local Friendship Centres and programs, support programs for inmates, filling a dresser with clothes for a mother who decided to keep her baby in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus, support for other local charities, and other topics of importance. Presidents addressed their respective parishes not only on behalf of the above issues, but also in regards to upcoming fundraisers and monetary and goods collections for the disadvantaged. Parish bulletins, emails, newsletters and reports were also utilized to reach out to all members of upcoming events.

**(i) official spokesperson**

Pulpit presentations were utilized to inform parishioners of the benefits of being a League member, as well as to inform of our current theme, concerns regarding environmental impact, inviting youth to get involved, pornography issues, World Day of Prayer, and much more.

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

Most Presidents found it very beneficial to have a National Theme upon which they could focus their Council's activities.

**(k) mentorship**

In carrying out her duties, Presidents reached out to immediate and former past presidents, Life Members (if any available), and their current executives. The largest challenge a new President faced in transitioning into her role in addition to learning her duties was not having a full slate of officers. Others felt inadequate in areas of running meetings, trying to please, resistance to new ideas, others' expectations, and delegation. Others expressed frustration that they've been unable to reach out to ethnic minorities in their respective parishes.

**(l) theme changes**

Most felt that between 2 and 3 years was an adequate amount of time to allow between theme changes

In summary, our Presidents are proud of the fact that the ladies in their respective Councils support each other and enjoy working together toward a common goal. They are thankful for the ladies who have gone before them and have laid a good foundation for the rest of them to follow. Although our members are aging, they still enjoy getting together and love the involvement. They are passionate about making their collective voices heard in regards to several important issues facing us today. Councils work hard to ensure a good balance of spirituality, education and fun.

***And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.*** Romans 8:28)



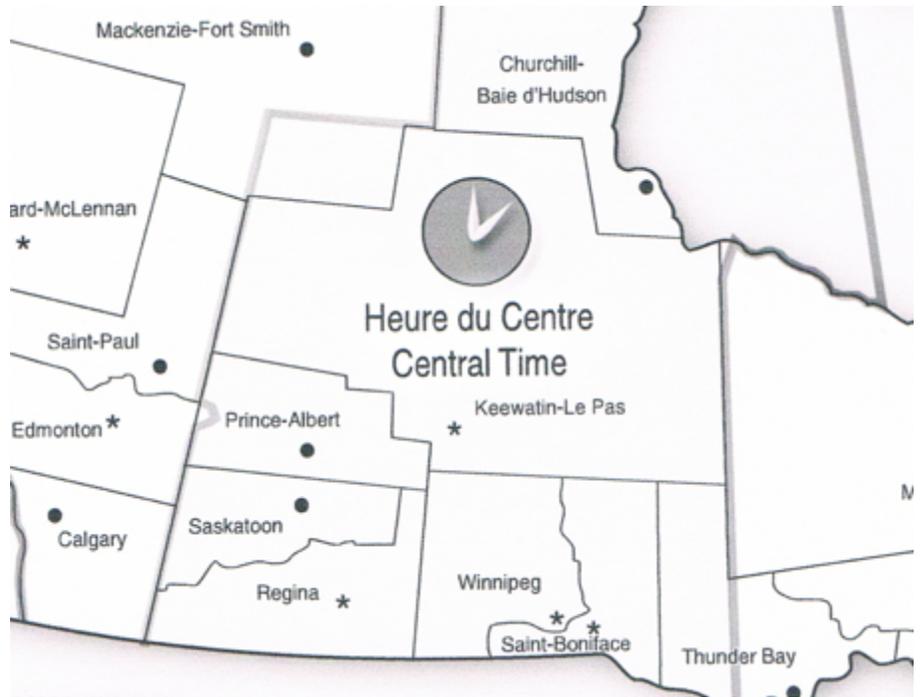
# Manitoba Dioceses

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

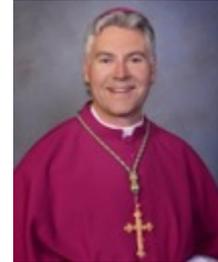
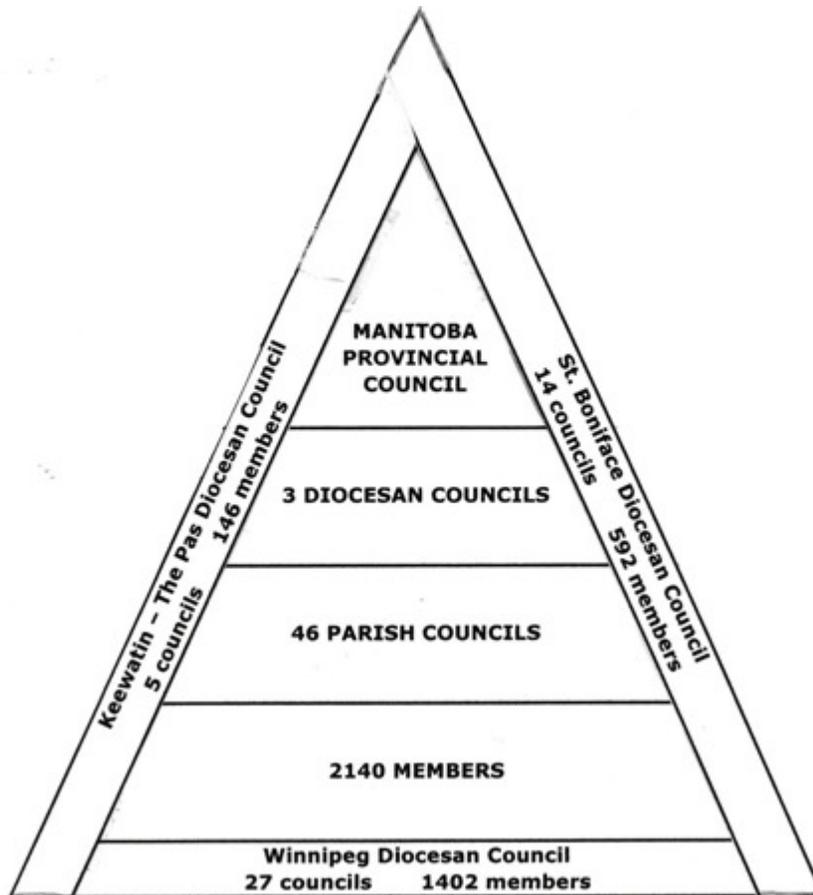
April 23, 1949 the St. Boniface Diocesan Council was formed becoming the 35<sup>th</sup> diocesan council in Canada. Charter #1176

May 21, 1921 the Winnipeg Subdivision of the Catholic Women's League of Canada was formed. Charter #62

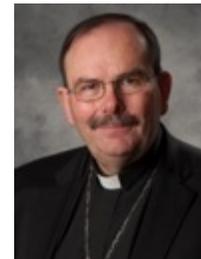
April 22, 1948 the final annual meeting was held, and after 27 years the Winnipeg Subdivision became the Winnipeg Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada.



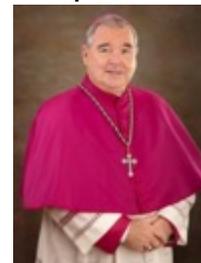
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Most Rev. Murray Chatlain  
Archbishop of Keewatin-The Pas



Most Rev. Albert LeGatt  
Archbishop of St. Boniface



Most Rev. Richard Gagnon  
Archbishop of Winnipeg



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## KEEWATIN - THE PAS DIOCESAN COUNCIL

**PRESIDENT Lucille Rossington**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**5 of 5 Parish Councils reporting = 100%**

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It is always a busy time when we start getting ready for our annual reports and convention. What great accomplishment we see as we read all the activities within each council. Parish councils are the roots of our organization. When a person takes the time to read everything a parish council does in a year it is truly amazing. So proud of all the councils in our diocese who even though some are struggling to fill vacancies every year the members pull together in sisterhood and make it happen!

***Spiritual enrichment***, our members continue to enrich their spiritual lives in many ways. Councils and members participated in some or all of the following:

Reflections at meetings on a number of different topics

Praying the rosary before their meeting and having a Eucharistic Celebration if a priest is available

*League Prayer* to start meeting and some recite a decade of the rosary as well

Participating and leading the parish rosary during May and October

Participating in and leading the Stations of the Cross during Lent

Participated in being Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Presiders and music ministry for mass and services

Ladies in one council are blessed by their Spiritual Advisor at the end of their meetings

Visiting the hospital and taking communion to the patients there

Attending and/or hosting the World Day of Prayer service

Worked with the Salvation Army on a service for the Fellowship of the Least Coin

Helped with preparing children to receive Eucharist and Confirmation and with adults preparing to have their children baptized

Gave gifts to those who received sacraments

Attended the Chrism Mass and one council helped with the preparations

Attended a Lenten retreat

Attended the Diocesan Workshop in Thompson (Study Days)

Celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel

Celebrated their priest's anniversary to priesthood

Held a memorial service in November for deceased CWL members

Gave donations to various organizations to help with their needs  
Gave Christmas gifts to their priest  
Purchased *Children's Sunday Missals* to help children pray at mass  
Participated in processions for Our Lady of Good Counsel and St. Lawrence

**Communications** of their events are done by publishing in parish bulletins, placing on bulletin boards in church entrances, radio ads for Christmas Greetings and Congratulation ad in June for graduates. Newsletters are left at entrances of Church as well as emailed and mailed.

**Through organization members** have done several membership drives by doing personal invitation, inviting ladies to their meetings with "no strings attached", invite the ladies of the parish to join them for special events (ie) Christmas parties and year end wind-up etc.

New membership for each council in 2019 is as follows:

**Snow Lake 1, The Pas 1, Flin Flon 1 Thompson 4.**

Our total membership for our diocese is as follows: (140)

St. Ann (Flin Flon)	70
Our Lady of the Snows (Snow Lake)	09
St. Lawrence (Thompson)	11
St. Maria Goretti (Lynn Lake)	10
Our Lady of Sacred Heart (The Pas)	40

We lost one member from Snow Lake, Bev. Meuse, may she rest in peace.

Service awards and service pins are awarded for milestones.

Our Diocese has 2 Life Members: Jacqueline Nogier, Ella Nogier and  
3 Bellelle Guerin recipients: Blanche Kryschuk, Pat Campbell, Catherine Daneliuk.

**In their Community Life** members continue to participate with Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Committee based out of Vancouver Diocese (re" Buying of Sex is a Crime" vignettes), Nashi based out of Saskatoon and support the following organizations as well: Coady International , Kee-Pas Missions, Esk-Omi Missions, Kids North Program, Operation Christmas Child Campaign , "A Port in a Storm", Samaritan Purse, Chalice, Save a Family Plan, World Vision, Women's Safe Haven/Shelters, CMIC New Year's Baby, Friendship Center Backpack Program, Christmas gifts for Friendship Center and Salvation Army. Collection of "clean "soft books for inmates. Support by participating and donating to Relay for Life & Walk for Life. Fill baby dresser full of clothes to donate to a mother who decided to keep her baby, dresser donated by the Knights of Columbus. Help the Knights of Columbus with their Bingo nights. Assist Chamber of Commerce with their Carnivals & Derbies. Members are also part of the Band Office, Chamber of Commerce, Health Auxiliary, Library, and Museum. They host a Carnival for kids

in their community, support breakfast programs in their parishes and do a Wrap Campaign.

**Christian Family Life** is enriched by our members never forgetting those who are celebrating special birthdays or anniversaries. Sympathy cards and Mass cards given to families of members affected by loss.

They co-host family brunch with the Knights of Columbus.

Councils circulate pamphlets to protect the unborn child, do Wrap Campaign, and recite the Rosary for Life.

They visit the shut-ins, attend mass at St. Paul's Residence (Manor). Do Christmas and Birthday parties at Manor. Help with Anointing of the Sick in June by supplying a coffee social afterwards and serving and offering rides if needed. Bring communion to shut-ins as well as bringing them Christmas Dainty Trays. Take some seniors out for suppers and entertain them with games and special treats.

Members continue to donate to missions and support a seminarian.

**Education and Health** through fundraising they are able to help with the schools' breakfast programs in their communities, provide schools supplies, support Bible camps. Bursaries are given when students meet parish council criteria.

Members educate themselves by attending presentation on Community Wellness Challenge, dialogue on senior's health and when to consider giving up your driver's license. Protecting yourselves from many scams/fraud. Support our National Theme in many ways, planting flowers that help the bees and butterflies, plastic bags collected as well as pop tabs and recycling promoted. They also attend workshops /conventions.

**Legislation and Resolutions**, we keep ourselves informed with the correspondence receive from Provincial and National on these committees.

During my six years as Diocesan President I have by far been enriched with the love of our "Sisterhood". What we do does matter and does make a difference!

May you continue to serve your God with the gifts He has given you.





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## ST. BONIFACE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

**PRESIDENT Paulette Chase**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**8 of 14 Parish Councils reporting = 57%**

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**a) *Where do you get information from which to inform your members?***

Eight respondents got information from *The Canadian League* magazine; seven from diocesan newsletters; six from parish bulletins; five from the national website; national communiqués; Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops; and provincial websites or newsletters; four from local newspapers; three from Google searches; two from Catholic Organization for Life and Family.

The current national priorities which were introduced to or discussed or acted upon by the councils this year were: seven respondents excluded medical assistance in dying from palliative care/hospice facilities; six acted upon the "Care for Our Common Home" theme; four were for the rights of the pre-born under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and removing Canada Summer Jobs Program attestation; three established standards of testing and labelling for products deemed "flushable".

The methods that were used to introduce these topics were: eight discussed the topic at a meeting; five engaged the standard committee chairperson; three wrote about the topic in a newsletter/bulletin/e-mail; two arranged for a speaker on the topic.

**b) *foster open communications***

When asked how frequently councils met with their spiritual advisor, five met monthly; two rarely; and one weekly.

Eight responses were that their spiritual advisor of the CWL was supportive.

No responses were received from the question "What reasons do you feel prevent your spiritual advisor from being present?"

**c) *preside at meetings***

Six used the council policy and procedure manual; five used the *Executive Handbook*; four used the *Constitution & Bylaws* and *Robert's Rules of Order*; three used the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*; one used *Parliamentary Procedure*.

**d) signing authority**

Eight signed cheques; six sent letters directed within the CWL; five signed banking documents and letters outside of the CWL; two signed petitions.

**e) provide active leadership**

Eight represented their council at church functions and diocesan meetings and conventions; six attended conferences; five utilized anniversaries, community fundraisers, fundraising events and dinners, sacramental events, and special masses; four used pro-life events and workshops; three used community events and provincial meetings and conventions; two attended school ceremonies and Remembrance Day services; one participated in regional meetings and World Day of Prayer.

Four councils subsidized all the costs to attend the conferences. Three did not subsidize their costs. One paid one-half the cost.

Four subsidized the costs to attend fundraising dinners and events. Four did not subsidize the costs.

Four paid the charges to attend workshops. Three did not pay. One paid 25%.

Six paid to attend the diocesan convention. Two paid one-half the cost.

Five did not pay for members to attend the provincial convention. Two paid the charges. One paid one-half.

Eight did not subsidize the national convention.

**f) initiate policy**

Seven councils had parish policy manuals. One thought that it would not be helpful.

All councils did not need assistance in developing a parish policy manual.

Five did not develop new policies that year and two did.

The new policies for 2019 were: updated our manual as it had not changed since 1988. One changed their policies regarding donations to the Least Coin as well as supporting the Marion Hour fundraiser.

**g) keep informed**

Seven read the *Executive Handbook* and understood the duties of their executive team. One did not.

Six were assisted in their responsibilities of overseeing the operations of their councils. One did not.

If the *Executive Handbook* had not helped: "There are several past presidents in our council who are very supportive and helpful."

"I have read the *Executive Handbook*, it is a good resource."

Three provided an annual summary of the council's activities to all members. Five did not.

The methods which were applied: three used oral reports; one utilized email and written report.

Committees other than standing committees that the councils had: four had annual events such as teas, bazaars, etc.; visitations; musical evening fundraiser; collected toiletries and other essentials for women's centre; collected school supplies for children; hosted a parish supper; attended mass and banquet at their twin council; participated in Solidarity Walk for Development & Peace; Soup Sunday; collect food for the food hampers as well as gifts for the children; handed out 200 sets of postcards for the Pornography Hurts Campaign; collected a large number of Sacramental Clothing to be sent up north; signed pledges for saving water; participated in Adopt-A-Highway Program cleaning event; collected plastic bags relating to "Care for Our Common Home"; collected 135 signatures Petitioning Against Child Euthanasia and fundraising. Three had scholarships or bursary; social events; funeral lunches; and three had none. Two had policies. One gave donations.

#### ***h) advisory capacity***

Issues that councils spoke on behalf of their council this year were:

"We hosted the Diocesan convention, so I welcomed members to our community. I spoke to parish about helping with our fundraisers."

"Medically assisted dying, rights of the unborn, homelessness, child poverty, right to clean water, water conservation in our homes."

"Pro life march, heart health"

"I have spoken on the topic of Pornography and Abortion."

"Child trafficking"

"Human trafficking, pornography, Pro-life. Our council just celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the average age of the members is 75+ years. We discuss many topics and try to get our congregation involved. It is hard at times to get them "excited".

"Facilitated the Registration for special League Days; the Diocesan Convention; and the Provincial Convention. Details of costs, location, programming and travel if necessary are published in the Sunday bulletin. Parish women were always included in all invitations to special events."

Seven used League letterhead when corresponding. One did not.

Three did not reference only the membership total for their councils when doing so. Three was 'not applicable'. One did.

#### ***i) official spokesperson***

Five immediate and former past presidents provided greatest assistance when they assumed the role of president. Four current executives. Two secretaries. One life member, treasurer, and diocesan president.

The greatest challenges that they faced in transitioning into the role of president were: four felt overwhelmed; three not having a full slate of officers; finding the

time; amount of paperwork; keeping members interested; recruiting; and tedious policies and procedures.

Two feeling undertrained, and technology. One resistance to new ideas; running meetings; meeting expectations; inexperience; trying to please everyone; delegation; and organizational skills.

One stated other – “am only acting in place of the president, our entire council of 9 work together on issues, I provide material received from diocese and national.”

### **j) other duties**

*Five respondents* found it beneficial to have a national theme and/or through which they could focus on their council activities.

### **Summary**

We work together and enjoy working together. The ladies who have been members for many years have laid a good foundation.

We work well together and are supportive of each other. Our meetings are a good balance of spirituality, education, and fun.

They all pitch in to complete a mission or task even though they do not want to be the leader or chairperson – so it all gets done! So much experience; some have been members for more than 50 years.

The amount of involvement in the League and their passion for helping address the various issues plaguing us (e.g. pornography, abortion, etc.)

We work and pray together.

Although the ladies are older, they help as much as they can. They support each other through prayer and phoning each other. They look out for each other and fellow parishioners. They support our new priest/spiritual advisor.

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

- Getting younger parishioners and new Canadians interested in our work.
- The reporting system needs to be changed from above. There are too many reports, each level wants different information in a different format and the communication between levels is not what it needs to be. It is very frustrating and stressful and the major reason we cannot find enough people to fill the positions on the executive. I am especially frustrated by the changes at our diocesan level. Everything is to be done in point form which leaves little room for detail. I go to meetings/conventions to network with other councils, to find out what they are doing. After a day of sitting through discussions that have little to do with our work at the parish level. I find that I have nothing to take back to my council and wonder why I even need to be there. I can just send in a report! I understand the need to conserve time and paper, but not at the expense of passing on useful information to the representatives of each council.

- As a rural community CWL the ladies do not want to travel beyond their community and miss out on so much; probably an age thing.....
- The amount of stress on taking on a new leadership role as well as a lack of volunteers in various needs. I will continue to delegate and receive help from my Executive, and I will also need to cut back on various endeavors if there are no volunteers to perform the activities.
- The biggest challenge is yet to come. My second term is up in 2021 and there is no one to take over as president. Due to help reasons I will not be agreeing to a third term. Our executive has gone from 13 members in 2017/18 to 7 members in 2019/2020.

**What was the greatest challenge in completing this survey?**

- Finding the memo with the information on how to complete it.
- I have filled it out twice. There is no indication as to how you can save or submit. I do not have a printer, so I selected save. The program closed and when I logged back in, it had only saved the last page. I completed the survey again, saving each page, but each time the program closed, and I had to log in again. Surely there is an easier way. I'm crossing my fingers this time that when I click to submit it actually gives me an option to save to my computer.
- Nil except could not use my Mac; very easy.
- Unsure of some of the questions and how they apply to me or my council.
- Not having a complete council to handle chairs.
- There was no challenge in completing the survey.

***Many school supplies were donated at the St. Boniface Diocesan Day of Reflection (October 19, 2019)***



***My dear sisters in the League,  
The school supplies which I got from St. Boniface Diocese most of them are given in Lynn Lake school (as pictured). Thank you for your generosity and support.  
Sincerely, Fr. Shantha, MSFS***



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## WINNIPEG DIOCESAN COUNCIL

**PRESIDENT Pat Ward**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**19 of 27 Parish Councils reporting = 70%**

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**a) *inform the membership***

This report is taken from information provided by the national summary of presidents' annual reports. Thank you for your time and dedication to the League. Getting information and keeping informed *The Canadian League* magazine (84%) still remains the highest source of information for council presidents. The survey indicates that national communiques, diocesan newsletters, parish bulletins and the Provincial website give the percentage information of 79%, 58%, 53%, 53% respectively. It was also noted, in the survey, that some Councils refer to a Life Member for information on League matters.

The top three national priorities that have been acted upon are: Care for Our Common Home (79%); removing Canada Summer Jobs program attestation (58%); and, excluding medical assistance in dying from palliative care/hospice facilities (58%). The method used for introducing these topics were mainly discussed at meetings which led to in some councils arranging a speaker on the topic.

**b) *foster open communication***

The majority of councils meet monthly with their spiritual advisor and there are some that rarely or never meet with their spiritual advisor. Many councils (as high as 95%) say their spiritual advisors are supportive of the CWL. Reasons for the lack of support of some spiritual advisors are duties outside the parish and the lack of tradition of having the advisor at meetings. Communication with our spiritual advisor helps to facilitate the process of sharing information and knowledge, but also helps to develop relationships and a better understanding of the CWL.

**c) *preside at meetings***

The top resources chosen by presidents are the council policy and procedures manual along with the *Constitution & Bylaws* and the *Executive Handbook*. Some councils refer to the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*, as well as *Robert's Rules of Order & Parliamentary Procedure*. The presidents' own knowledge of the CWL from attending many conventions and having served for many years provides additional input.

**d) signing authority**

Official documents signed by presidents on behalf of their councils are cheques, banking documents, letters directed within & outside of the CWL, and petitions.

**e) provide active leadership**

There are many ways that presidents represented their councils at events. The higher representations by percentage were related to church functions, diocesan meetings, sacramental events, provincial meetings, conventions, World Day of Prayer and special masses.

**f) initiate policy**

Developing new policies for 2019, eight presidents reported no and three reported new policies were developed. New policies added were: years of service awards; money amounts for a council gift when visiting a member who has been ill/shut in, and who should be aware of the visit; and some monetary amounts increased.

**g) keep informed**

Presidents have read the *Executive Handbook* and according to the survey 84% found it helpful in understanding the duties of the executive team. The handbook was thought to be instrumental in overseeing operations of the councils.

An average of 58% of presidents provide an annual summary of the council's activities to all members; while 42% did not. The main methods used are e-mail, newsletter, oral report, written report and a minimal number using the parish bulletin.

**h) advisory capacity**

Other committees councils have, besides their standing committees, are funeral lunches, visitation, scholarship or bursary, annual events such as teas, bazaars, fundraising, social events and catering.

**i) official spokesperson**

Some of the presidents, act as the official spokesperson at Mass, encouraging the opportunity of Membership within the CWL and the benefits of being a League member. Other council presidents addressed "Care for our Common Home" initiatives whenever possible, concerns regarding the environmental impact, getting youth involved in the church, pornography issues, World Day of Prayer, and many more.

A percentage of 74% use the League letterhead when corresponding.

A survey question asked was, "Who provided the greatest assistance to you when you assumed the role of president?" The key helpers were former past presidents, secretaries, the treasurer and immediate past president; and 16% of respondents received assistance from Life Members. A reminder that a Life Member is truthfully an invaluable resource and is there to assist you.

Greatest challenges faced transitioning into the role of president were keeping members interested, followed by the amount of paperwork involved and not having a full slate of officers. The next challenges were finding the time, technology and recruiting of new members.

***Here are some of the actual quotes received from the questions highlighted.***

**What makes you most proud of your council?**

- My council is made of excellent women who get along and all work toward our common goals. They are very committed and I appreciate them.
- Honored and blessed to know the women in our prayer council.
- Our council has a number of dedicated, hard-working ladies. They are easy to get along with and very helpful with suggestions from their own past experiences. Our membership is very generous and willing to donate to assist our council in fundraising opportunities such as donating to bake sales, baking for funerals and monetary or the purchase of donations towards our council's various activities.
- Pride is not the first word that would come to mind. I'm honored and blessed to know the women in our prayer council.

**What was your biggest challenge as president?**

- The biggest challenge is trying to boost our membership with new members.
- Sisterhood in the League, and how do I make our members feel part of the CWL and become engaged and know that they are appreciated and that we are interested.
- Lack of people willing to take on leadership roles.
- Lack of immigrant members that does not reflect the reality of the church parish. Made a Multicultural cookbook hoping that food might be a bridge between cultures.
- Getting new and younger members.

**What was the greatest challenge in completing this survey?**

- Logging in. It would not accept our council code. I tried several times before it accepted. Some questions are not applicable to our council as we are a small rural parish and there is no way to bypass the question.
- Getting into the system! Very difficult! I could not print out my answers. Had to consult with a computer business and with other members to even get in to the system.
- Actually, the on-line reporting system works very well. I had no challenges in completing the survey.
- If I could have read the survey ahead of completing it, it would have let me know what was being asked.

***\$115.00 and 121 lbs. Baby Formula were donated to Winnipeg Harvest from donations at the Winnipeg Diocesan Convention (April 26-27, 2019)***



### **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*

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## **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE**

**Chairperson: Con Marks**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100 %**

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### **(a) spiritual growth of members**

All three archdioceses actively pursued ways to enhance the spiritual growth of members. The theme *Care for Our Common Home* was reflected on by 65% of councils in Manitoba. All councils report using a variety of methods such as: reflections, prayer services, attending retreats, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, praying the rosary and chaplet of divine mercy to name a few. Some held candlelight vigils while others attended "Our Lady of *LaSalette* Pilgrimage". Resources used include: visiting their respective archdiocese's website for information/instruction, audio/visual media, guest speakers, using *lectio divina*, novenas, using resources found on the national website (*CWL Prays, Ceremonies Booklet, Day of Peace and Hope* activities kit) amongst other sources (e.g. priest for life.org, Bishop Barron's video on the Lord's Prayer, Mike Smith's YouTube videos on praying, and others). A few members were involved in lay formation. Only 18% used resources that were indicated in various communiques for spiritual development chairpersons. The *League Prayer* was recited by 91% of reporting councils while 65% were able to attend Mass either before or after their council's meeting.

### **(b) study of Catholic teachings**

Besides the above mentioned resources used, "The Eucharist" by Scott Hahn was studied. Members attended the Marian Conference, private retreats, and Synod and CWL workshops. The summons, *Laudate Si*, was studied with an interfaith group of women. The Vatican website was accessed, as was the website of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. Some councils used lay formation programs. Only one council undertook a study of women in scripture.

**(c) role of women in the church**

Members were on parish pastoral council. They took on roles as parish committee chairperson or diocesan council/committees. They participated on the parish finance committee, were trustees, pastoral associates and a few were on their regional pastoral council.

**(d) evangelization and mission assistance**

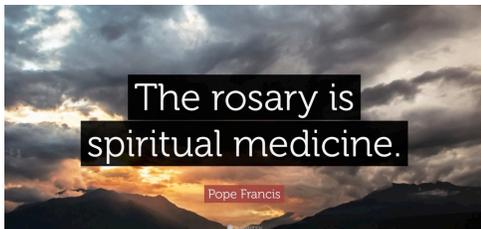
One quarter of the councils reporting, participated with the Knights of Columbus in the "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign. Catholic Missions in Canada are supported monetarily and with goods. Missions have been assisted with donations of clothing, school supplies, food and religious articles. One member made two trips with Chalice, one to Haiti and the other to Tanzania. Other members contributed to a water project via Chalice.

**(e) lay ministries**

Council members participate in lay ministries such as: lector, hospitality, Eucharistic minister, choir/music, usher, catechist, cleaning, decorating, facilitating and sacristan. Many of these ministries are chaired or organized by a CWL member. Members visit the sick in hospital and in their homes while bringing communion to them.

**(f) ecumenism and interfaith endeavors**

Approximately one quarter of reporting councils of reporting councils reached out to other denominations and/or faiths to invite them to social events, to listen to a guest speaker or to their council meeting. Many participated and promoted Fellowship of the Least Coin, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada and World Day of Prayer.



World Day of Prayer  
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## ORGANIZATION STANDING COMMITTEE

**Chairperson: Crystal Reiter**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100%**

### **Women of Faith, Service and Social Justice!**

#### **(a) recruit members and maintain membership**

Generally, there has been a decrease in memberships – many councils have attributed this fact to the increasing age of members. Having said that, there are councils in the north who are managing to recruit one or two members a year. They have membership drives that last over a few weeks and invite ladies to a meeting – we know that the best way to recruit members is still a personal invitation!



Are we culturally diverse? Does your council reflect the congregation? Maybe invite someone to share a “coming to Canada story”.

Also, successful membership maintenance involves recognizing existing members. The National Office has certificates, awards, anniversary pins – is your council utilizing these?

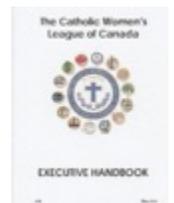
And hooray! It looks like fewer and fewer councils are using good old snail mail for memberships! Way to go!

#### **(b) leadership development**

Many councils are trying to follow the recommended 90-minute meeting format of 30 minutes spiritual, 30 minutes business, and 30 minutes social. When leadership development opportunities are provided they generally have low attendance. Mentoring is provided when possible, members appreciate this and it might help us to continue to develop new leaders. Workshops are better attended when they are held on the same weekends as convention.

#### **(c) League resource material**

Most councils report using *Constitution and Bylaws*, League magazine, *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*, *CWL Prays* and the Welcome brochures. Councils report using the online resources. Promotional Material and service pins are available through the national website, many councils are using these items to celebrate their members.



### **(d) annual reports**

Overall there has been an increase of annual reports being done online. Please try to get your council using this valuable service. It really is quite straight forward. Many councils get together and do their reports as a group – pot lucks and wine! It is helpful because with many heads less things will get forgotten. Some councils still report trouble with online reporting. I am sure that most councils must have someone who can guide the group through the online reporting process, and if not, reach out, your diocesan and provincial council members can help.



### **(e) life membership**

Not all councils have a life member. Familiarize yourself with the criteria, maybe there is someone who would qualify. And if you do have a life member, they are a wonderful resource for your council! Life members have seen many changes in the League, they can act as mentors for your younger members, they are often participants in provincial and national tasks and can share with local councils. These ladies have so much to share and give to younger, newer CWL members – invite a life member to talk to your group!



### **Summary:**

Just a few comments that came up – councils do not like the organization annual report questions about age of members, we do not ask this and are often just estimating and guessing to fill in the questionnaire! The other item is that succession planning and mentoring are such valuable tools that are often not used. Councils are having trouble filling the role of president elect, many councils just have someone in the organization chair position who has no interest in being president (or has already been). It is a natural step to complete two years as organization and step into the president's chair, much is learned and the change isn't so scary. Also, try to find some mentors for new executive members, it's a great role for some ladies who want to step down.

As we learn and change as a CWL please keep your council up to date and informed of everything that is going on. Watch for opportunities to become involved with the Strategic Planning Implementation Committee. They are frequently seeking volunteers and it would be a great way to get involved.

I have stepped into this role of president-elect without a lot of experience. I am learning new things every day! I know that I have not always done everything exactly as it should be, and I do not always make deadlines! I would like to thank everyone who has given me advice and guidance as I learn this new role.



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## CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE

**Chairperson: Marielle Rigaux**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

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**2 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 66.7 %**

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**".....all that we really need to make us happy is something to be enthusiastic about." (Charles Kingsley 1819-75)**

"Enthusiasm", something we are not short of in the CWL except for when it comes to reporting on the good works we have achieved in the past year. Of the 46 Manitoba councils, 20 filed a report. Just as you share baking, prayers, your joys and sadness, please share, no matter how small your acts of kindness in any CWL chair, share with the rest of us, it matters!

### **a) marriage and family**

"The family is the basic cell of society. It is the cradle of life and love, the place in which the individual is "born" and "grows" (*Christifideles Laici*)

Family enrichment programs promoted and supported by councils included:

- A: marriage preparation
- B: encounter weekends for engaged couples
- C: marriage encounter weekends for married couples
- D: natural family planning



There were two programs to support happily married couples and a parenting course; none were offered for single parents.

Four councils supported people suffering from domestic abuse. Quite a few Women's Shelters were supported, and donated HUG items were collected for them at the Provincial Day of Celebration and the Provincial Convention.

Two councils attended a seminar (workshop) on family life. Four councils celebrated or organized events for National Family Week.

Mother's Day, Father's Day, special anniversaries of all kinds, happy occasions celebrating milestones were remembered with cards as were the sadder occasions when a loss in a family occurred. Bishops and Priests were also remembered as they are part of the community church family.

### **a) sanctity of life**

The Catholic Women's League believes in life, from its beginning to its natural end.

Fourteen councils report holding membership in a local pro-life organization. For the most part these councils participate in or attended the following Pro-Life events: March for Life, 40 Days for Life, Pro-Life Dinners, Life Chain, a presentation of St. Pope John Paul II "Theology of the Body", and Pro-Life Vigils. These councils also provided monetary support to Campaign for Life Support Services, Life Canada, Pregnancy and Family Support Services and local Pro-Life organizations and other agencies advocating for "sanctity of life". Other councils focussed on pro-life events and some members participated in the "Walk for Peace & Hope".

The League's current Pro-Life brochure given to CWL members was also made available to parishioners. One CWL member met with a pro-life legislator.



Seven councils have written to legislators advising them of the League's position in regards to the League's resolutions on abortion and Euthanasia, regarding National Council's 2019 resolution that "Canada honour its commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child". Two councils addressed part of the action plan to educate members on the importance of legal protection for the unborn child. Fewer than half of CWL members wrote to the Prime Minister urging legal protection for unborn children.

### **c(i) ministry to youth**

"Young people are the church, the people of God. Youth today have much to share: an exchange of ideas between generations is a source of growth and renewal for all".

Councils encourage their young people to share their gifts in ministry as lectors, ushers, choir and catechist. They volunteer to help serve, clean-up, garden and help with coffee services. Councils sponsored youth events, Catholic Christian Outreach, summer camp, Sunday school, and Youth Conference. One council purchased subscriptions to Catholic magazines, books and videos for the parish community school. With World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal in 2022, one council states that they have started promoting the event and one council sponsored NET ministries.

### **c(ii) ministry to disabled**

It was felt that the questionnaire appeared to be directed to the rural population areas that depend on the League to be leaders. Accessibility to public buildings and church buildings have been looked after. Some churches have designated space for ease of access to assist the disabled and they are also encouraged to

participate in the liturgical celebrations. Others have reached out to the disabled by bringing them communion, gave gifts on special occasions, sent cards, organized special events, visited, provided transportation and invited them to all council meetings.

### ***c(iii) ministry to seniors***

Seniors provide a gift to society of tradition and Heritage acquired through a lifetime of experience.

According to the survey 67% of CWL members are seniors. That only leaves 33% to look after the parish seniors. The able and young at heart minister to the seniors, bringing them communion, gift them with CWL membership (which is now getting hard to do as councils have other commitments), invite retired women to join and get them involved in CWL events. They shared a meal, called, visited, prayed with them and provided transportation, a listening ear and encouragement. These newly retired women are encouraged to share their faith story. These ladies are a bonus as they bring new ideas and energy that they can no longer expand in their work world. Councils need to keep in touch with seniors.

### ***c(iv) ministry to widowed***

By sharing their gifts in church and society the widowed may find personal fulfillment in reaching out to others.

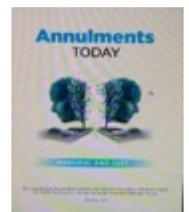
Some councils have a bereavement program in the parish, some gift a prayer shawl, the women were invited to parish events and also invited to CWL meetings and gently encouraged to participate. They are provided with prayer and support after the death of a spouse, visited and called and made to feel included, that they are not alone.

### ***c(v) ministry to separated and divorced***

Many face the responsibility of raising children alone. The need to express the message of hope by offering assistance can be beneficial.

Two councils provided support by inviting them to a group outing, involving the family and providing a listening ear without being judgemental.

An objective that could be undertaken is to provide the parish with copies of a new brochure "*Annulments Today - Merciful and Just*" available at National office. This brochure provides good advice for couples contemplating separation or divorce with where to reach out and get help. In order to understand where the church stands on this topic would be to have a speaker in to speak on this topic of the annulment process. CWL members can become more confident in their knowledge about receiving



knowledge about receiving the sacraments and about the process to their separated or divorce friends and family members.

**d) vocations**

" Religious vocations are a "gift from God" and they are born in communities of faith". *Ecclesia in America*

Two Diocesan councils report actively supporting vocations to the priesthood and religious life by adopting and supporting a seminarian. Families are encouraged to invite priests and religious to their homes, while others hosted luncheons for priests and religious. CWL offered prayers and masses for vocations; sent spiritual bouquets; supported the priestly retirement fund, SERRA, and the Diocesan Council Seminarian Fund; and the Travelling Chalice/Crucifix Program. At council meetings the *Prayer for Priests* and *Prayer for Vocations* were prayed as well as Pope Francis' prayer for the *2019 World Day of Prayer for Vocations*. Donations were made to Kee-Pas Missions and CMIC in support of seminarians.

The Family Conference held in May 2019 was promoted by the 3 archdioceses in Winnipeg, the CWL, Knights of Columbus and local churches. One council started holding family nights to promote Advent and Lent.

Thank-you to all councils who responded to the Christian and Family Life survey and who took the time to reflect and write an annual report. You make my reporting so easy for which I am most grateful.

**March for Life May 2019 (Winnipeg)**



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 in their hearts, families, work and community.

Amen.



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## COMMUNITY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE

**Chairperson: Mavis McLaren**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

***3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100%***

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### ***(a) dignity and rights of persons***

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is committed to support and protect their fellow human beings.

Many councils lend support through prayers, volunteering and donations. They support those who suffer domestic violence, homelessness, hunger, human trafficking and racism, bullying, and for those incarcerated. Some councils had guest speakers and workshops to highlight these concerns.

Councils denounce human trafficking and pornography by writing postcards to all levels of government and urging the federal government to address these issues in their decision - making. One council participated with the Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Committee based out of Vancouver Diocese (re "Buying of Sex is a Crime." vignettes).

Homelessness is addressed through assisting organizations that provide housing, and donations are also sent to shelters.

Most councils support women and children in shelters by bringing them clothing, toiletries, toys, books for children, and a variety of supplies throughout the year. Some councils had guest speakers to highlight and bring awareness to these concerns at council level as well as their parish level.



Awareness – It should be noted that the following need more attention:

*United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. It is a document signed by many countries in 1948. Although most councils are aware of it, implementing this has proven quite challenging. However, it's worth discussing and having the awareness.

Bill C-262 UN Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Persons- One council discussed this Bill.

Discussion on the works of Kairos was not discussed by any council.

The article from the League magazine "Anglicans and Catholics together for the love of Community" was discussed by one council.

Resolution 2017.01 Full implementation of the Supreme Court Decision in R. B. Claude for Indigenous Offenders was discussed by some councils and letters were sent.

**(b) social and economic justice**

Social and economic Justice is expressed in different forms in our councils. As stated by one of our councils, "we strive to bring justice to the vulnerable members of our society." This is done through prayer, raising awareness of our council and their communities by using guest speakers, videos and discussion groups knowledgeable in this area.

One council shows support by a number of initiatives that promotes justice through donations, prayers, and volunteer hours.

One Diocesan Council donated to fourteen of these causes, offered prayers for ten and volunteered in nine of the following areas: Affordable housing, Anti-poverty, School programs, clothing drives, shelters (homeless and abused), drop-in centres, food banks/hamper/soup kitchens, restorative justice and resources for single parents.

Another council supported over thirty programs some of which are listed below.

1. Attend World Day of Prayer
2. Attend and lay wreath for Remembrance Day
3. Host a Shrove Tuesday during Lent because they are the only Church left in town
4. Host a multicultural supper, host farmer's market, pancake breakfast for carnival
5. Donated to Coady International, Kee Pas Missions, Esk-Omi Missions, Kids North Program Operation
6. Christmas Child Campaign, Samaritan Purse, Chalice, Save a Family Plan, World Vision, Women's Safe Haven "A Port in the Storm", CMIC
7. Friendship Centre Backpack project, collection of ("clean") soft cover books for inmates
8. World Day of Poor grocery hampers collected and given to homeless shelters and soup kitchen
9. Food bank donations by monetary donations and supplies
10. Support to the breakfast programs in their parishes
11. Collection of eyeglasses, stamps
12. Pop tabs were collected for wheelchair program
13. Monetary donation to five schools for their breakfast program
14. Donate gift and visit the residents around Christmas

**(c) refugees, immigration and citizenship**

Many immigrants were welcomed to Manitoba in 2019 for a total of 19,000. Support has been given to refugees and immigrants in the form of donations of furniture, household items and clothing or assisted in finding them housing.

Most councils are not familiar with Canada's Immigration policies. However, they have a better understanding of the needs of immigrants in the community. Some of these needs are employment services, English language courses, financial assistance in terms of rent and food.

Councils also supported families through organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, the Chalice program, Buy-a-Net Malaria Prevention Group, Save a Family Plan, CNEWA, the Canadian Red Cross, World Vision, Canadian Legion and Citizenship, The House of Peace Awards, Scholarships and Leadership Training.

Most councils understand the difference between immigrants, temporary foreign workers and refugees.

In the area of Citizenship ceremonies, most have not participated but have attended Remembrance Day Service and wear poppies. A small number have worn Red on Fridays to support our troops.

Also, we could pay more attention to Resolution 2016.01 Equal Access to Permanent Residence Status, An Amendment to the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. Only one council wrote letters, and two have monitored the government response.

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

No report for this area.

**(e) developing countries**

Some councils studied economic difficulties in developing countries and denounce the structures that put profits before people.

We are asked to consider Child Labour in other countries, Trade Laws and Global practices. A few councils are aware of these issues, others somewhat, but most not aware.

Support is given to children and families in developing countries including: Canadian food for Children, Red Cross, Malaria nets, Chalice, Save a Family Plan, Operation Christmas Child, Pennies for the Poor and the Holy Childhood Association.



**Councils also have some concerns:**

- This is a very large area of responsibility and it is difficult to be effective in all these areas.
- Most councils tend to focus on smaller more local concerns that they feel they can make a difference in.
- Struggles with computer usage and the reporting process.
- Lack of members to take on areas of concern- one person cannot do it all.



**Pope Francis' encyclical, Laudato Si**

*"We advocate for environmental justice that embraces subsidiary and global solidarity when addressing ecological issues, so to hear both the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor."*

**CWL Centenary Project 2018-2019**



**A H.U.G. of Gratitude**

H.U.G. (Helping, Understanding, Giving) Centenary Committee Project 2019

The Centenary Committee is absolutely thrilled to announce that due to the awesome work of League parish councils, women's shelters across Canada received 7,600 individual packages!

The committee's goal was 2,019 to commemorate the year.

The packages varied in size from shoe boxes to laundry baskets to garbage bags. Some councils chose to give items separately rather than in packages which resulted in an additional 5,500 toiletry items, \$4,000 in donations and \$905.00 in gift cards.

The Centenary Committee extends its sincere gratitude to each and everyone of you for your participation and amazing generosity.

Your H.U.G. has benefited the women's shelters and showed how much you care!



Helping

*you and your family*

with

Understanding

*of this time in your life's journey*

and

Giving

*these items with love and caring  
as support for all of you*

**Thanks to all councils who donated H.U.G. items**

<b>Name of Council:</b>	<b>Manitoba Provincial Council</b>
<b>Standing Committee:</b>	<b>Education and Health</b>
<b>2019.02</b>	<b>Establishment of refundable deposits and return depots for recyclable beverage containers</b>
<b>Whereas,</b>	Statistics reveal that the deposit-return system by beverage producers has a greater success rate for recycling by consumers and businesses than curbside recycling programs offered by municipalities; and
<b>Whereas,</b>	Beer producers in Manitoba are the only beverage producers who have chosen the option of setting up a deposit-return system for domestic beer bottles and cans instead of paying a \$0.02/container levy through the WRAP (Waste Reduction and Prevention) program; and
<b>Whereas,</b>	Many of Manitoba's recyclable beverage containers end up in landfill sites because there is little incentive for consumers and businesses to recycle them through a deposit-return system; therefore, be it
<b>Resolved,</b>	That Manitoba Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, urge the Manitoba provincial government to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• require beverage producers to charge a refundable deposit for recyclable beverage containers in Manitoba</li> <li>• provide for the establishment of depots for consumers to return recyclable beverage containers to recoup the deposit; and be it further</li> </ul>
<b>Resolved,</b>	That, this resolution be forwarded through the national executive to the other ten provincial councils, encouraging them to become aware of this issue as it pertains to their province/territory, and to act on it, as deemed necessary/prudent.
<b>This resolution was adopted by a majority vote at the annual convention of Manitoba Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada held on June 9, 2019.</b>	
<p><b>BRIEF 2019.02</b> "CBCRA [Canadian Beverage Container Recycling Association] has managed and operated the beverage container recycling program in Manitoba since 2010." (CBCRA) Statistics reveal that the deposit-return system by beverage producers has a greater success rate for recycling by consumers and businesses than curbside recycling programs offered by municipalities. In Manitoba, statistics for the 2014 return rate for the <i>Waste Reduction and Prevention Act (WRAP) Packaging and Paper Stewardship Regulation</i> showed the highest rate of 99% for refillable beer containers and that other beer-related beverage containers recycled were at 61% or less. By contrast, all non-deposit, non-dairy beverage containers were recycled at a rate less than 35% through residential blue-box curbside programs. (Bottlebill.org, MB) A deposit-return system in Saskatchewan reveals statistical success rates for 2017 as follows: glass: 95%, aluminum: 92%, plastics: 78% and aseptic/cartons: 50%. (Bottlebill.org, SK) In British Columbia, the 2017 Annual Report by Encorp Pacific (Return-It) states it recovered about 80% of all the beverage containers. (Encorp Pacific)</p> <p>"The Manitoba Product Stewardship Plan (MPSP) was implemented in January 1995 and is funded by a 2 cent per beverage container Waste Reduction and Prevention (WRAP) levy. The per container levy is applied to all non-deposit, non-dairy beverage containers sold in the province. The levy is included in the price paid by a retailer to a licensed manufacturer or distributor. Many retailers include the 2 cents in their price to consumers to offset the additional cost. The levy supports recycling and waste reduction efforts in the province... The 'WRAP levy' is charged to all beverage producers and remitted to the Manitoba Product Stewardship Corporation (MPSC)... Municipalities participate in the program [MPSC] voluntarily... monies received from MPSC are used to offset costs of curbside recycling." (Bottlebill.org, MB)</p> <p>"In Manitoba, beverage producers have been given the option of setting up a deposit-return system or of paying a 2-cent-per-container levy. All except beer producers have chosen the latter option." (Bottlebill.org MB) Manitoba beer producers have chosen the deposit-return system. "Manitoba Liquor Commission administers all liquor and beer sales in the province. Packaged beer is retailed primarily through cold beer outlets attached to hotels, but beer is also sold through the government owned liquor stores. The empty containers are, however, returned only to the cold beer/hotel outlets for a full deposit redemption... Retailers are paid a handling fee to manage the collection of beer containers they receive." (Bottlebill.org MB)</p> <p>Statistics support that a small percentage of beverage containers are recycled through municipal recycling programs. Except for aluminum cans, approximately 35% or less of beverage containers are recycled in Manitoba. (Bottlebill.org, MB) So, where do all of the wine and liquor glass bottles end up? Many of Manitoba's recyclable beverage containers end up in landfill sites because there is little incentive for consumers and businesses to recycle them through a deposit-return system. A deposit fee would encourage users to bring them to the depot for a refund rather than being discarded in a landfill.</p> <p>As evidenced by the success rate of the beer bottle and can return program, in stark contrast to the statistics for non-beer system (non-deposit non-dairy beverage containers), Manitobans have little incentive to recycle beverage containers on a regular basis unless there is a refundable deposit. The Manitoba provincial government is urged to</p>	

require beverage producers to charge a refundable deposit for recyclable beverage containers in Manitoba and to provide for the establishment of depots for consumers to return recyclable beverage containers to recoup the deposit.

**ACTION PLAN**

1. Write to the premier, Minister of Sustainable Development and local MLA urging them to:
  - a. require producers to charge a refundable deposit for recyclable beverage containers in Manitoba, and
  - b. provide for the establishment of depots for consumers to return recyclable beverage containers to recoup the deposit.
2. Educate members about the need to recycle out of respect for the environment.
- 3.** Monitor the provincial government's response to the requests contained in the resolution.

**This resolution was gifted by Notre Dame de Lorette Parish Council through the St. Boniface Diocesan Council**

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## **EDUCATION and HEALTH STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Chairperson: Vacant**

**Report prepared by President Janet Brunger**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100 %**

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*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**

It appears that knowledge relating to the value of Catholic Education and support of Catholic schools is limited to personal exposure to a Catholic School, either in the Parish, in the catchment area, or in the family. Currently we have 11 Catholic schools in the Winnipeg Diocese, including one in Brandon (western Manitoba's only rural Catholic school), 6 Catholic schools in the St. Boniface Diocese, and 2 Ukrainian Catholic schools. In addition, we have the Catholic School of Evangelization in St. Malo, the University of St. Boniface, and St. Paul's College at the University of Manitoba. As a result, there is very little knowledge of family life programs offered through the Catholic schools, nor information of the needs in schools that could be met/helped by Councils.

One Council purchased "We Are Catholic" books for children attending their school, encouraged use of the "seed library", and informed members of services provided at their new library.

#### **(i) Rites of Christian Initiation**

Although none of our Council Chairs were personally involved in the RCIA programs in their parishes, members did not hesitate to step forward to sponsor an individual or family member.

**(b) literacy and continuing education**

Councils have provided monetary donations to support schools with breakfast programs and have provided supplies to schools. In addition, they have discussed "How to protect yourself from the many frauds/scams". Finally, they have encouraged members to assist in literacy programs.

**(c) scholarships and bursaries**

There are many opportunities for our Councils to participate in scholarships and bursaries. Councils made contributions through bursary and scholarship funds for both elementary and high school aged children, as well as post-secondary students. There were also field trips, extracurricular activities and reading programs that received support from Councils. Support was extended to Catholic women furthering their education, Catholic Christian Outreach, NET Ministries, and individual university/college students, as well as the National Bursary Fund. One Council is establishing a "Community Service Award" for an elementary student at their local Catholic school. Almost all Councils reported donations to Coady International Institute.

**(d) wellness and sickness/disease**

Less than half of our Councils were aware of or 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, Relay for Life, etc. Approximately half of our council members participated in the *Partners for Life Program*. Some attended a presentation on Community Wellness Challenge, and others held discussions on seniors' health and wellbeing.



Councils participated in the *12 Hours of Prayer for 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. One council welcomed and supported those who shared their own experience of palliative care, one council took a free will offering and donated it to a local hospice; many others provided brochures, held discussion evenings, and wrote letters to government officials.

In addition, one Council held a discussion about how to assist in palliative care. One other Council provided a presentation on panic disorder. Another Council reviewed the resolution 2014.02 HZ(Herpes Zoster) Vaccine coverage under Manitoba Health

**(e) environment**

While some councils participated in the *CWL Water Pledge Challenge Campaign* or the United Nations World Water Day on March 22, 2019, many of our Councils shared initiatives and ideas to acknowledge the focus on water in 2019. Some of

these ideas were to encourage members to reduce their water consumption, use of plastic straws and encourage reusable water bottles. One council hosted speakers on river clean-up and water treatment to city water supplies. Also discussed was preservation of wetlands, marshes and river systems. While there was little action taken for Earth Action Initiative or Earth Day, many Councils did promote planting gardens, and particularly flowers that support bees and butterflies; reductions in use of chemicals; car pooling; reduction in the use of Styrofoam containers; encouraged recycling, reduce paper and collect green waste for composting.

The plastic bag program as well as collecting pop can tabs is ongoing. Members donated monies to "Chalice" to help with their water projects. One council participated in the "Adopt-A-Highway Program" for roadside clean-up and another Council participated in the WUCWO Challenge – Earth Action Initiative and cleaned the grounds around the church. Another Council provided the website link for the Amazonia Synod to members to source the final document on the synod.



*Just one of the two car loads of plastic bags donated*

### **(f) genetics**

Most Councils would like to see more information in regard to the advantages and disadvantages of technology to alter genes in light of the teaching of the Catholic Church. It was suggested that information should be published in the League magazine. Councils recognized that subscribing to the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute newsletters would likely also give them the information they want.

Our members continue to channel their donations to local organizations that promote health and wellness: pregnancy support services; breakfast programs; programs providing transportation, aids, support for those with cancer, women's shelters; Palliative Care Centres; hampers to needy families; and the collection of food items and warm clothing to be given to Missionaries of Charity and homeless shelters.

All of this demonstrates to me that our members, while being very mindful of healthy living and wellness issues, are also deeply concerned about the health of our planet, and are doing their part within their communities to ensure that as healthy a planet as can be will handed down to the next generation.

**Call 1-800-2DONATE**

(1-800-236-6283) to donate **CATH011269**  
to book your appointment

***Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba (MMSM)***  
***[Recyclepedia@SimplyRecycle.ca](mailto:Recyclepedia@SimplyRecycle.ca)***

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## COMMUNICATIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

### Position Vacant

### Annual Report prepared by President Janet Brunger

January 1 to December 31, 2019

**3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting = 100 %**

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*"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 resource, advocacy/action, education, spiritual information and various important content. It appears to be the first go-to for reporting tools, and is widely embraced by all members. Several articles are read and followed by our ladies; namely, our President's message, our National Spiritual Advisor's comments, and the featured articles relating to important and high-profile current issues; namely, Pornography, Dignity and Rights of Persons, and Human Trafficking. Our elderly members who may not be computer literate, particularly appreciate receiving the 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; however, in casual conversation with many members, a far greater number state they are regular subscribers to Catholic publications. It appears that our members do receive these publications, but it is not being reported. Likewise with Mass for shut-ins, Vision TV and Salt & Light Media – it's not being reported, but in casual conversation, many of our members regularly tune in to these stations.

Councils utilize parish bulletins, bulletin boards, email mail-outs and newsletters to keep their members informed of current happenings. Others use parish websites, community websites and local radio stations, and newspaper ads. Many Councils encourage their members to visit the CWL website or go on Facebook and Twitter.

**(c) media relations**

Several Councils do actively monitor media content, and some discuss and write letters of protest on certain publications; namely the "Mary Kills People" series, and the Netflix movie "The First Temptation of Christ", portraying Jesus Christ as a homosexual and the Blessed Virgin as an adulteress.

**(d) pornography**

This continues to resonate with our members. Some attended seminars, conferences or workshops, while others followed newspaper and magazine articles; still others distributed *Pornography Hurts* postcards or participated in the *White Ribbon Against Pornography* program. It continues to be widely discussed at all levels of the League. Some councils promoted films relating to pornography addiction (*Over 18* and *Red Light/Green Light*), followed by information sessions. Still others discussed and informed members of the lack of age verification controls on adult websites and encouraged members to educate themselves and their families on responsible internet use.



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 of these issues are extremely important; they touch a nerve with our membership, and, true to form, our ladies are responding!

I encourage all of you to continue being 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.

[www.cwlmanitoba.ca](http://www.cwlmanitoba.ca)



[www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca)



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## RESOLUTIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

### Position Vacant

#### Report prepared by contact person Con Marks

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

**January 1 to December 31, 2019  
18 of 47 Parish Councils reporting = 38 %**

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#### **(a) research and preparation of resolutions and briefs**

One council submitted **Resolution 2019.02 Establishment of refundable deposits and return depots for recyclable beverage containers** which was adopted at the St. Boniface diocesan and provincial conventions. It was forwarded to national council resolution committee to be forwarded through the national executive to the other ten provincial councils, encouraging them to become aware of this issue as it pertains to their province/territory, and to act on it, as deemed necessary/prudent.

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

Councils encouraged their members to sign petitions and write letters to their MLA's and MP's regarding:

2018.01 Attestation Requirement on Canada Summer Jobs Program

2018.02 Setting a Standard for Products Marketed as "Flushable"

2018.03 Legislate Designation of Hospice/Palliative Care Services in Facilities to Exclude Medical Assistance in Dying

One council invited a guest speaker in order to educate their members further. Euthanasia and assisted dying and pornography were the main topics of interest.

#### **(c) presentation of resolutions to government**

President Janet Brunger has sent numerous emails requesting a visit with our premier and his cabinet to no avail thus far. A list of potential resolutions for discussion was compiled and sent to his office.

**Of note:** This position remains difficult to fill. There is a 61% vacancy. Of the filled positions, 71% share this position with legislation. Councils are hoping that when more changes are enacted through strategic planning that more members may become interested.

*Resolutions of today become law tomorrow!*

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



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## LEGISLATION STANDING COMMITTEE

**Chairperson: Paulette Borgfjord**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**17 of 47 parish councils reporting = 36%**

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The Legislation Chair is often difficult to fill. I am pleased to report that councils reported on Legislative issues without having the position filled. Thank you, ladies.

Sometimes we feel like we are continually climbing uphill following up on legislation with letter writing and petitions; however, the more our voice is heard by members of all levels of government, the more they will listen. Remember to thank your elected official for his/her service.

### ***monitor and study legislation at all Levels of government***

Councils know the names of local, municipal, provincial, and federal government representatives. Many have received mailings from the municipal, provincial and federal representatives. Some members have attended public forums sponsored by governments at any level and brought information back to their council.

Some have accessed Hansard. I encourage all to try this useful tool. It will take you directly to the subject you are looking for and the resulting debates.

Knowledge of the bills in the survey: Bill C-57 (An Act to amend the *Federal Sustainable Development Act*); Bill C-75 (An Act to amend the *Criminal Code, the Youth Criminal Justice Act* and other Acts and to make consequential amendments to other Acts) and Bill C-418 (Protection of Freedom of Conscience Act) was reported as very aware to not at all aware.

**Resolution 2019-02 Canadian Support for the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons:** letters were written to the prime minister and local members of parliament indicating support.

**Resolution 2018-03 Medical Assistant in Dying:** letters written to the prime minister, ministers of justice and health, and their member of parliament, urging the federal government to legislate designation of hospice/palliative care free from medical assistance in dying.

- Four councils educated members on keeping hospice and palliative care free from medical assistance in dying.

- Where hospices were performing medical assistance in dying, one withdrew all funding and wrote to the board of directors of hospices stating the reason for the withdrawal of donations.
- Two continue to monitor the federal government's response to the request contained in the resolution.

**Resolution 2018.02 "Setting a Standard for Products Marketed as Flushable":** letters of support were sent to the federal government,

Councils have kept busy informing their members on government issues. Keep up the good work!

- One council has monitored and/or acted upon an interim report presented by the Advisory Council on the Implementation of National Pharmacare on March 6, 2016 and legalized Euthanasia that became legal in Canada in 2016.
- A council gave a power point presentation on letter writing
- Monitored Bill S202.

## Websites

- The Manitoba website can be reached at:  
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/government/index.html>
- The Province's News Releases can be found at:  
[https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?month=1&year=2020&day=01&bg\\_nG=GO&d=](https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?month=1&year=2020&day=01&bg_nG=GO&d=)

This site outlines initiatives introduced by the Provincial Government.

- Information on Parliament can be found at:  
<https://www.ourcommons.ca/en/parliamentary-business>

*"It always seems impossible until it's done." Nelson Mandela*



**The Hansard Index** is the key to information about what is said by Members of Parliament in the House of Commons during the current Parliament Session. The subject entries will either provide reference to a page number or, a combination of page number followed by the issue sitting number and time checks in the daily Hansard. <https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/house/latest/hansard>

## HOUSE PUBLICATIONS

The *Debates* are the report—transcribed, edited, and corrected—of what is said in the House. The *Journals* are the official record of the decisions and other transactions of the House. The *Order Paper and Notice Paper* contains the listing of all items that may be brought forward on a particular sitting day, and notices for upcoming items.



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## PAST PRESIDENT

**Rolande Chernichan**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting = 100%**

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Of Manitoba's 46 parish councils, some of which are prayer councils that do not prepare annual reports, 24 councils participated in online reporting with 20 councils (83%) who had the past-president position filled. Eight participants reported having been a member for more than twenty-five years with the balance having fewer years of membership. Fourteen (70%) reported having held the position of past president previously, with 70% ranging in age 55 to 74 years of age. Half reported attending executive meetings and events, and 60% reported attending general meetings and events. Half reported attending social and spiritual events.

**(a) *serve in a consultative capacity***

Past presidents reported being consulted for advice less than once a month (30%), with some being sought for advice monthly (25%) and even two to three times per month (20%). Most past presidents (80%) felt the president felt supported and encouraged by their advice.

**(b) *responsible for archives and history***

Archiving is the responsibility of 60% of the past presidents, and 15% reported having someone else do the task. One quarter (25%) of reporting councils are not having their council's archives and history being managed by anyone. Most councils (88%) report their archives are stored at the church, parish hall or office. Almost all (92%) knew where their council charter was. Methods of archiving used by councils included photo albums (75%) or scrapbooks (46%), in filing cabinets (71%) or in banker boxes (42%). Surprisingly 41% relied on electronic media to store their archives (29% on memory sticks, 8% on CDs, and 4% on DVDs). Fifty-eight percent (58%) reported keeping their annual reports indefinitely with the balance keeping them for an average of 5-10 years. Most councils (88%) reported keeping their *Book of Life*. Deceased members' histories are kept indefinitely by 63% of reporting councils. Fewer than half (42%) keep their financial information for 5-8 years, and one-third keep it indefinitely. Most councils (79%) keep the list of the executives indefinitely. Membership renewal data is kept indefinitely by 63% of councils, with 13% keeping it for only 1-4 years. Minutes of executive meetings are retained indefinitely by 67% of councils,



with the balance reporting that they are kept 5-10 years. Minutes of general meetings reflected the same practices. Records of pin and award recipients also are retained in the same percentage ratios as the minutes. Written reports of executive reports are archived 50% of the time with 31% reporting that they are kept 5-10 years, and 13% reporting they do not archive them. Records of years of service of members are archived by 83% of councils. Councils reported reviewing their archives as needed 83% of the time, and only 8% do the review annually or biannually. 58% of councils reported not maintaining a history book. 75% reported maintaining labelled photo albums.

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

Most past presidents (92%) reported having a copy of the *Constitution & Bylaws*. Over half (54%) reported rarely using the C&B to guide a council decision, and 29% reported using it multiple times per year.



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

Most past presidents (79%) reported having a copy of the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*, and that 50% of councils reporting that they rarely refer to it. Almost three-quarters of reporting councils (71%) reported their council having its own policy and procedure manual, with 47% reporting it is updated whenever there is a policy change, and 47% updating it every two years. One third of councils (33%) reported having rarely sought advice from their diocesan council, and half (50%) reported rarely seeking advice from their provincial council. 46% reported never seeking advice from national executive, and 50% have rarely sought advice from national office. About half (46%) reported seeking advice from spiritual advisors on a monthly basis. The local bishop is rarely consulted (42%) and 54% reported never consulting him. Half of reporting councils do not seek the advice of Life Members, and 29% reported rarely seeking their advice.

**(e) other duties as assigned by the president**

Past presidents have undertaken duties at the request of the president. Almost half of past presidents (46%) have organized a fundraiser or charity event, or promoting the council in the parish or community. 41% have checked the national website for information to share. 41% have filled the role of a vacant position. 36% have chaired the nominations and elections committee, organized a social event, or represented the council at conventions. One third (32%) have chaired an executive or general meeting. Almost one-quarter (23%) organized a task force or chaired a standing committee, have organized a spiritual event or funeral lunches, or prepared newsletters or correspondence. 18% reported performing other duties that included assisting in preparing agendas, updating the *Book of*

*Life*, and being flag carrier at provincial convention. Nine percent (9%) of past presidents have facilitated a workshop; and 14% reported they haven't been asked to perform any other duties.

Past presidents were asked in the online survey to reflect on their term as president and to provide feedback about what they could do to make their successor's experience more enjoyable and fulfilling. Some of their responses were:

- Assist her with computer work because she doesn't have the skills, as well as helping with online reports
- Make a duplicate list of monthly duties and events and to note anything unusual; the list can then be referenced when she is mentoring as a past president
- Rely on her executive and members, and to consult on sisters in the League at all levels
- Assist with annual reports
- Have binders and digital files up to date and to pass them to your successor promptly
- Be a support to her; be available to help in all matters especially in the first year
- Acknowledge that she may handle her role in a different manner than I did
- Don't sweat the small stuff
- Each president brings her own focus to the council; she should be allowed to do so; I will only express my opinion when requested or I perceive a constitutional issue with a decision
- I am always there for her support; we work as a team

Seventy percent (70%) of past presidents reported supporting the implementation of the envisioned future of the League through Planning Strategically 2018-2023. They reported doing so by studying it during conventions, supported the ideas of the plan and promoted them, became informed and presented the plan at a general meeting, shared the vision at convention workshops, brought in minor changes by making winter meetings during the afternoon instead of evening, and moving the social portion to the end of the meeting instead of in the middle. Councils also sponsored members to attend Strategic Plan presentations.

When past presidents were asked to share their greatest success (new ideas, projects, workshops), most replied about the successes of their council which included:

- Hosting the diocesan convention
- Annual rummage sale
- Successful bazaar and supporting parish fundraisers

- Catch the Fire workshop
- Making lap quilts for care home residents
- Making quilts and fabric bags for chemo patients
- Work on the multicultural cookbook fundraiser
- Offering free one-year memberships to new members
- Successful Adopt-A-Highway initiative; promotion on Facebook has raised the council's profile in the community
- 12 hour of prayer for palliative care as a parish initiative
- Having co-presidents has helped share the workload and organizing events
- Fundraising with a license
- Increased CWL awareness in the parish
- Memorial plaque of deceased members made up and displayed in church narthex
- Being more visible and highlighting our support in the community
- New ideas for fundraisers have been fun and successful
- Hosting a fun night for members and church community
- Council and members donated to Chalice's water projects

One past president happily reported her greatest success was to revamp her council's policy and procedure manual. For another, it was to encourage members to present their ideas for discussion. Another reported that she has diligently taken pictures at social events, workshops and conventions to include in her council's pictorial history. One reported honouring deceased members by making their favourite recipe and talking a bit about them at a general meeting. Another said she organized her council to participate in the HUG project, and that she will continue doing it.

When asked to share their greatest challenge in their council work, past presidents reported:

- Going through communiques and reports
- Lack of active members
- Insufficient volunteers on committees
- Keeping members interested and attending meetings
- Membership; being unable to attract new women in the parish
- Enlisting members of cultural diversity
- Getting members to take on leadership roles or willing to serve on the executive
- Delegating or asking for volunteers
- Having the council respect the CWL mandate
- Aging membership, lack of commitment
- Finding new ideas that will be supported by the membership
- Difficult to introduce new ideas for fundraisers and social functions

Many past presidents reported that their greatest challenge in completing the survey was having difficulty using the online reporting system because they lacked computer skills. Some encountered problem accessing the site, printing the survey, or having questions asked that they felt were not relevant.

Past presidents reported on other council activities not captured by the online survey that included:

- Preparations to host 2020 provincial convention
- Past President is deceased, so President is looking after archives and history books
- Councils collect tabs for wheelchairs, recycle plastic bags with Bag Up Manitoba, and used stamps
- Council sponsors a Memorial Fund of deceased members in the parish with proceeds to support the parish
- Council is partnering with End Homelessness Winnipeg
- Going paperless as much as possible
- A council hosts Coffee Klatch every two months

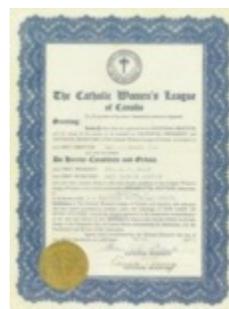
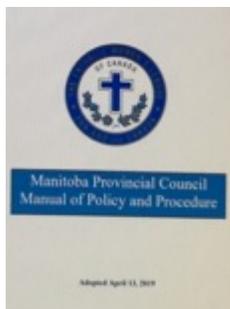
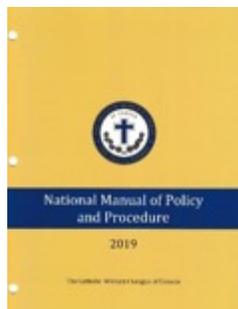
### **Manitoba Provincial Council**

This is my first year of my term as past president of Manitoba Provincial Council. The summary of the online survey proved to be very insightful about the roles, challenges, and successes experienced by past presidents of the parish councils in our province. Our three diocesan presidents provided me with excellent reports about the survey results particular to each of their dioceses. However, it was regrettable that our reporting system did not enable my diocesan counterparts to provide a report to me about their initiatives, experiences, successes and challenges in fulfilling their roles as diocesan past presidents. As the League plans strategically, is there need or room to have an online annual reporting system to capture what is being undertaken and accomplished by past presidents and other officers of our diocesan and provincial levels of the League?

What has it been like to be provincial past president? I was grateful and breathed a sigh of relief when I had finally completed the many post-convention tasks, emails and other correspondence required to transition from being president to past president. Lending my assistance to our newly elected president, Janet Brunger, was my first responsibility as past president, as we worked together in preparing her first oral report for national convention. Since then, I have served Janet and our provincial executive in a consultative capacity, providing advice to Janet when called upon. I have been supportive of Janet and her vision for her presidency. I have also served the provincial executive through mentorship, affirming my CWL sisters in their service, gifts and ideas.

As provincial past president, I have helped in preparing provincial council's annual budget, promoted our provincial website, assisted in the review of the 2019

annual convention minutes, attended the national convention in Calgary, prepared a post-convention and fall communique, promoted knowledge and use of the *Constitution & Bylaws* and the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*, served on the provincial website committee, attended the provincial convention planning meeting, provided guidance to diocesan past presidents when called upon, participated in provincial executive meetings, provided revisions to the Manitoba Provincial Council's policy and procedure manual, as well as providing guidance to the provincial executive on matters of League policies or constitution. I have continued to work on writing the history of Manitoba Provincial Council by preparing reports about its annual Day of Celebration and its annual conventions as well as putting together a collection of photos that capture the events. I have actively and enthusiastically promoted and supported the implementation of Planning Strategically 2018-2023 and the envisioned future of the League. It has been my pleasure to share with other sisters in the League a power point presentation about the history of the League and its Strategic Plan that I developed to promote the League to clergy. I have prepared and shared a report to the Implementation Committee about my meetings with the clergy and their feedback about the power point and the League's strategic plan. I am grateful for the opportunity to be one of many volunteers participating in ongoing surveys and to be part of the positive energy as the League's strategies are being rolled out. What joy to be part of the living stones of the future, building onward and upward on the foundation of our beloved League that was founded 100 years ago!



## Archives Guidelines for League History- Provincial, Diocesan and Parish Councils Item #601

*Archives Guidelines for League History  
Provincial, Diocesan and Parish Councils*

Archives are the permanent history of the League. Preservation of archives is a priority for every past president. If archives and books are not kept properly or securely, they are precious documents that are at risk of being lost. It is the responsibility of every past president to ensure that the archives and books are kept in a secure location and are protected from fire, theft, and other potential hazards. The following guidelines are intended to provide a framework for the care and preservation of the League's archives and books.

**Location of Archives:**  
All archives should be kept in a locked fire-resistant safe or in a secure facility at the diocesan or provincial level. However, League archives must always be kept separately from other diocesan files.

**Labeling and Indexing Archives:**  
Archives should be labeled and indexed clearly and consistently. An inventory of archival materials should be maintained. Three copies of the inventory will be made: one for the safe, one for the diocesan or provincial office, and one for the past president. The inventory should include the date of the material, the name of the past president, and the name of the donor.

**Books:**  
All diocesan, provincial, diocesan and provincial are encouraged to send a copy of their own history book to the national office at 11111 14th Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R2M 1K5, labeled "History." A letter signed by the past president of that council, authorizing the League to place the book along with other histories of that year in the League archives at the Province of Manitoba must be included. National archives are kept at the Province of Manitoba office and not at the diocesan level. Once a year, national office staff will prepare an audit flow file with the current business financial year year and submit an audit of the contents to the Province of Manitoba. An index of the contents of archives will be kept at national office.

**Recommended Filing of Information**

1. Minutes (date alternating) and all flow file folders or large envelopes are usually the best manner in which to preserve historical information.
2. Photograph albums, with names, dates, locations and captions noted, are invaluable. Use of an audit flow file on each first page or separate additions placed near the photos will give information about the people in the photographs when necessary. (A2)
3. All information regarding membership changes should include names, publications and fees.
4. Computer files can be utilized for great amounts of written information, but members need the usual backup on all information stored on discs should also be maintained on paper (see flow file) where possible.
5. Treasurer books (receipts only) are retained and may be placed in archives after five years. Checks and receipts are kept for five years and then disposed.

**Contents of Minutes or Archival Files**

1. **Members:** Councils are encouraged to set up a table with a page, in alphabetical order, for each member. This page will include information about the member, including the year the member was elected, office held (which should be updated if the member advances to other leadership roles), other League work projects, committee service, diocesan, League-sponsored activities, World War II efforts, etc. A note in the church records and any received photographs of the member, and any other pertinent information as determined by the council, may be included in this file. This file will be used for each member's information. This page should be kept in the safe until the member passes. When the member dies, the page should be transferred to a separate book or file for deceased members, using the year of death and including death notice and funeral costs where available. (A1)
2. **Past Presidents:** Each past president is encouraged to write two or three pages outlining the highlights of her term as president. These highlights become valued historical records for future council members. There should be a photograph of the past president and of the members.
3. **Resigned Members:** When the council keeps a log of all past presidents (see sub-item 1), the page will be kept in an archival folder, alphabetically or by the year of death, or by the date of resignation. This file can be an addition to or a part of the Book of Life, in which the names of all deceased council members are kept.
4. **Minutes:** Past minutes are not listed after 10 years. They should be retained in bound books or files. These minutes are a permanent record of council activities and may be kept bound if convenient for the council. The minutes for the current president come and the previous term come for a copy of the year (including archiving).
5. **Minutes Books:** A minutes book should be kept in an audit file by the secretary for six years and then placed into an archival volume (see the historical process). Standing minutes are retained in the audit file until a system needs to be created that prevents standing minutes when it will be placed into an archival volume folder. Standing minutes may be included and included as kept in the current system book.
6. **Annual Reports:** Annual reports of the provincial standing committee chairpersons are kept in the current flow file and then moved to an archival folder. The minutes are included by the year the report was given.
7. **Resolutions:** Resolutions proposed or adopted by the council are kept with the minutes but then sent to past and present. The resolutions and brief copy have to be included in the archive.

**Membership Records:**

- list of presidents, spiritual advisors, addresses, name to office, dates
- list of council members for each year
- list of recipients of awards, single and service pins, other League pins, with date of presentation
- list of all members (including life members, address and year awarded)
- list of all financial records, i.e. books, receipts, checks, and other documents
- books, correspondence, photos, documents for past presidents, spiritual advisors, and other past presidents
- copies of correspondence (one per year, unless covered in correspondence)
- a record of the names, dates, names of other members



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## MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL LIFE MEMBER LIAISON

**Albertine Moran**

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### ***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 a lot of knowledge about the League.

Manitoba Provincial council has 16 Life Members. Winnipeg Diocesan has 9, St. Boniface has 5, 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.

Sadly, on Sept. 26, 2019 we lost our sister Life Member (since 1975), Shirley Scaletta, at the age of 91. Shirley was a CWL member for 64 years, and was a member of St. Bernadette Parish Council in the St. Boniface Diocese. Her funeral was held on October 4<sup>th</sup> with thirty-one sisters, from across Manitoba taking part in her Honour Guard.

On Sept. 14, 2019, eight Life Members gathered for a luncheon at 320 St. Anne's Road. The luncheon was also attended by the Provincial President, Janet Brunger, and the Winnipeg and St. Boniface Diocese Presidents. Everyone enjoyed it.

For the occasion, a beautiful prayer service was composed and presented by Margaret Silverthorne. Mary Margaret Patterson led the singing. As one member said, "we should call ourselves the Life Members Choir". It was a touching prayer service.

All communiqués received from our National Life Member Liaison Chairperson, Ann Doucet were immediately forwarded to Life Members.

Every month greetings are sent to those who are celebrating a birthday or anniversary.

Prayer requests, death notifications or any other information received from our Provincial President or, the three Diocesan Presidents, were forwarded to all Life Members.

May God's blessings be with you all, and always.



**LM Book**



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## TREASURER'S REPORT

**Lea Colbeck**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting = 100 %**

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**29 of 46 Parish Councils reporting = 63.04%**

**(a) *maintain the financial records of the council***

The tools that are mostly used by the councils are bank statements, cheque book and deposit book. Other means that are used vary from ledger/columnar books to computer programs to excel spreadsheets. They also make use of receipt books and disbursement books. Financial books are reconciled monthly. Most councils keep their financial books for 5 years.

**(b) *receive all League monies***

All reporting councils stated that they collect the membership dues mostly from October to January and remit them by February. Four councils stated that they use the on-line membership process. Membership dues range from \$25.00 to \$30.00.

The treasurers also collect the monies from various fund raising events such as bake sales, funeral lunches, lottery raffles, annual bazaars, craft shows, catering, fall suppers, rummage sales, perogy sales, fashion shows, silent auctions, teas, religious article sales, and spaghetti nights.

**(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***

The treasurer and the president were the main two signing officers for most councils. Two out of three signatures were needed by 27 out of 29 Councils to sign the cheques. Other members that were signing officers were: corresponding secretary, recording secretary, past president, president-elect, standing committee chairperson and in three cases other.

**(e) *prepare and monitor annual budget***

Thirteen out of the reporting 29 councils prepare a yearly budget.

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

Most of the reporting councils stated that they prepared a financial report for their general meetings.

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

Of the 29 councils reporting, 16 stated that they have their books examined by an accountant, bookkeeper, bank teller, teacher or past banking personnel.

**(h) other**

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

As Provincial CWL Treasurer, I maintain the Financial Records of the Provincial Council. A financial statement is prepared for each of the four meetings that are held each year. 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 are turned in to me which I then deposit and I pay authorized invoices with cheques. The Provincial Council has three signing officers with two names being required on the cheques. I am part of the committee that prepares the budget for the upcoming year.

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

The 2019 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](http://www.cwlmanitoba.ca)

The Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Manitoba Provincial Council  
Financial Statement  
January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

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](http://www.cwlmanitoba.ca)

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[www.cwlmanitoba.ca](http://www.cwlmanitoba.ca)



May 11, 2020

Catholic Women's League of Canada  
Manitoba Provincial Council

Dear Madam:

**Re: Statement of Cash Income, Disbursements and Cashflows  
Year ended December 31, 2019**

Please be advised that our reporting letter attached to the above engagement was that of a Notice to Reader engagement. In these types of engagements the following steps are taken:

- Determine the nature of the group's activities
- Document any major transactions
- Review any threats of independence with the organization
- Visually review the accounting records and related bank statements
- Ensured the mathematical accuracy was correct
- Agreed bank reconciliations with the monthly and annual ledgers
- Agreeing the ledgers to the treasurer prepared document
- Ensuring the various revenues and expenses are reflected on the treasurer prepared document
- Ensure there are no unreconciled amounts or accounts
- Scanning for items that appear to be false or misleading

It is important to note that your understanding of a "review" of the financial statements and a review engagement report are two very different items. If a review engagement report is required, then it becomes a very different engagement by our firm and would require significantly more work in order to issue an opinion. I believe that in subsequent discussions with the treasurer and president that the Notice to Reader engagement is suitable for your purposes and that you really are more interested in the steps and processes provided by our firm with respect to the issuance of this report.

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours very truly,

Julie A.S. Galvin C.P.A., C.A.  
Partner, Business and Agricultural Advisor  
Direct line 204-748-4613



ACCOUNTING > CONSULTING > TAX  
590 SEVENTH AVENUE SOUTH, BOX 670, VIRDEN, MB R0M 2C0  
P: 204.748.1340 F: 204.748.3294 MNP.ca



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## RECORDING & CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

**Ann Schenkeveld**

**January 1 to December 31, 2019**

**3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting**

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### **Recording Secretary**

**(a) *record the minutes of all meetings and conventions of the council***

- February 10, 2019 – Winter Executive Meeting
- April 13, 2019 – Special meeting to review changes to *Manitoba Provincial Council manual of Policy and Procedures*
- June 8, 2019 – Pre-Convention Meeting
- June 9, 2019 – 71<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention
- June 15, 2019 – Transition meeting
- September 5, 2019 – Post-Convention Meeting
- October 20, 2019 – Fall Executive Meeting

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

- Minutes of executive meetings and special meetings are distributed to executive members and, once approved, are filed in a binder and saved on a stick drive.
- Minutes of conventions are also filed once approved.

**(c) *be a signing officer for all official documents***

- I am an alternate signing officer for banking documents if the Treasurer is not available.
- All Minutes, once approved, are signed by the President and myself.

**(d) *have charge of all papers and records of the council concerned***

- All Minutes are filed in a binder and on a stick drive until ready for archiving
- Minutes of past Elections are also filed
- Minutes taken before 2014 are archived
- An Annual Report is prepared and submitted each year and included in the Convention booklet.

**(e) *update the Elections Register for the council annually by January 1<sup>st</sup>***

- Elections Register has been updated in a timely manner

## **Corresponding Secretary**

### **(a) Compose and send out all correspondence as directed**

- Correspondence was prepared by President due to this position being vacant for the first 5 months. E-mail was used for distribution of any correspondence to executive members including all convention information. Notices or meetings, conventions, etc. are sent by e-mail

### **(b) List and report all correspondence to be brought to the meeting**

- Any correspondence received and sent was recorded in the Minutes and acted upon as necessary. Greeting cards or other occasion cards were sent as required

### **(c) Read highlights of all correspondence at the meeting as directed by President**

- Correspondence is read either by President or Corresponding Secretary at each meeting. This correspondence was discussed, acted upon and filed in the Minutes binder

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

## **St. Boniface Diocesan Council**

- **Corresponding/Recording Secretary** - received reports from 7 of 15 councils (47%). Five councils notified members of upcoming meetings and events. Five councils sent e-mails (via parish bulletins, by telephone, parish bulletin boards, newsletters, parish website and parish calendar.) If there was no corresponding secretary, then the President notified the councils. Five councils read highlights of each correspondence. Two did not. Meetings and convention information was sent out the same way as reported above. Six councils have a copy of the *CWL Personal Letter Writing Guide* from national office, one does not have a copy. Getting information about events that require a card/Mass intention has been very positive with members passing on the information and supporting each other. It is important to keep a connection between members. Online reporting still continues to be a challenge as many members do not have/use computers.

## **Winnipeg Diocesan Council**

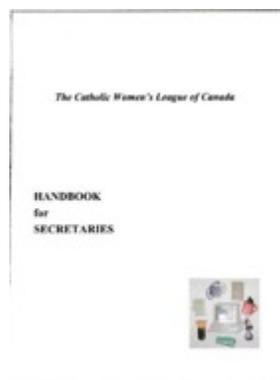
- **Corresponding Secretary** - Winnipeg Diocesan Council has 27 councils, (14 councils within the City of Winnipeg, 13 outside Winnipeg.) Sixteen councils completed the secretary survey (59%). Of these councils, 8 have a recording secretary, and 8 hold both recording secretary and corresponding secretary positions. One corresponding secretary has held this position for 7 years. Six councils notify members of upcoming meetings and events (4 by telephone, 6 by e-mail, 5 use the parish bulletin and 2 use a parish bulletin board.) Three councils send out

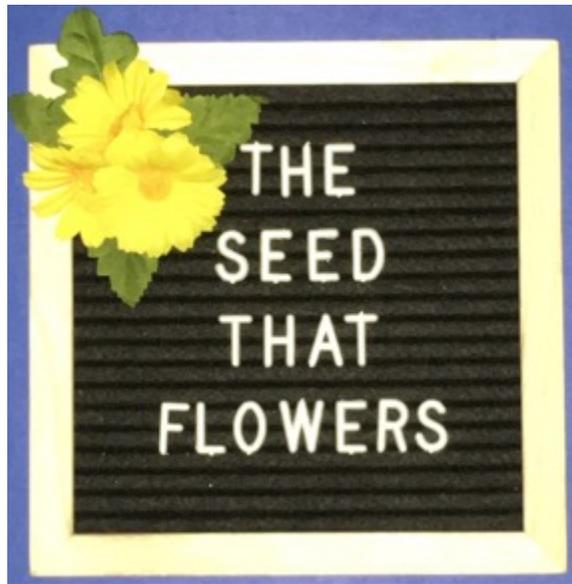
occasion cards. Eleven councils have a copy of the *CWL Personal Letter Writing Guide*. Challenges for some councils is using a computer. One council is trying to go paperless and taking Minutes on a laptop. The Minutes are saved on a flash drive and passed on as required.

- **Recording Secretary** – All 16 councils have a recording secretary with one secretary holding this position for 5 years. Thirteen have executive and general meetings. Four distribute copies of the agenda. Roll call is taken by 12 councils. Twelve councils bring the minutes book to all meetings. Thirteen take minutes at meetings, transcribe and distribute these minutes. Nine are signing officers. Eight assist President with annual reports. Nine know where the council charter is located. Eleven maintain a list of executive members. Eight report they do not have a motions book. Most councils do not receive written reports from executive. All reported that 5 years of minutes are kept in the minute book before being archived. Twelve have the *Handbook for Secretaries*.

### **Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Council**

- **Corresponding/Recording Secretary** – Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Council has 5 councils with 2 completing the report. Notices of meetings are sent to all executives, chairpersons and Spiritual Advisor prior to teleconferences and conventions. Minutes were taken at the pre-convention meeting and at the September teleconference meeting. These Minutes were circulated by e-mail to all executive members, chairpersons and to the Spiritual Advisor. Sympathy cards were sent as required. One Mass card was sent to a member. Of the two councils reporting, one person holds both recording and corresponding secretary positions. Both councils have general meetings. One distributes agendas and takes roll call. One takes Minutes. One has a signing officer. One assists the President with annual reports. One knows where the council charter is. One maintains an executive list. One brings the motions book to meetings. One sometimes gets reports from chairpersons. One has a copy of the *Handbook for Secretaries*. Meetings are advertised in the parish bulletin, e-mails, phone calls and word-of-mouth. Both councils have ageing members (75+).





*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*

**MB PROVINCIAL DAY OF CELEBRATION FEB. 9, 2019**

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual provincial Day of Celebration was a great success! On one of the coldest days of winter, over 120 attended the event hosted by St. Edward’s Council.

The warmth of CWL sisterhood was celebrated and members heard how League ‘movers and shakers’ and members in Manitoba were responsible for the founding and funding of Alpha House, a shelter for abused women in Winnipeg. Thirty years later CWL members continue to support Alpha House through their donations. Darlene Kolody, Georgina Cielen, and Anita Chapman were awarded CWL *Certificates of Merit* by president, Rolande Chernichan, for their contribution to the founding of Alpha House.



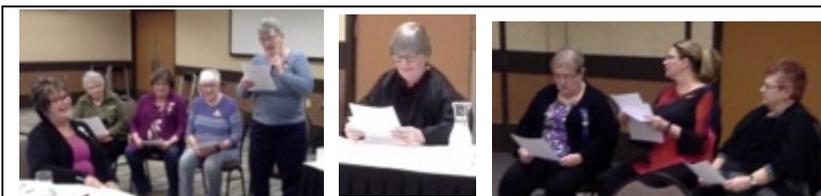
Members were generous in bringing items for the H.U.G. project in support of women’s shelters; the national initiative by the Centenary Committee as the League counted down to its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020.



●2 large teddy bear bags (assorted) ●20 large ziploc bags assorted toiletry products ●6 medium Ziploc bags ●misc toiletry products BOXES went to Nova House (Selkirk, MB), Alpha House, Rossbrook House, Villa Rosa, Chez Rachel, Siloam Mission (each box contained personal ziploc bags and assorted other general products (bulk items: bar soap, feminine hygiene products, etc)



Through the viewing of a documentary titled *Over 18*, members learned how easy it is for children to be lured into pornographic websites and how easy it is to become addicted to viewing porn. Guest speaker, Janet Zacharias, a registered nurse, presented her research on how pornography is harmful to one’s health.



**On a less serious note, members laughed with a fun skit 'CWL Goes to Court'.** (Debate)-Disbanding the CWL after 100 Years

**Life Member Faith Anderson gave a presentation about the implementation of the League’s Strategic Plan.**



Several resources to block pornographic websites on computers and cell phones were distributed to the attendees. A handout of the COMPOSE method to handle a situation when a child is discovered viewing pornography, as well as resources and information for overcoming problematic porn use or sex addiction were also circulated. In response to national resolution [2017.02 Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornographic Websites](#) bundles of ‘Pornography Hurts’ postcards were distributed so that members throughout the province would be able to participate in a postcard campaign during the month of March directed to the federal government, and in particular Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the CWL member’s Member of Parliament.





**71<sup>st</sup> MB Provincial Convention June 8 & 9, 2019  
St. Lawrence Parish, Thompson, Manitoba &  
Keewatin –The Pas Diocesan Council**



While some members from across Manitoba travelled by car, a number of delegates, including Fran Lucas, National President-Elect and Fr. Diosdado Parrenas, Winnipeg Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, travelled the eight hours by charter bus from Winnipeg to Thompson on Friday, June 7, with a sightseeing stopover at Pisew Falls.



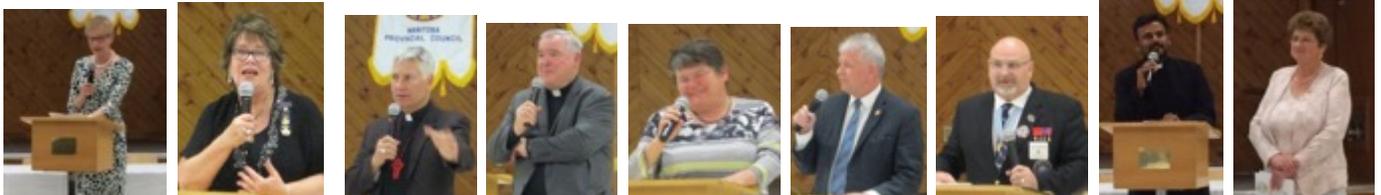
**Saturday morning** found the provincial executive hard at work at their pre-convention meeting. Those with free time enjoyed the morning outing by charter bus, taking in the Spirit Way Tour and tour of the town, led by Volker Beckmann. A bracelet making workshop facilitated by Jeannette Ali, member of St. John Brebeuf Parish Council, was the afternoon activity.



**Delegates, guests and dignitaries gathered for Mass at St. Lawrence Church**, celebrated by Archbishop Murray Chatlain, Keewatin-Le Pas Diocese, and concelebrated by Archbishop Richard Gagnon, Winnipeg Diocese, along with Fr. Gunasekhar Pothula, Pastor of St Lawrence Parish, Fr. Shantha Gandamalla, Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Diosdado Parrenas, and Deacon Clarence Fisher, Snow Lake Parish Council Spiritual Advisor. Archbishop Murray wove the history of the diocese throughout his homily as he spoke of our need for security, affirmation and control that get in the way of receiving the peace of the Holy Spirit.



**Banquet greetings that evening were brought by: Fran Lucas** on behalf of national president Anne-Marie Gorman; **Rolande Chernichan**, president, Manitoba Provincial Council, **Archbishops Chatlain & Gagnon**, **Colleen Smook**, Mayor of Thompson; **Kelly Bindle**, MLA for Thompson, **Thomas Kraemer**, State Secretary, Manitoba State Council, Knights of Columbus, **Fr. Gunta**, and **Lucille Rossington**, Keewatin The Pas Diocesan President and hostess for the evening.



**The convention opened Sunday morning** with the colour party as flags and banners were processed in, *O Canada* was sung and an inspirational spiritual program was led by Marielle Rigaux, Community Life Chairperson and Fr. Paul Bringleson, Manitoba Provincial Spiritual Advisor.



**Complementing the spiritual program with its focus on water**, the convention display spoke to the League's national theme: *Care for Our Common Home* and included a variety of items relating to the theme. Convention business was called to order by President, Rolande Chernichan.



**Life Member Jacqueline Nogier** gave an update on the Strategic Planning of the League and **National President-Elect Fran Lucas** brought greetings on behalf of National President Anne Marie Gorman and shared with us some reflections on our theme and League activities.



**The morning convention guest speaker Jims Alackel**, Keewatin-Le Pas Youth Ministry Coordinator, spoke of God's call that brought him to work with the youth of the North. Assisted by NET Canada Missionaries team, he has travelled throughout the diocese, meeting with and being present to the youth, giving retreats and workshops as invited.

**The afternoon opened with the Prayer Service for Deceased Members.** Three red roses representing deceased members of each diocese were placed in a vase by diocesan presidents: **Lucille Rossington** (Keewatin-The Pas), **Paulette Chase** (St. Boniface), and **Pat Ward** (Winnipeg). A single white rose representing deceased spiritual advisors was placed by **Rolande Chernichan** (Provincial President).



**The afternoon guest speaker Archbishop Richard Gagnon** spoke on the history, structure and workings of the Canadian Catholic Conference of Bishops (CCCB) and he provided insight on subjects of particular interest to the League.

**Business included** oral reports from each of the executive and saw adoption of the resolution titled: *Establishment of refundable deposits and return depots for recyclable beverage containers.* The resolution will be presented by the CWL Provincial executive to the Manitoba Premier and cabinet when they meet.

**Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to St. Lawrence CWL Parish Council and Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Council** for hosting the provincial convention.



**CWL Certificates of Merit were awarded to national convention planning committee members: Susan Bernier**, Chair; **Suzanne Moore**, Co-Chair; and Eva Arseneault, Public Relations and Photography (presented later), for their work in helping Manitoba Provincial Council host the national convention in Winnipeg in August 2018.

**Convention attendees brought with them** religious books, articles and rosaries for northern missions in response to a special request by Fr. Guna, pastor of St. Lawrence Parish. In response to the CWL National Centenary Committee H.U.G. Project (Helping, Understanding, Giving), members brought items to be donated to women's shelters in the North (thank you received). Also brought were containers filled with drink can tabs that were donated to the *Tabs for Wheelchairs* program, as well as plastic bags that were donated through the *Bag-Up Manitoba* program to be remanufactured into benches, bird houses, bird feeders and planter boxes.



St Lawrence CWL members were joyfully assisted by members of their parish in providing generous northern hospitality, served with love. Delegates were treated to warm bannock, a delicious lunch and brown paper bag lunches for those who had a long road trip home following the convention.

**The convention day wrapped up with elections and the installation of officers.** Congratulations to **Janet Brunger, President, Crystal Reiter, President-Elect, Con Marks, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Lea Colbeck, Treasurer, Mavis McLaren, Chairperson** (of the new Manitoba Provincial Council executive). CWL members across Manitoba look forward to the next two years under their very capable leadership!



# STANDING RULES OF CONVENTION

*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. Copies should be available to all who register.

At the beginning of the business session of a convention, the rules are presented and a motion is proposed, discussed and voted on to adopt the standing rules of the convention. 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 & Procedure*)

## **Standing Rules for the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the Manitoba Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.**

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### **Registration**

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. 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 convention 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 convention 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 convention 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 convention must have a signed credential and shall submit it to the convention registration desk.
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 convention.
14. Resolutions concerning urgent matters may be accepted after the deadline date and shall be presented to the convention 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 convention 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 convention shall become effective at the adjournment of the convention 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 convention.
22. The provincial executive shall approve the minutes of this convention at its fall meeting.
23. The approved minutes of convention shall be circulated to all voting members of that convention. If corrections are necessary after approval, they may be made by motion.

### **Notes**

#### **Voting**

- Diocesan presidents shall have the power to vote on all questions.
- Accredited delegates may vote on any question except the election of officers, amendments to the *Constitution & Bylaws* and increases in per capita fees.
- Non-voting members and spiritual advisors may speak at business sessions when recognized by the chair, but shall not introduce motions or vote.



## OUR APPRECIATION GOES TO...

- St. Augustine of Canterbury Council President, **Linda Seitz**, her members, and all the members of the **Convention Committee** for graciously planning our convention and for their enthusiastic and heartwarming hospitality.
- Winnipeg Diocesan President, **Pat Ward**, for her warm welcome to their diocese.
- **Fr. Paul Bringleson**, Provincial Spiritual Advisor, for his support of the provincial executive and the League in Manitoba.
- **Members of the Provincial Executive**, past and present as 2019 was an election year, who by their service, promote the objectives of the League; who by their communiques, guide and inform members; and who graciously offer support to each other and to all members.
- All the **Life Members** for their mentoring and support to sisters of the League.
- 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 2019.
- **Donna Candelaria** for the generosity of her time and creativity in compiling the Annual Report Book and making it a souvenir of another year that members can be proud of.
- **All CWL members** in Keewatin-The Pas, St. Boniface and Winnipeg Dioceses whose dedicated service to 'God and Canada' makes possible the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the League in 2020.

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



# A BIG BOUQUET TO



## **St. Augustine of Canterbury Convention Committee**

 Albertine Moran - Chair 

 Dina Auriti       Marlene Le Gal       Mary Lou Simms  
 Arlene Elves       Dianne Fox       Carol McKenzie-Gruber  
 Helen Forsyth       Linda Seitz       Leona Smithson  
 Liz Shewchuk       Ann Kamann       Suzanne Kiazyk

 *All who so generously donated H.U.G. items at  
the Provincial Day of Celebration in February 2019* 

 *All who donated H.U.G. items; Catechism books, religious  
items and rosaries; pop can tabs; plastic bags for recycling  
at the Diocesan and Provincial Conventions in 2019* 

 *All councils who so generously donated H.U.G. items for  
women's shelters in honour of the CWL Centenary Project  
(August 2018 – August 2019)* 

 *All who so generously donated school supplies  
for Kee Pas missions at the St. Boniface  
Diocesan Day of Reflection* 

 *All who so generously donated baby formula  
at the Winnipeg Diocesan Convention for  
Winnipeg Harvest* 



## Centenary Committee Update

The Centenary Committee would like to reassure you that the 100th anniversary celebrations are presently only on pause. Even though we are disappointed, it is essential that we postpone gathering to ensure the health and safety of our members so we can gather in the future.

In the meantime, we invite you to take a walk down memory lane online.

2020 Centenary Project



To commemorate the League's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and in keeping with the national theme, members, in their parish, diocesan or provincial councils are invited to plant a tree to help the environment.

The goal is to have 100 trees planted across Canada. Plant the tree in a place of honour that can be enjoyed by your council and community.

Please take a picture of the tree planting event and send it to national office by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Join us in celebrating our "roots" from the past century while we look to the future as we "branch out" into the next century!



***The deadline for the tree planting project to commemorate our Centenary Anniversary has been extended to July 1, 2021.***



## Picture this!

The Centenary Committee invites you to look into your archives for pictures of memorable CWL events that happened in your parish, diocese or province over the past 100 years.

Bring your pictures to the national convention in 2020 and they will be put on display for the duration of the convention.

The Centenary Committee will be choosing pictures to be included in the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Coffee Table Book.

We can't wait to see your pictures that capture and celebrate the past 100 years!











***The "Picture this!" project is also ongoing so hold on to those pictures until you can bring them to the 2021 national convention for display. A clear and precise copy of your picture may also be sent to national office.***