

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

Annual Reports 2017



*Inspired by the
Spirit, Women respond to
God's call*

70 years of service

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send?"

And who will go for us?"

And I said, "Here I am. Send Me!"

Isaiah 6:8

June 2nd and 3rd, 2018

St. Boniface Diocesan Council

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish Council

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Dove

Holy Spirit – advocate, counsellor, intercessor

Cloud & Light

living, saving God of glory

Fire

transforming energy of Pentecost

Disciples

CWL members, responding joyfully to God's call in word and action

Cross, Anchor & Heart

Faith – lived, professed, witnessed and spread

Hope – strength to sustain and preserve us

Love – the first and greatest of all virtues

So, inspired by the Spirit women respond to God's call empowered by the gifts of the Spirit, invited to bear fruit. We are challenged in our councils to be loving, joyful women who work patiently for people, whose kindness and goodness touch the lives of all we encounter, who are faithful to the Gospel message and live lives of humility and self-control. **And we do it in joy!**

Prayer

Spirit of the Living God, open our hearts and minds
to experience the unconditional love of God.

Come Holy Spirit, reveal yourself to me so that in
giving yourself to me, you will also show me the face of the Father
and the Son and I will know myself as a beloved daughter
of the Father and sister of the Son.

Inspire and bless the members of the Catholic Women's League so that
the fruits of your Spirit may be evidenced in all that we say and do.

Amen.

Winnipeg, Manitoba—October 30, 2017—The national executive of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, with over 82,000 members across the country, met October 27-28th for its annual fall executive meeting. **Inspired by the Spirit, the national executive responded to God's call by choosing mental health as the priority focus for 2018.** Recognizing that mental health often has a causal link to poverty, homelessness, suicide, human trafficking, prostitution and other forms of abuse against the dignity of persons, all standing committees were asked to consider how to shed light on the issue through prayer, ministry and outreach to those suffering from mental health issues, advocating for increased access to quality support services, and raising the awareness of members so they may be able to respond to those in need.

St. Boniface Diocesan Council

and

***Mary, Mother of the Church
Parish Council,
Winnipeg, MB***



WELCOMES YOU

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AGENDA

Saturday, June 2nd, 2018

Mary, Mother of the Church, 85 Kirkbridge Drive, Winnipeg, MB

- 5:00 p.m. Eucharistic Celebration - Mary, Mother of the Church
6:15 p.m. Gathering (Parish Hall adjoining the church)
7:00 p.m. Banquet (Parish Hall adjoining the church)

Sunday, June 3rd, 2018

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish Hall

- 8:00 a.m. Registration and hospitality
9:00 a.m. Official opening of convention
Spiritual program and presentations:
- Indigenous Spirituality - Presentation by Marilyn Nelson, from Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation
 - Catholic Missions in Canada - Presentation by Elvira Foronda, Charitable Gifts Manager
 - 2018 National Convention Report - by Susan Bernier National Convention Chairperson
- Business meeting
- 11:55 p.m. RAFFLE DRAW - 2018 National Convention Planning Committee
- 12:00 noon LUNCHEON
- 1:00 p.m. Gathering Prayer
WORKSHOP - Envisioned Future - MARGARET ANN JACOBS
National President, The Catholic Women's League of Canada
- Business resumes
- 4:00 p.m. Adjournment of convention

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.**

LEAGUE PRAYER

Grant, O Lord, we beseech Thee, that The Holy Spirit, Who proceedeth from Thee, may enlighten our minds, and, as Thy Son hath promised, lead us to all truth, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen. Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us. Recite one Hail Mary for the intentions for which the united prayers of the League are promised and for the particular intention of increased vocations to the holy priesthood and the religious life

**100 DAYS INDULGENCE
FOR RECITATION AT MEETINGS.**

The original League Prayer.

This appeared on the first page of every League magazine for many years

The League Promise

For the glory of God and the good of God's people,

I promise on my honour 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 League 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.**

Mission Statement

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

(Adopted in 1992 to emphasize the spiritual focus of The Catholic Women's League of Canada)

The objects of the League shall be to unite Catholic women of Canada:

- 1. to achieve individual and collective spiritual development**
- 2. to promote the teachings of the Catholic church**
- 3. to exemplify the Christian ideal in home and family life**
- 4. to protect the sanctity of life**
- 5. to enhance the role of women in church and society**
- 6. to recognize the human dignity of all people everywhere**
- 7. to uphold and defend Christian education and values in the modern world**
- 8. to contribute to the understanding and growth of religious freedom, social justice, peace and harmony**



MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE 2017

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Father Paul Bringleston

PRESIDENT

Rolande Chernichan

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Janet Brunger

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Crystal Reiter

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

Mary-Margaret Patterson

RECORDING SECRETARY

Ann Schenkeveld

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Colleen Holloway

TREASURER

Lea Colbeck

PAST PRESIDENT

Faith Anderson

CHAIRPERSONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Mary-Margaret Patterson

ORGANIZATION

Janet Brunger

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

Crystal Reiter

COMMUNITY LIFE

Marielle Rigaux

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Doreen Howe

COMMUNICATIONS

VACANT

RESOLUTIONS

Con Marks

LEGISLATION

Paulette Borgfjord

LIFE MEMBER LIAISON

Susan Bernier

DIOCESAN PRESIDENTS

KEEWATIN-THE PAS

Lucille Rossington

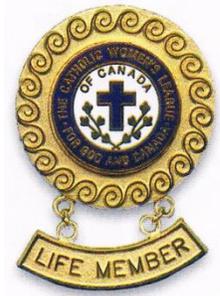
ST. BONIFACE

Mavis McLaren

WINNIPEG

Rose Anne Seymour

MANITOBA LIFE MEMBERS



Faith Anderson (2010)

Albertine Moran (2014)

Susan Bernier (2007)

Ella Nogier (2016)

Dolores Blanchard (2007)

Jacqueline Nogier (2014)

Monica Brechka (2012)

Linda Parker (1997)

Rolande Chernichan (2016)

Mary-Margaret Patterson (2013)

Dr. Rayleen De Luca (2002)

Shirley Scaletta (1975)

Beatrice Gross (1999)

Terri Scott (2007)

Suzanne Kiazzyk (2002)

Margaret Silverthorne (2003)

Jeanne Tinsley (2009)

For the glory of God and good of God's people, I am willing to place myself and my talents at the service of the national council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. 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.



BELLELLE GUERIN AWARD RECIPIENTS

WINNIPEG

Dina Auriti (2017)
Alice Belanger (2017)
Donna Candelaria (2008)
Georgina Cielen (2013)
Jacqueline deCorby

Joyce Ewatski
Barbara Hamm (2016)
Yvonne Lewandoski
Bernice Mandzik (2009)
Inge Rau (2016)

ST. BONIFACE

Rose Dobson
Betty Johnston (2010)
Jane Kolodka (2016)

Sylvia Mroz (2017)
Florence Tokar
Sheron Van den Bosch (2016)

KEEWATIN – THE PAS

Patricia Campbell

Catherine Daneliuk (2008)

Blanche Kryschuk (2015)

Congratulations to Alice Belanger (Selkirk), Dina Auriti (Brandon) and Sylvia Mroz (Beausejour) for receiving their Bellelle Guerin awards in 2017.

The Bellelle Guerin Award is presented to members who do not qualify for life membership and who demonstrate love of the League and an availability and willingness to continue to serve. Nominating councils are reminded that the nominee must be an exemplary member of the League, serving at more than one level, who does not and will not qualify for life membership.

Criteria for Bellelle Guerin Award

The nominee must have been a member of the League in good standing for at least 25 years; must have been active on her parish council(s) for the twenty-five years; must have served on the parish executive; must have given extraordinary service to the League, contributing at the parish and diocesan [where applicable] and/or provincial level; must have demonstrated her love of the League through her words and actions. (NMP&P 2017)

PATRICIA JOHNSTON



Victoria Patricia was born and educated in Winnipeg, Manitoba. She married James Johnston in 1948 and they had five children and nine grandchildren.

Pat joined The Catholic Women's League in 1952 while a member of St. Gerard's Parish where she became the council President and subsequently served on the St. Boniface Diocesan council as Publicity and Education convener and Treasurer. In 1954, she attended her first League convention.



In 1960 she moved into the Winnipeg Diocese and became a member of Our Lady of Victory Parish and has been a member of their League council for the past 57 years. She served her Parish by singing in the choir; as Chairperson of the Liturgy Committee; Reader at Sunday Mass; and a Member of the Social Action Committee.

She served on the CWL council as President (3 times) and in 1976 was presented with a Maple Leaf Service Pin. She continued her League service on the Winnipeg Diocesan council as President 1964-1966; on the Provincial council as President (1971-1973) and on the National council as Cultural Life Convener (1981-1982) where she initiated the scholarship donation to The Coady Institute. As well, over the years she was the Chair of many Standing Committees.



Her life was enriched as a 65 year member of The League. In her words: **“these loving and caring members have been my mentors and friends. Their love, concern and prayers during a most difficult period in the life of our family will never be forgotten and they have played a great part in making me the person I am today”.**

In 1968, Pat, along with Kay Williams co-hosted the 48th Annual National Convention held in Winnipeg and in 1973 she was honoured with a Life Membership by the Provincial Council. From 2009-2011 she served the Provincial Council as Life Member Liaison.

Besides her Parish and League work, Pat was a Board Member of The Winnipeg Diocesan Social Action Committee; and The Alcohol Education Foundation of Manitoba; a volunteer at Lord Robert's Community Club; at Pregnancy Distress Thrift Shop; at the Winnipeg Municipal Hospital Physio-therapy department; and was a member of the Winnipeg Diocesan choir. She was an Extra-ordinary Minister of the Eucharist to shut-ins in their homes and to the patients at the Municipal Hospitals and an Associate of the Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk. In 1972 she received a Citation for her work with emotional children.



We are grateful for Pat's long service in The Catholic Women's League and thank her for sharing her GIFTS of leadership; spirituality; love and compassion and her special Gift of hospitality.

Patricia died peacefully on October 22nd, 2017 at the age of 93. She was predeceased by her husband, James in 2009 and will be cherished and missed by Laura, Anne (Sid), Lynne (Steve), Don (Karen) and William (Stacey); her beloved nine Grandchildren and five Great Grandchildren as well as her Brother, Sisters, Nieces and Nephews. She will be treasured by her League Sisters and never forgotten. Rest in peace, Pat.



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)
Evelyn Wyrzykowski (1979) (1990)



LIFE MEMBERS †

Winnifred Alexander (1961)

Helen Bembenek (1994)

Mary Bennett (1988)

Mariao Berthier (1962)

Catherine Bird (1969)

Sandra Byrnes (2005)

Jessie Chudzik (1976)

Betty David (2001)

Rose Dion (1967) (moved to BC)

Doreen Ferraton (1989)

Florence Gallagher (19__)

Patricia Johnston (1973)

Jean Keating (1981)

Margaret Kelly (1951)

Katherine Komatich (1989)

Florence Kruger (1969)

(Hearst, ON- moved to MB)

Marguerite Lanthier (1961)

Elsie Litwin (1989)

Alice Makodanski (2002)

Diana McKenzie (1988)

Dorothy Muller (1959)

Mary Panero (1956)

Elizabeth Pawells (1951)

Mary Pungente (1975)

Margaret Quinn (1948)

Jeanne Regan (1971)

Bernadette Russell (1981)

Viola Specht (1979)

Yvonne Smith (1948)

Marion Trudell (1963)

Kathleen Williams (1977)

Anna Zdan (1952)

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(SnowLake)
2013-2015	Monica BRECHKA	St. Boniface
2015-2017	Faith ANDERSON	St. Boniface
2017-2019	Rolande CHERNICHAN	St. Boniface (Lorette)

"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 ..." When the Manitoba Provincial Council was first formed in 1948 it consisted only of the Winnipeg Diocese, consequently Mrs. E. F. Kelly who was the President automatically became the first Provincial President.

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

SPIRITUAL ADVISORS

1948-1950	Rev. Charles J. KELLY, S.J.†	<u>(Archdiocese)</u> Winnipeg
1950-1952	Msgr. Ignatius E. ZIELONKA, P.D.†	Winnipeg
1952-1973	Msgr. Charles A. EMPSON†	St. Boniface
1973-1974	Rt. Rev. Charles A. HALPIN†	Winnipeg
1974-1977	Rev. Allan R. HALL†	Winnipeg
1977-1982	Rev. Michael MOORE	Winnipeg
1982-1987	Rev. Roland BELANGER†	St. Boniface
1987-1992	Rev. Arthur SEAMAN	Winnipeg
1992-1997	Rev. Renato PASINATO†	St. Boniface
1997-2002	Rev. Louis McCLOSKEY	Winnipeg
2002-2007	Rev. Martin BRADBURY†	Keewatin-The Pas
2007-2012	Rev. Martin BRADBURY†	St. Boniface
2012-2017	Rev. Leo FERNANDES	Winnipeg
2017-2022	Rev. Paul BRINGLESON	Keewatin-The Pas

Director **1948-1984**
Spiritual Director **1984-1994**
Spiritual Advisor **1994-**

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

There shall be a spiritual advisor for each council.

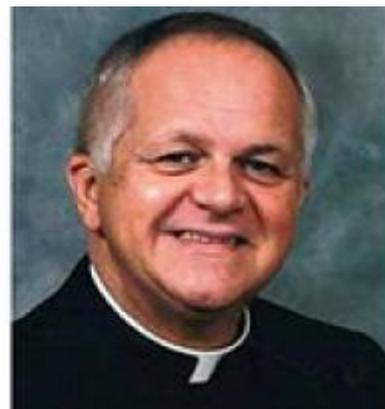
The Role of the Spiritual Advisor

- (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.***

REV. FATHER RENATO PASINATO

Father Renato Antonio Pasinato was born May 18, 1947 in the picturesque northern Italian town of Piovene Rochette (Vicenza). In his early teens, Renato's family, parents, Zaida and Antonio and brother, Giuseppe moved to Northbrook, a northern suburb of Chicago. There Renato's name became anglicized into Ron.

Ron was ordained a priest in his adopted home parish of Christ the King for the Archdiocese of St. Boniface on June 5, 1976 by Archbishop Antoine Hacault. He became pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish (Morden) and after studies in Rome, he became pastor of St. Joseph the Worker (Transcona) Parish. He then served as chaplain at St. Boniface Diocesan High School. He was appointed pastor of his beloved Christ the King Parish in 1994 where he served until his retirement in 2014.



In his early years of priesthood, Renato helped form future church leaders as a Director of the youth ministry program Search for Christian Maturity. For several years, Renato was the co-director of the Nathaniel Lay Ministries Program and also served on the National Episcopal Commission for Liturgy. As a very gifted liturgist, preacher and teacher Renato enriched the faith of all to whom he ministered.

Father Ron was involved with The Catholic Women's League of Canada as the Spiritual Advisor in the Parishes where he served and in 1983 he was appointed by Archbishop Antoine Hacault to a five year term as Spiritual Advisor to the St. Boniface Diocesan Council. From 1991 to 1997 he was appointed to serve the Manitoba Provincial Council in the same capacity. Father Ron was a blessing for the League as he gave sound advice.

Father Renato died on December 23, 2017, a gift from God returned. He was predeceased by his parents, Zaida and Antonio and leaves to mourn, his brother Giuseppe (Ivana); his two nephews and four grand-nephews and a grand-niece. Cherishing his memory are his close spiritual companions, Fr. Fred Olds, Fr. Sam Argenziano, Fr. Kevin Bettens, Fr. Jim Cink, Fr. Joe Sharbel, Sr. Mary Coswin OSB, Barbara and Peter Marino and Michael Resendes.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel accompany you on your last journey Father Renato and may you rest in eternal peace.





+ Albert LeGatt
Archbishop of Saint Boniface

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alegatt@archsaintboniface.ca

April 2018

Dear members of the Manitoba Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada,

Greetings in this Easter Season. May the Risen Christ bring you joy and peace! May the Holy Spirit fill you with wisdom, courage and determination as you celebrate your 70th Anniversary of the Manitoba Provincial Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada at this convention.

This year, in the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface, as well as in the Archdioceses of Winnipeg and Keewatin-Le Pas, and indeed throughout all Western and Northern Canada, we are marking the 200th anniversary of the Catholic Church in these our lands. Walking on the shoulders of giants, our Church looks upon the opportunities and challenges of evangelization, of building up our parishes and dioceses, and of creating a more caring and just society, today and into the future.

Over the past 70 years in Manitoba, countless women as members of the CWL have been amongst these giants who have brought us to this moment. Inspired by the Spirit, these women responded to God's call. Now it's our turn.

The opportunities, and admittedly also the challenges, are many. Let me name a few that spring to my mind. The ongoing transformation of our Church and our Canadian fabric by the arrival of the people from around the world, with its work of inclusiveness within diversity. The relationship now and going forward between the Catholic Church in Canada and the Indigenous peoples, a relationship fraught with much pain and tension as evidenced by the recent "perceived refusal" of the Holy Father to come to Canada to ask forgiveness for Residential Schools. The work of sharing the Catholic faith with the next generation of our families and with neighbours who do not know Jesus, who do not yet experience the Father's love. The list could and should go on!

Knowing this, what fills our hearts? Indifference, fear, disengagement, anger? Or hope, courage, determination, peace, joy? Inspired by the Spirit, the Spirit of the Crucified and Risen Christ, let us find strength in our faith and in one another to continue responding to God's call.

Wishing and praying that this 70th Convention be for all of you a time of grace, friendship and renewed generosity and commitment.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ Albert LeGatt
Archbishop of Saint Boniface

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Most Reverend Murray Chatlain
Archbishop of Keewatin-Le Pas
P. O. Box 270, The Pas, MB R9A 1K4
Telephone: (204) 623-6152 Fax: (204) 623-6121
chancery@keepas.ca

April 12, 2018

Catholic Women's League
Manitoba Provincial Council
c/o Mrs. Janet Brunger
27 Robindale Road,
Winnipeg, MB R3R 1G6

Dear Sisters in Christ:

RE: Conference, "Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call"

Blessings to all of you and greetings once again from the northern Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas! I am unable to attend your Convention this year but wish you much success during your meetings and gatherings. I will be attending the 66th Annual Diocesan Convention in Flin Flon in May as well as the 98th Annual National Convention in Winnipeg in August.

Once again your theme is focused on women, their part in God's plan, as well as the inspiration of the Holy Spirit through them. When we look at some of the women of the bible, Mary, our Mother, Elizabeth, Anna, or Martha to name a few, we are inspired by their strength and their willingness to do God's will, to say "yes" when it is not an easy answer to make and it is a difficult road to travel. When we look towards the Holy Spirit in our everyday lives, we too can find the strength and courage to follow in Jesus' footsteps. We too can respond to God's call and walk the path which we have been inspired to take.

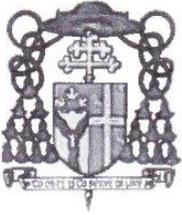
In today's world there are many challenges to those who believe and want to follow Christ. Women throughout your parishes, your provinces and throughout the country are challenged as mothers, wives, sisters, and friends, professionals and volunteers. You have many hats to wear and it is good to know that the Good Lord, through the Holy Spirit, is with you.

May God continue to guide you as you journey as Catholic Women; and thank you for your continued support to all of us.

Sincerely in our Lord Jesus Christ,

Most Rev. Murray Chatlain
Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas





Archdiocese of Winnipeg
Office of the Archbishop

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

I bring you greetings from the Archdiocese of Winnipeg as you gather in convention to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Manitoba Provincial Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada. This is surely an important milestone not only for the Catholic Women's League in Manitoba but for the whole Catholic community in Manitoba. Our Church in western Canada is still a young Church and the Catholic Women's League has played a significant role for seven decades. Furthermore, the CWL motto, *For God and Canada*, has been admirably fulfilled both in the building up of our Catholic community but also by being active in many civic concerns affecting all Canadians.

Your convention theme this year is, *Inspired by the Spirit, Women respond to God's Call*. This theme has a particular resonance for us in the Archdiocese of Winnipeg as we are in the midst of our first Archdiocesan Synod. A Synod is a privileged occasion where the People of God, along with their Bishop, discern in the Holy Spirit where God is calling us to go as a Local Church. I am most grateful to the Catholic Woman's League for their active participation and support during our synodal process. The dedication of Catholic League members to their faith is truly an inspiration as we move forward together in the Archdiocese.

The Provincial Council of the Catholic Women's League has an important task of bringing unity among all League members by encouraging them to live out their Christian discipleship throughout our beautiful province and I wish to express my congratulations to the Provincial Council on the occasion of your 70th anniversary. I sincerely ask the Lord that he will continue to bless you and to bring much good fruit from your days of convention in the City of Winnipeg, June 2-3, 2018.

Yours in Christ,

✠Richard Gagnon
Archbishop of Winnipeg



**MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
SPIRITUAL ADVISOR
Reverend Paul Bringleston**

My Dear Sisters in the League,

It is with delight I greet you on the occasion of this year's Provincial Convention.

We have gathered to celebrate another year in Our Lord's service. Hopefully we can still feel the effects of the celebration of the Gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

These weeks have left me reflecting on the dignity bestowed upon us as disciples of Christ. We are chosen and anointed people: called by Christ to give faith. We must never grow tired of reminding one another of this dignity.

To reveal Our Lord to others becomes the primary goal of our lives and ministry.

As you gather this weekend, I invite you to renew in your own heart the spirit of gratitude for the dignity of life you lead and to pray for the grace to extend that same dignity and reverence to all amongst us. Do it with courage and without fear.

May Jesus the Good Shepherd continue to bless you in your ministry and service to God and Canada.

Faithfully,

Fr Paul



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

March 9, 2018

Dear Members of the Manitoba Provincial Council,

I am delighted to bring greetings on the occasion of your 70th annual convention.

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

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

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

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

Your sister in the League,

Margaret Ann Jacobs

Margaret Ann Jacobs
National President

MAJ/nb

70th Anniversary

Message from Manitoba Provincial President, Rolande Chernichan

As we gather on this occasion of the 70th anniversary of Manitoba Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, we recall and celebrate the dedication and service of women in Manitoba who have served "God and Canada" by their membership in the League. We honour our three diocesan councils and the contributions by their presidents, executives and spiritual advisors, as well as members over these many years: Winnipeg Diocesan Council which celebrated its 97th annual convention, St. Boniface Diocesan Council which celebrated its 69th annual convention, and Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Council which celebrated its 66th annual convention. These diocesan councils give life and purpose to Manitoba Provincial Council! In this year marking the 200th anniversary of the Church in western and northern Canada, the League is proud of its share in the rich history of the Church in Canada through service and evangelization.

"Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God. Whoever preaches must preach God's messages; whoever serves must serve with the strength that God gives him, so that in all things praise may be given to God through Jesus Christ, to whom belong glory and power forever and ever. Amen." -- 1 Peter 4:10-11

What a powerful exhortation! How timely that our guiding national theme is 'Inspired by the Spirit: Women Respond to God's Call'. We each have been graced by God through various gifts of the Holy Spirit. St. Peter calls us to be good stewards of those gifts, and to use them for the good of others. In response, we put ourselves at the service of others. This calling resonates in the Mission Statement of The Catholic Women's League of Canada as it calls its members to holiness through service to the people of God by being rooted in Gospel values. Faith in action, "for God and Canada" through prayer and good works gives witness to the gifts of the Holy Spirit at work in members of the League.

Congratulations! to the women and the spiritual advisors of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, both past and present, on this occasion of the 70th anniversary of Manitoba Provincial Council. You are an integral part of the League's amazing history as it journeys towards celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2020. As companions of this journey, we have much to give thanks for. It is a time to recall, to celebrate, and to anticipate with faith and hope, what the future holds for the League in the life of the Church.

May we as members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada continue to pray to our patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel, to be our inspiration, our model and our guide. Through her intercession and by the inspiration and empowerment of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to give witness to the love of Jesus Christ through service done in His name, for "Through Him, with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen."

Your sister in Christ,

Rolande Chernichan

*Rolande Chernichan
President 2017-2019*





PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT

Rolande CHERNICHAN

January 1 to December 31, 2017

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting

Manitoba's 2200+ members within three dioceses have been afire in response to our national theme: *Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call*. St. Boniface Diocesan Council's president is in the second year of her term. Winnipeg Diocesan Council welcomed a new president following elections in 2017. Our northern diocesan council of Keewatin-The Pas is served by their past-president who also serves as acting president. Twenty-seven of the 47 parish councils participated in online annual reporting. This report is a glimpse of the activities and good works by members in Manitoba in 2017.

Winnipeg Diocesan Council's fall meeting and workshop featured a speaker on formation of priestly vocations, presentation about electronic reporting, and leadership training for treasurers. St. Boniface Diocesan Council's Day of Reflection featured the founder of "Open Doorways Orphanage" in Haiti, that is supported by CWL councils in Manitoba. Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan council featured a full day workshop on '*The Bible and the Virgin Mary Journey through Scripture*'.

Council presidents informed members of the League's position on current issues, priorities and new programs primarily from *The Canadian League* magazine, national communiques, diocesan newsletters and from the national website. National priorities introduced included physician assisted dying (100%), palliative care (88%) and conscience rights of healthcare providers (76%). These topics were presented on agenda at general meetings, through standing committee chairpersons and through guest speakers. Manitoba members participated in letter-writing campaigns and signing petitions in support of conscience rights of healthcare workers. Councils responded enthusiastically to the lap quilt/blanket project and participated in the '12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care'.

Over half of council presidents meet with their spiritual advisor monthly; one-third rarely meet with him. Most (88%) reported their spiritual advisor is supportive of CWL; offset by pastor disinterest or lack of a parish priest. Diocesan presidents meet and communicate with their bishops less frequently. A diocesan council hosts an annual pot-luck dinner with its bishop.

Resources used by presidents included: *Robert's Rules of Order Revised* (73%), council policy and procedure manual (73%), *Constitution & Bylaws* (69%), and *The National Manual of Policy and Procedure* (53%). Members appreciate online access to League resources. The *Executive Handbook* read by most presidents; assists in their responsibility of overseeing council operations. They seek direction about how to deal with executive members who don't fulfill their duties.

Presidents represented their councils at diocesan meetings and convention (96%). Church functions (92%) and funerals (76%). Provincial meetings/conventions were attended by fewer than half and were not fully subsidized by the council; half who attended diocesan convention had their expenses paid fully. Surprisingly, workshops and conferences were attended by more presidents than those who attended provincial convention, despite all expenses not being paid for almost half of them. Fewer than half who attended provincial convention had all expenses paid. Members were encouraged to attend League development events, leadership training, workshops, conventions and retreats; however, participating is low. Reasons are many and varied. It appears members lack understanding of the importance of active participation in League events beyond the parish level. Financial support to fulfill presidential duties could be improved.

Half of councils have committees for annual events such as teas, bazaars, and fundraising; others have committees for scholarship/bursary, social events and visitation. Councils initiated or added policies to their manual, namely: award recipients, expenses, funeral/honour guard protocol, funeral lunch, financial audit date, recurring donations, Mass stipends, spiritual content in meetings, honorariums, membership of older members, and financial commitments.

Most presidents provide annual summary of council activities to members through email or newsletter (42%), and oral report at annual meeting (34%). Minutes and chairperson reports were most valuable in completing annual reports. Presidents were the official spokesperson for their council concerning palliative care (57%), membership (50%), local charitable projects, and Euthanasia. League letterhead was used when corresponding outside of the League; almost all reference only the membership total for the council they represent in external correspondence. Most presidents signed cheques on behalf of their council, as well as banking documents and letters within the CWL.

The greatest challenges faced in transitioning into the role of president included: recruiting (65%), incomplete slate of officers (53%), keeping members interested (53%), amount of paperwork (50%), finding the time (46%). A quarter reported being challenged by technology. Over half received the greatest assistance from a former past president; additionally from the

immediate past president, the current executive and diocesan level. In Manitoba, ten councils have a Life Member from whom they can receive guidance, mentoring, and support in various ways. There are also 19 Bellelle Guerin recipients who freely step forward to assist whenever needed.

Most councils found it beneficial in having a national theme and/or logo as a focus for council activities. The theme: *Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call* was explored through spiritual programs, prayers and workshops.

Members sought spiritual development by participating in RCIA classes, study of the bible, saints, and catholic teachings; prayer initiatives for the World Day of Prayer and Christian Unity Week. Online and printed CWL resources were used frequently. Members serve in ministries of the Mass, as lay presiders, as catechists, in faith formation and sacramental preparation, leading small prayer groups, leading the rosary. Masses are prayed to the intention of councils and deceased members. Manitoba's members in the North accompany their priest to outlying parishes when needed. Ecumenical in their outreach, when a local church has closed down, they invited the community to join them in Sunday prayer.

Organization chairpersons promoted recruitment with positive results; personal contact and support of their spiritual advisor as key to recruitment. Elderly members, no longer able to participate, were kept abreast of CWL happenings by invitations to events, newsletters and/or minutes. They received phone calls, cards and notes, personal visits, communion, and even baking! Councils reported affirming and honouring their members through the Bellelle Guerin award, certificates, and making use of the League's incremental years of service pins. A 65-year pin was awarded to a charter member. Prayer councils endeavour to stay connected with the League and do good works in their community.

Members sourced *The Canadian League* and communiques for information about Christian family life. They watch daily televised mass, attend Chrism Mass and other special masses. Councils supported daily praying of the rosary on radio through the sale of angel ornaments. Members participated in pro-life events, the annual March for Life and supported fundraising events of pro-life organizations. They do visitation ministry to homes, senior manors, and hospitals and do compassionate ministry through Mass cards on special birthdays and anniversaries or the loss of a loved one. Diocesan priestly vocations were supported by financial donations and prayers. Councils have

organized screening of "Euthanasia Deception", and have promoted NET ministries, Catholic youth camps, and World Youth Day in 2019.

Through community life initiatives, councils sponsored a child through Chalice, Plan International, and similar agencies. They donated money and food for hampers and food banks, filled shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse. Donations were made to Catholic Missions in Canada, CNEWA, Canadian Red Cross, Development and Peace and several other agencies. Used stamps were collected for CCODP and members contributed to the 1% voluntary fund program. Pop can tabs were collected for the wheelchair project. Members helped out in soup kitchens. Councils partnered with Knights of Columbus to co-host parish events. Members supported the Legion poppy campaign, participated in the Remembrance Day services, and show support of Canadian troops by wearing red on Fridays.

Education and Health information to members included chemical and environmental sensitivities, obesity, blood types, the increase of STDs in retirement communities and lack of counselling, modified foods (GMO) and unfair marketing practises, obesity, labelling on food and drug products, new rules for blood donations, the difference between right and left thinking. Many councils award scholarships to high school graduates and they donate to COADY Institute. Councils financially supported Canadian Cancer Society, Canadian Red Cross, MaterCare, Heart and Stroke. Councils acted on *Resolution 2016-02 Canada Food Guide* and *Resolution 2015-01 Early Access and Intervention to Child and Youth Mental Health Services*.

Communications between all levels of the League continues to be a challenge, email between all levels is utilized. Many councils use phone trees to relay information. Diocesan presidents are the valuable link to transmit information from national and provincial levels to the parish councils, Councils use parish bulletins, radio, local newspapers, and personal invitation to promote League events. Newsletters are circulated primarily by email. Councils submitted to government the 'Pornography Hurts' postcards calling for mandatory age verification mechanisms for adult pornographic websites.

There is interest in Resolutions in all three dioceses. Manitoba's resolution *Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) and Environmental Sensitivities* was circulated via Education and Health chairpersons for awareness and education. Fifty percent of councils reported that members write to governments. A legislation educational booklet about how bills are developed and processed by governments in Canada was circulated to all parish councils.

Other council initiatives included: hosting Citizenship Court for new immigrants, annually fundraising for a 'mercy fund' donated to the parish for those seeking

help, prayer councils remain involved in the parish/community, socializing and maintain League visibility.

Councils reported concerns of being elderly, not having fluent English speaking/writing skills, not having computer skills, having difficulty to fill president/executive positions and to organize events/fundraisers. Having to respond in the negative to the annual survey leaves councils feeling not having accomplished much.

Insightful comments from our members:

- Canada's 150th birthday was occasion for CWL to: pray the League Prayer for 150 days preceding Canada's birthday, being torch bearers, donating 150 school supplies to a drop-in centre, donating 150 notebooks and pencils to MCC, participating in the Living Flag photo shoot, make a financial donation to an immigrant family and host citizenship ceremonies.
- Members found the Resolution Dialogue at national conventions is educational and informative. They plan to continue attending but recommend more time for discussion.
- Diocesan presidents are invaluable; they work tirelessly to promote the League, keeping membership informed, and encourage participation in League events.

Manitoba Provincial Council hosted its annual Day of Celebration featuring a workshop by national president, Margaret Ann Jacobs, on the theme *Inspired by the Spirit, Women Respond to God's Call*. The day included an interview with four Life Members based on the television program "the View".

The provincial convention hosted rurally featured a historical tour of the town. The keynote speaker spoke passionately about her work with homelessness and poverty; food items brought to convention were donated for the cause. Attendees brought pop can tabs in support of a wheelchair project. Following elections, the new executive and new spiritual advisor were installed. A transition meeting followed immediately; necessary business was conducted and chairpersons were assigned.

Resolutions workshops have been offered annually for over ten years. A workshop about legislation held in conjunction with the resolutions workshop, culminated in letter-writing in response to resolution *2017.04 Protection from Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals*.

At the request of St. Boniface Archbishop Albert LeGatt, Manitoba accepted to host the 2018 national convention within the year marking the 200th anniversary of the Church in western and northern Canada. A fund invested ten years ago will provide an accommodation subsidy to rural members to attend national convention. Volunteers on committees are enthusiastic about

the opportunity to share their hospitality and to greet everyone with a joyful 'friendly Manitoba' welcome.

Parish councils are the "heartbeat of the League" as women continue to respond to their faith through involvement in the League. Bravo for the dedication and engagement by members despite the challenges! They have participated in the 'leap of faith' taken by the League through strategic planning and the ongoing consultations that will help shape its future. The future of the League beyond its centennial in 2020 looks bright. Through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, and inspired by the Spirit, women will continue to respond to God's call. May they, in turn, be inspiration to others to respond in the same way!

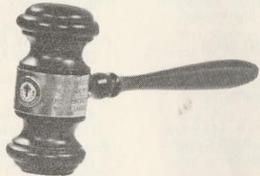
Rolande Chernichan



Our Provincial and the 3 diocesan banners stand proudly beside each other at all provincial conventions.

"The official League banner became available in 1957"

MADAM PRESIDENT!
Have You A Gavel?



C.W.L. GAVEL

The gavel pictured above is your authority when presiding at meetings. When blessed it becomes a reminder of the necessary spiritual motive behind all League work.

When engraved it becomes a cherished possession indicative of the members' collective contribution "For God and Canada".

If your subdivision or council has not yet obtained one—order one NOW!

When ordering please make sure to give the name of your subdivision or council, the date organized and the names of your first director and president.

The price of the gavel is \$5.00.

This beautiful banner, shown above, is made by Crest-Craft Limited, Saskatoon, Sask., and is now ready for delivery.

It is 24" x 36" and is made of heavy white satin (not brocade) lined with royal blue. It carries the official crest of the Catholic Women's League of Canada and is complete with fringe and tassels. The cost is \$50.00 postpaid, plus 15c. per letter for name of subdivision or council, which is embroidered below the crest. The pole is not supplied, but may be obtained through any local lumber dealer.

A banner will add much to the dignity of any C.W.L. function.

For quick delivery, place your order immediately through national office.

These ads appeared often in the monthly League magazines for many years.

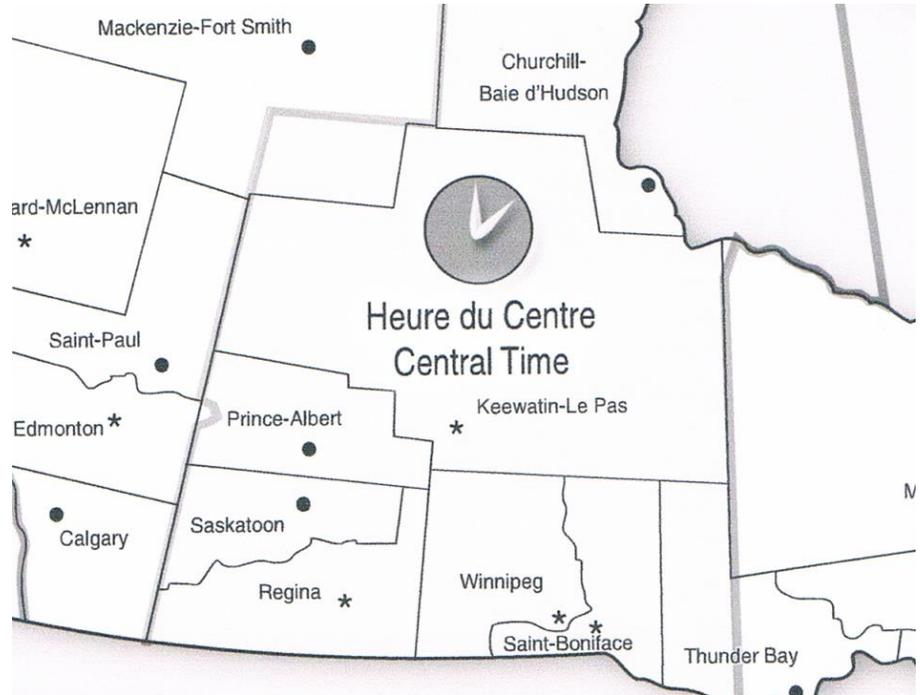
Manitoba Dioceses

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

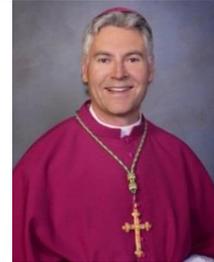
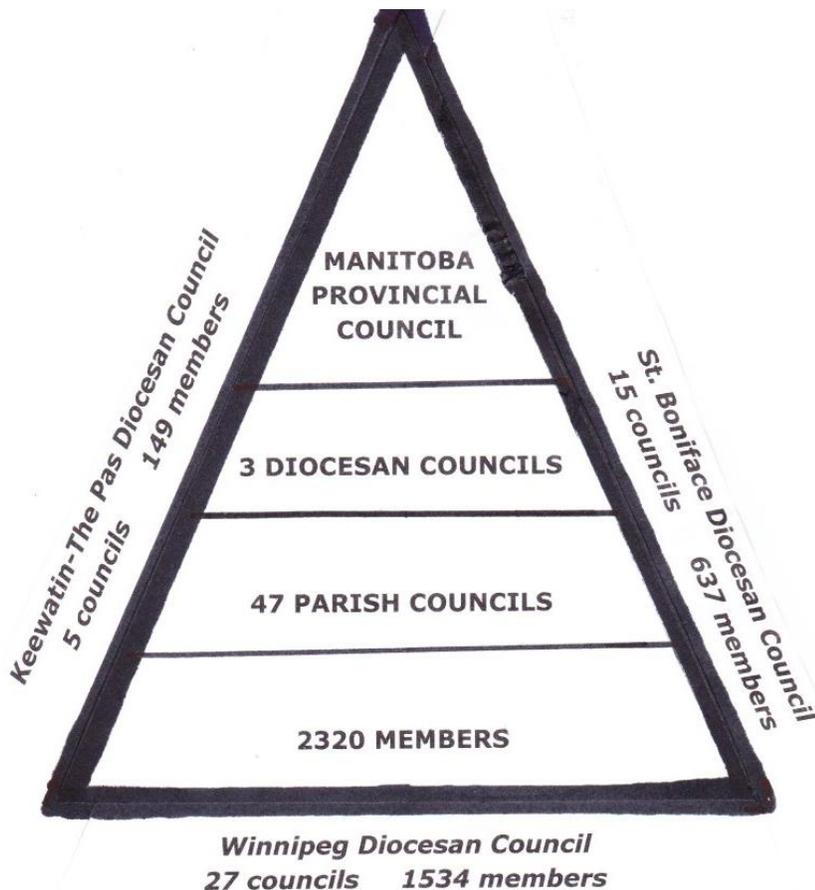
April 23, 1949 the St. Boniface Diocesan Council was formed becoming the 35th diocesan council in Canada. Charter #1176

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.



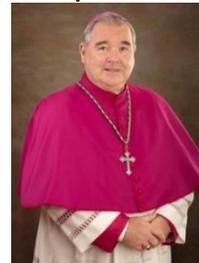
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Most Rev. Murray Chatlain,
Archbishop of Keewatin-The Pas



Most Rev. Albert LeGatte
Archbishop of St. Boniface



Most Rev. Richard Gagnon
Archbishop of Winnipeg



KEEWATIN - THE PAS DIOCESAN COUNCIL

PRESIDENT Lucille Rossington

January 1 to December 31, 2017

5 of 5 Parish Councils Reporting = 100%

Our National Theme '*Inspired by the Spirit, Women respond to God's call*' which gave us an opportunity to reflect on the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit and to ponder on those gifts that each of us are given, are we using them fully as intended by our Lord? We have several ladies in our diocese who have done just that; they were honored by their council for their years of service, a time to be recognized for all the work done, time shared and friendships made. The following is a list of pins received and which council gave them.

The Pas: 1 x 5 year; 1 x 10 years; 1 x 15 years; 1 x 65 years plus a scroll as she is a charter member

Flin Flon: 4 x 25 years; 3 x 35 years; 1 x 40 years; 1 x 50 years; 2 x 60 years

Our diocesan council is blessed with 2 Life Members and 3 Bellelle Guerin recipients.

It is always good to celebrate these accomplishments, without the dedication from each member, our League would cease to exist. We are here to serve our God with the gifts He has bestowed upon us, let us use them for the betterment of our parishes and communities and I say *Thank You to all members who responded to God's Call.*

Reports tell the tale of the accomplishments made by each council, we know that God is smiling down every time we help the seminarians, the missionaries, soup kitchens, the needy, the homeless, the lonely, the sick and the less fortunate abroad that money is sent to.

In 2017, reports indicate **Spiritual growth:**

They have attended the diocesan convention and participated in The Bible and the Mary through Scripture.

Reflected on the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit

Fasting and Feasting

Divine Mercy revelation from St. Faustina's diary

Our Guardian Angel

Bible study (book of Mark)

RCIA classes

12 Hour of Prayer for Palliative Care

Joined other denominations in prayer for World Day of Prayer, Least Coin, and Christian Unity Week. They have invited all community members to join them in prayer on Sunday because their church has closed down. They remembered to celebrate Our Lady of Good Counsel in a special way with their council.

Lead the Rosary in their parishes in May and October and also on Wednesday mornings prior to mass.

They are lay presiders, lectors, parish council members and are part of music & choir ministry, they help their parish priests by assisting them on their road trips to outlying parishes when needed.

They have improved their **Education and Health** by reflecting on:

Blood types and your health

STD has increased in retirement communities and lack of counselling

Modified foods (GMO) and unfair marketing practises

Obesity

Difference between right and left thinking

Attended CWL Education Day and Workshop (The Pas)

Donated bursaries to a graduate

Through **Organization** they have brought new members and encouraged women from their parish to come and see what the CWL is all about by attending a meeting without pressure.

They congratulated members on their milestones.

Encouraged their members in their **Christian Family Life** by:

Reading the reports in our CWL magazines

Tune into the National Catholic Broadcasting Council's daily television mass

Attended a mass for National Week of Life and Family

Visit manors, hospitals and do home visits

Attended a Chrism Mass

Send mass cards on special birthdays and anniversaries as well as on the loss of a loved one

In their **Community Life** they have:

Filled shoeboxes for the Samaritan's Purse

Sponsored a child through Chalice in the Ukraine

Sponsored a child through Plan International in Bolivia

Sponsored a child through Save a Family Plan

Donated food hampers to the friendship center

Food bank donations and monetary donations as well

Adopted a bunny and filled a basket with goodies at Easter for the Health Auxiliary.

Colored Easter eggs, had them blessed and passed them out at Easter

Joined in a Multicultural supper

Hosted a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper
 Donated to the Resource Center
 Collected stamps for Development and Peace and send annual donations
 Collected pop can tabs for wheelchair projects
 Donate to the 1% program
 Hosted *Our Lady of Guadeloupe* parish pot luck lunch
 Co-hosted with Knights of Columbus annual Holy Family Brunch
 Hosted St. Pat's tea, carnivals, bazaars etc.
 Pinched those little perogies to raise money for their sponsorships
 donations

They ***Communicated*** their events by publishing in the parish bulletins, on radio, and in local papers. They also do personal invitations to women of their parish. They send newsletters to all of their members that have email and print for those that do not have email.

As diocesan president my duties are to share information received by all levels to all parishes and also to my diocesan executive so they can be informed of the activities of all convenorships. Email has and will continue to be a major form of communication, as this is the new and faster way of doing business.

We have presented a ***Resolution*** 2017.01 Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) and Environmental Sensitivities (gifted by Our Lady of Sacred Heart, The Pas) which was passed at Diocesan and Provincial but not brought to the floor of National but sent to Education and Health to share the knowledge collected. Information was shared by email and a booklet on ***Legislation***.

As you can see our councils have been busy and we acknowledge all their efforts that they made in order that the homeless, the hungry, the lonely and the sick do not feel that they are alone and forgotten. We are God's hands, feet, eyes and ears. He too sees our efforts.

Our diocesan council consist of 141 members. Following is the numbers for each council:

Our Lady of the Snows	Snow Lake	10 members
St. Ann	Flin Flon	66 members (20 over age 80)
St. Lawrence	Thompson	09 members
St. Maria Goretti	Snow lake	15 members
Our Lady of Sacred Heart	The Pas	41 members

Our diocesan convention was held at Our Lady of Sacred Heart in The Pas in 2017 with a workshop on *The Bible and the Virgin Mary Journey through Scriptures*. It was well attended and appreciated.

We continue to pray to our Lady of Good Counsel for Her guidance and blessings.

Lucille Rossington



ST. BONIFACE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

PRESIDENT Mavis McLaren

January 1 to December 31, 2017

9 of 15 Parish Councils Reporting = 60%

It has been a pleasure serving you, as your St. Boniface Diocesan President these past two years.

This experience has been both challenging and rewarding. I have met many new people and have shared in their spirituality, witnessed their dedication and enthusiasm for the League.

Being your president has allowed me to be a part of different ministries in the church community. One such area is The Culture of Life Committee which aims to bear witness to the life of the unborn to further spread the good news that allows the dignity of life from conception to natural death. Another area that was very enlightening was that of the Social Justice activism with the numerous compassionate works that are being done for the poor and homeless throughout the city.

Many of our councils are actively involved with many of these endeavors. Your many fundraising efforts to help your charities here and abroad are duly documented in your reports. Thank you.

Our Day of Reflection was well attended. Thanks to Faith Anderson and the National Convention Committee, who also planned their meeting to follow The Day of Reflection.

Some valuable information was gleaned from the presentation of the two speakers about their Orphanage in Haiti and the tireless work that is being done, to help bring dignity to the lives of many Haitian recipients. This shows that the charitable works were not only applied locally, but for our brothers and sisters in other lands.

Many councils have also contributed to the Northern Mission – Thus fulfilling our great law of charity *"To share with others at home and abroad the good things God has given us"*.

Another highlight of my presidency was meeting with Archbishop LeGatt and Father Charles Fillion, to learn about the ideas and plans for the church and CWL to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the arrival of the church in Western Canada.

Events attended:

- St. Boniface Diocesan School Convocation and to present the St. Boniface Award for Leadership to a most deserving student.
- Celebration of Our Lady of Fatima anniversary at Holy Cross Parish.
- Two National Conventions, in British Columbia and Prince Edward Island.
- Provincial, Winnipeg Diocesan and the Ukrainian Archeparchial Conventions.
- St Boniface Councils' milestone celebrations and Christmas wind up parties.
- Was part of St. Emile's 150 Can Aid A project and Christmas Cookie Exchange.
- Holy Name Place of Peace Fundraiser.
- Catholic Foundation Fundraiser honoring husband of late Evelyn Wyrzykowski.
- Organized and participated in honor guards when they were required.
- Archbishop's New Year's Blessing gathering.
- Helped to organize the Provincial Day of Celebration at St. Emile.
- In-Gathering of Fellowship of the Least Coin.
- Read Scripture Passage for the World Day of Prayer.
- Culture of Life meetings and March for Life.

Parish Council Presidents reported that they got information to inform the membership 100% from The Canadian League Magazine, National Communiques 89% and Diocesan Newsletter 78%.

Council Presidents reported that they have introduced national priorities: 90% physician- assisted dying and 80% Palliative Care.

Other areas acted upon Youth Mental Health and Refugee Crisis.

Presidents set aside 100% time at general meetings, to discuss these topics and also arranged for speakers to address these topics 77.8 %.

To foster open communication with Spiritual Advisors 55.6 % rarely, 22% monthly and 77.9% received Spiritual Advisors support.

Resources used to preside over meetings 77% Roberts Rules of Order, Councils, National Policy and Procedure Manuals 66% and 55% respectively.

Documents signed by Presidents were cheques 100%, Banking Documents 78%, letters directed within the outside CWL 44% and petitions 56%.

Presidents provide active leadership in many areas: 89% representing councils at church functions, 100% Diocesan meetings, funerals 67%, Sacramental events and School ceremonies 56%.

Councils reported that they received: Subsidy to attend functions such as Fundraising Dinners approx. 100%, Diocesan Convention 55.5% and Workshops 66.7%.

Some councils provided annual summaries of their activities by 56% Newsletter and Oral report by Email 44%.

The following were policies initiated:

Honour Guard Protocol, memberships for older Members, honorariums, expense policy, funeral protocol, financial audit date and more spiritual content.

Many kept informed with the use of the Executive handbook assisted in overseeing of the operations of council 66.7 % said yes, those who said no, doubled the work for the president, other reason being, they had previous experience of running meetings.

Provision of annual summary activities by following method: Newsletter, 56% oral and 44% by e-mails.

Other committees, other than standing: 60% annual teas and bazaars, etc. Fundraising 40%. Social Events 40%. Scholarships and bursaries 30%.

As official spokesperson 67%, spoke on Euthanasia and Palliative Care, 56% on membership, 67% used League letterhead and 100% reference only the total membership in external correspondence.

The following provided the greatest assistance to presidents, when they assume their role: 44% Diocesan, past president and current executive and secretary 33%.

Challenges for presidents: 56% amount of paperwork and not having a full slate of officers, followed by, 44% finding the time and inexperience.

Finally, I have a renewed appreciation for presidents that have gone before me. We owe them a great deal of gratitude. To my immediate predecessor, Doreen Howe, many thanks for her calm and reassuring guidance and to Father Charles and the rest of the executive, a great big thank you.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless you always.

Mavis McLaren



WINNIPEG DIOCESAN COUNCIL

PRESIDENT Rose Anne Seymour

January 1 to December 31, 2017

15 of 27 Parish Councils Reporting = 57.7%

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

Statistics

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

Inform the Membership

The number one way council presidents informed their members was with the help of diocesan newsletters. The *Canadian League* magazine and national communiques followed in second and third place respectively.

As in the previous year, physician – assisted dying , palliative care and conscience of rights of healthcare providers were the top three current national priorities that were discussed or acted upon by the councils. The majority of councils set aside time at the general meetings to discuss and take action on these subjects.

Foster Open Communications

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

Preside at Meetings

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

Signing Authority

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

Provide Active Leadership

The number one event where the presidents have represented their council was church functions. Diocesan meetings and conventions followed close behind with 93% and 86% respectively. It was also nice to see representation at conferences and the World Day of Prayer. When attending conferences, over 5% of presidents did not have their expenses paid while 40% had all their expenses paid for. A majority of presidents had all their diocesan convention expenses paid for. For fundraising dinners and events, the numbers were the same as attending conferences. None of the presidents had their expenses paid for to attend the National convention. The numbers were a bit better for the Provincial convention with 22% having no expenses paid for while 4% had all their expenses paid for. Over half of the presidents had all their expenses paid for to attend workshops while one third had no expenses paid for. It is good to see that presidents attend and support diocesan and provincial conventions and workshops.

Initiate Policy

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

Keep Informed

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

Advisory Capacity

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

Official Spokesperson

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

Summary and Final Thoughts

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

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

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

Rose Anne Seymour

CHAIRPERSON'S PRAYER

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

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

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

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



SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mary-Margaret Patterson

January 1 to December 31, 2017

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting

(a) Spiritual growth of members – many different sources were used by the councils to promote spiritual growth of the members and parishes at large. Approximately 57% used the National theme as a basis of study. Praying the League Prayer and rosaries topped the list as the most frequently used resources at 98% with Stations of the Cross and deceased member prayers/honour guard coming in at 77%. CWL resources both on-line and books/pamphlets on-hand were used frequently as well as the resources provided by the individual parishes. Guest speakers and presentations were also used.



(b) Study of Catholic teachings – better than 50% of the members from each Diocese are participants in lay formation such as Nathanael, RCIA, catechetics, Good Shepherd, marriage and baptism preparations which keeps them reading and studying. A few councils made an effort to stay current with the writings and speeches of Pope Francis. Several members are involved with Bible Study programs and prayer groups.

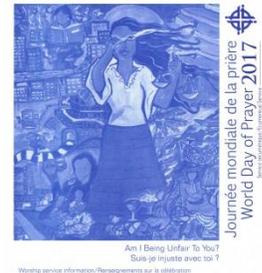
(c) Role of women in the church – 100% of the councils is involved in some fashion in leadership roles within their own parishes. This involvement ranges from Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, lectors, hospitality, and choir members to being lay presiders for Communion services, baptism, and funerals and even attending Diocesan Study Days with the priests.

(d) Evangelization and mission assistance – 100% of the councils assist financially in various mission projects including Kee-Pas, Esk-Omi, and Catholic Missions in Canada. Several also donate goods such as food, clothing and study materials. All of the Diocesan councils have members who participate in their local Walk for Life events with the Knights of Columbus.

(e) Lay ministries – as mentioned above better than 50% of overall membership participates as lay ministers of some sort. Along with those listed already there are also Sacristans and environment and liturgy committee members.

(f) Ecumenism and interfaith endeavours –

World Day of Prayer has a 71% membership involvement across the board but there is only a 15% involvement in Week for Christian Unity events. There is one parish council that invites members of other denominations to attend their services as it is the only church in town. Another council shares annual hosting duties for anyone in the community who has lost a loved one that year. Fellowship of the Least Coin continues to be participated in by at least 80% of the parish councils but participation in the in-taking services by WICC is at only 13%.



Mary-Margaret Patterson

Good and Gracious God, You have been so good to us.
 We come to You in our great need,
 trusting in Your Divine Mercy.

We ask St. Joseph, patron of Canada,
 and our patroness Our Lady of Good Counsel
 to intercede on our behalf,
 to move the hearts of parliamentarians
 to improve and initiate good palliative care
 for those persons
 nearing the end of their lives across our great country.

Heavenly Father, bless those responsible for
 providing health care in our country.
 May they continue to serve with a generous heart—
 inspired by the merciful example of the Great Physician—
 Our Saviour himself.

We make all our prayers through our Lord Jesus Christ,
 Your son, who lives and reigns with You,
 in the Unity of the Holy Spirit.
 One God, forever and ever.

Amen.



Display of Catholic Missions in Canada at Prov. Conv. 2017

A Ten Second Prayer Lord, I love you and I need you, come into my heart, and bless me, my family, my home, my sisters in the league, especially..... and all my friends, in Jesus' name.

Amen

Author unknown (submitted by Madonna Clark, St. Francis of Assisi Parish Council, Lincoln, New Brunswick) CWL website Prayer Corner

A Prayer Service for the Commissioning of Lap Quilts

Prepared by: Honorary Life Member Betty Anne Brown Davidson and Calgary Diocesan Council President Sharon L. Malec. The Catholic Women's League of Canada March 2, 2017

Blessing of Quilts Leader: Grant us, O merciful God, That this our offering may find Acceptance with You And that through it, The wellspring of all blessing May be laid open before us. Through Christ our Lord. All: Amen



ORGANIZATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Janet Brunger

January 1 to December 31, 2017

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting

Online annual reporting by councils in Manitoba remains stable from last year, with just under 60% of councils participating:

Keewatin-The Pas Diocese – 5 out of 5 = 100% Congratulations!!

St. Boniface Diocese – 8 out of 15 = 53%

Winnipeg Diocese – 14 out of 26 = 54%

(a) recruit members and maintain membership

All councils actively work to maintain their membership and to increase their numbers, and all report that personal invitation works the best for them. Closely behind this are bulletin announcements (78%) and pulpit presentations. Many others used bulletin boards and promotional displays either in the church or at parish events such as Ministry Fairs, church bazaars, etc. Others used parish and CWL events to promote the benefits of membership in the League; CWL Sundays, potluck dinners, membership teas and various other social events.



Councils report on the importance of having the support of their Spiritual Advisor as key to recruitment. Four councils utilize telephone trees as a resource in this area.

Potential and new members are invited to attend CWL events, New Member Ceremonies, Presentation of New Member Kits, awards and Reaffirmation Ceremonies, and our members work hard to welcome these potential and new members by engaging them in conversation, answering questions and explaining the workings of the League. Utilized during membership drives were Service Pins (87%), Invitation Cards, Mass Cards, Membership Certificates, Prayer Cards, and promotional material prepared by the Council.

All councils utilized personal contact to encourage members to renew their memberships, either by mail, personal invitation, telephone, or email. Former members who were no longer able to participate were kept abreast of happenings in the CWL by invitations to events (65%), newsletters and/or minutes. They received phone calls, cards and notes, personal visits, communion, and even baking (88%)!

(b) leadership development

All members throughout the Province are encouraged to attend League Development Days, Workshops, Conventions and Retreats; however, the numbers of members actually participating are low. Reasons are many and varied, but overall, our membership really lacks understanding of the importance of active participation in these events and at other levels of the League. This holds true that even if an event is offered in their local area, members do not, as a whole, take advantage of the opportunities offered. Surprisingly, and encouragingly, members are aware of the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation Program, what it is about, and what is offered.

(c) League resource material

96% of Councils use the League magazine extensively, both for personal use and for reference for material at meetings; 87% of Councils utilize the Constitution & Bylaws as well as the Executive Handbooks; while 72% utilize CWL Prays. This indicates to me that our online resources are heavily utilized at all levels of the League.

(d) annual reports

65% of councils utilized the guidelines to assist in completing their reports, with 78% of those reporting that the most useful tool they had available to them were minutes of their meetings throughout the year. Others used their CWL calendar, and still others reviewed each chairperson's reports for the year.

The Catholic Women's League of
Canada



Electronic Annual Reporting

(e) life membership

Only ten out of 46 Councils in our Province have Life Members in their midst. Those Councils that do have Life Members do benefit from their presence; in that they receive guidance and wisdom on issues of concern to members; mentoring; research topics of interest; facilitated workshops; and served as Parliamentarians.



These special ladies do share their love of the League, guiding and encouraging our membership at every opportunity. We are blessed indeed to have them!

Although there are no statistics on our Bellelle Guerin Award Recipients in Manitoba, I am pleased to note that we have 19 of these dedicated ladies in our province. They, too, are service-oriented women, who freely step forward at every opportunity to lead and assist wherever needed. Our members who do enjoy either a Bellelle Guerin recipient or a Life Member in their Council do recognize the precious gift they have in these wonderful women.



Summary and Final Thoughts

Councils support each other and their successes. They work together as a team to achieve their goals and to support their parish and community. They demonstrate their concern not only for our environment, but also for their own community and for each other.

Our membership is aging, and all councils are being challenged to utilize innovative ways to meet their goals. In my communiques I have offered ideas and recommendations to recruit and maintain membership. Our membership is aware that "Catch the Fire" and "S'mores" workshops are available, although none took place in this province last year. It is, however, encouraging to note that attendance at our annual Day of Celebration continues to grow, and is very well received. In our evaluations, our members overwhelmingly indicate they want more!



Our Diocesan Presidents are truly our Gems in the League – they work tirelessly to promote the League, to keep their membership informed, and to encourage participation in all League events.

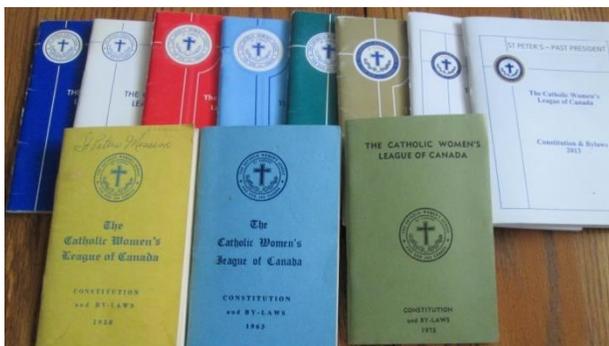
In closing I will remind all of us: *The little bit you do may not seem like very much, but combine it with the work of many, and the contributions of many, and in the end it becomes a great deal.*

Together, we can achieve much!

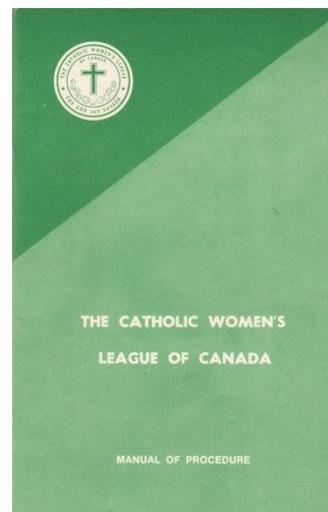
Janet Brunger



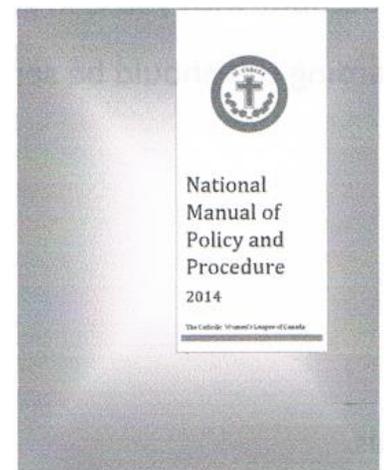
Maple Leaf Service Pin became available for presentation in 1972.



C&B's over the years



1976 – a forerunner to NMP&P





CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Crystal Reiter

January 1 to December 31, 2017

Number of parish councils reporting 25 out of 46 = 54.35%

(a) Marriage and Family

Several Councils accessed some of the resources available. The CCCB Life and Family website was utilized. Councils promoted Encounter weekends for engaged couples and Marriage Encounter weekends. Two councils promoted natural family planning methods.



Members attended workshops or seminars on the topic of family life. A few councils celebrated or organized events for Father's Day, Liturgical celebrations for Married Couples, Mother's Day, National Family Week and Special Anniversaries. Masses were said for life and family.

Gifts and cards to individuals through the RCIA program, Confirmation and First Communion

(b) Sanctity of Life

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

(c) Ministry to:

Youth – Councils have begun promoting the World Youth Day in Panama in 2019. Councils have encouraged young people to share their gifts in ministry. Councils promoted Girl Guides of Canada, Leadership camps or retreats, NET Ministries, summer camps, Catechism, World Youth Day, Youth For Christ and Youth Conferences. Four councils purchased subscriptions to Catholic

magazines, videos or books for use in the local community, school or parish library.

One council reports a member who is a youth coordinator whose main objective is to encourage the youth encounter Christ. One council reported hosting a Confirmation Luncheon.

Disabled - Councils invited disabled persons to take part in liturgical celebrations, offering rides where possible, though wheelchair transportation was sometimes impossible to provide. Councils organized or participated in support groups and respite for caregivers. Councils provide assistance to disabled persons living on their own. One council has urged communities to make churches and other public buildings more accessible. Councils supported shelters or programs to assist the disabled. Council members have reached out to the disabled by bringing them communion, giving them gifts on special occasions, organizing special events, prayed for them, provided transportation and sent cards or called or visited them. Council members have assisted the priest with masses in the community.

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

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

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

Vocations – Councils have adopted or supported seminarians, encouraged families to discuss vocations with their children, encouraged families to invite

priests and religious into their home, hosted luncheons for priests and religious, invited priests and religious to speak on vocations, offered mass for vocations, sent spiritual bouquets, supported discernment events for youths, supported priestly retirement funds and supported Serra.

Members are encouraged to invite and welcome members of clergy into their homes and to join them for brunch Sunday after mass

One council reports members pray the Prayer for Vocations at the end of their meetings

Adopting or supporting seminarians and prayers for vocations

Comments –

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

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

Crystal Reiter

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.



Photos from Suzanne Moore (with permission) to publish in ARB.



COMMUNITY LIFE STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Marielle Rigaux

January 1 to December 31, 2017

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting

23 out of 43 parish councils reported = 50%+

(a) DIGNITY AND RIGHTS OF PERSONS

The more we know about certain topics, the more we understand and can take the necessary steps to make change. Councils have taken the steps to become more familiar with the Declaration of Human Rights. From the young to the elderly they have supported those suffering from bullying, domestic violence, homelessness, poverty and human trafficking. Some councils have availed themselves of speakers or held workshops on the above topics. Councils have become more aware of the struggle of our indigenous sisters.

(b) SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Councils have acted, by writing to the Prime Minister, Minister of Justice and local Members of Parliament to ensure that judges, lawyers and legal personnel use the Gladue reports in correctional decision making and before sentencing of Indigenous offenders.

Local initiatives supported, affordable housing initiatives, anti-poverty campaign, before and after school lunch programs, emergency shelters for the homeless and those in domestic abuse situations, employment and skills training, food bank and hampers, resources for single parents, restorative justice program, soup kitchens, violence prevention program, and the Wish Foundation.

Five councils support organizations geared toward assisting Indigenous people. In their efforts, two councils reported becoming more familiar with restorative justice and prison ministry.

It was felt that the CWL probably needs to promote the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. Two councils report that they had assisted in the online consultation process regarding the Canada Poverty Reduction Strategy, while other councils felt that this initiative requires more attention.

Councils continue to support local food banks, gift programs, senior activities, made and donated lap quilts for hospitals and care homes.

CWL members supported Caritas dinner honouring Conrad Wyrzykowski; participated in Grow a Row; hosted a Family Fund Raiser; raised funds for a funeral for a young father; attended Tabs for Wheelchairs presentation and the Alpha House fundraiser.

(c) REFUGEES, IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP

This was a remarkable year, happy 150th birthday Canada. Oh how the CWL celebrated. Members were provided with the League Prayer and were invited to pray it for 150 days leading up to Canada's birthday. In one community the CWL ladies were invited to be the torch bearers. CWL members donated 150 school supplies to a local drop in centre and donated 150 notebooks and pencils to MCC for distribution in other countries. Members took part in the Living Flag held at Portage and Main. A council made a financial donation to a local immigrant family. CWL members hosted and participated at citizenship ceremonies. CWL women love to celebrate and do so quite creatively.



CWL members have also been challenged to understand the needs of immigrants in employment, English language, and financial assistance for food and rent. More could be done for equal access to Permanent Resident Status.

CWL are informing themselves about Canada's official immigration and refugee policies and are gaining insight into the needs of immigrants and refugees in their communities. CWL members feel that they have a fair to good understanding of

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

A majority of councils have not implemented the action plan called for in resolution 2016.01 (Equal access to Permanent Resident Status, an Amendment to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act). Three councils report having sent letters to Federal members of parliament and the Prime Minister.

As citizens of this country CWL supports the Legion poppy campaign and participates in the Remembrance Day services. In support of our Canadian troops, many wear red on Fridays.

(d) CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT & PEACE (CCOPD)

The 50th Share Lent Campaign-Women at the Heart of Change, implementation of the fall campaign and participation in the 1% national voluntary fund has been promoted. Due to the stand that the CCOPD has taken

with the youth employment signing, donations have not been as forthcoming but some members do give a monthly donation. Used stamps are collected for D & P.



(e) DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Many organizations such as the Canadian Red Cross, Catholic Near East Welfare Association, Chalice, Holy Childhood Association, Save a Family Plan, Operation Christmas Child, Operation Eyesight International, Habitat for Humanity, Pennies for Poor, Samaritans Purse, World Vision, Fellowship of the Least Coin, Doctors Without Borders, are supported by the CWL and through the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace.

Chairpersons are becoming aware of child labour laws in developing countries and are understanding the implications of trade laws and practices. They are becoming more knowledgeable of economic difficulties, and have criticized those that have put profit before people. Some councils have hosted guest speakers from developing countries who could explain and clarify the situations in their homeland.

(f) OTHER

If Catholic Women League members are not fundraising, attending, donating, petitioning or volunteering somewhere, they are just taking a breath as there is a never ending list that CWL provides in support, in active participation, financial and personal generosity. For those CWL members no longer able to support in some of those capacities, they are relied on for prayer, for others in their communities and for their councils.

As stated in reports, "our councils and our organization are busy and vibrant as ever"....."it's absolutely amazing what we have done"....."a lot can be achieved with a positive heart".

Ladies of the CWL you inspire, as **you** have been "inspired by the Spirit" you so joyfully respond to "God's call".

Our Lady of Good Council bless you all as we continue on our journey.

Marielle Rigaux

Velma's Dream: What is CNEWA? The Catholic Near East Welfare Association is the Holy Father's special agency serving the Middle East. Visit the cwl.ca website for brochure and how you can help.



**EDUCATION and HEALTH
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT
Chairperson: Doreen Howe**

January 1 to December 31, 2017

26 of 48 = 69% of parish councils reporting

Catholic education

- (i) Catholic schools and catechises**
- (ii) Rites of Christian initiation**

Most councils are well informed on Catholic education in their areas. They are involved in sacramental/faith development in the school system, breakfast/lunch programs and school supplies. All councils are involved in sacramental initiation programs at parish levels.

(b) Literacy and continuing education

With the increasing immigrant and refugee population, some councils encouraged members to assist those wishing to improve their literacy skills.

Our northern councils held a CWL Education Day and Workshop.

(c) Scholarships and bursaries

Most councils reported they have been involved in bursaries and scholarships at different levels of education. Most common area for funding was at the high school level. Other funds were directed to Catholic Outreach, Catholic women support, elementary school age children, university and NET ministries of Canada. Also, some councils are supporting the Coady Institute.

(d) Wellness and sickness/disease

There were a number of topics discussed by most councils such as: chemical and environmental sensitivities, the secrets of Sardinia, home to the largest population in the world whose people live to over 100 years, reference to obesity and food marketing practices, heart and stroke related food and beverage marketing, genetically modified foods and unfair marketing practices, labelling on food and drug products, World day of the Sick instituted by Pope Francis, educating their councils on blood donations and the new rules in giving, explanation on the left and right brain in relation to how it affects personality and expression, the increase of STD's in retirement communities and the lack of counselling, talk about age friendly communities and where health care funding falls short when providing thriving senior care, educating their council members on the Canada Food Guide as related to the Resolution 2016-02 and

discussed Resolution 2015-01 Early Access and Intervention to Child and Youth Mental Health Services.

The most common national organizations supported financially by councils were, Canadian Cancer Society, Canadian Red Cross, MaterCare, Heart and Stroke. These organizations were supported by either the councils as a whole or by individual members.

12 Hours for Palliative Care was supported by praying the rosary and reading readings for the 12 hours, discussions, lap quilts, and donations.

(e) Environment

Some councils have reduced the use of styrofoam cups and most promoted recycling. 20% have eliminated use of plastic water bottles. Some councils have reduced the use of paper at council meetings.

(f) Other

Most councils said their knowledge of technological development in light of the teachings of the Catholic Church is poor to good.

Councils have commented that they wish there was more information in regards to dementia, Alzheimer, care of seniors, institutional care, fetal alcohol spectrum and mental health education and how it affects social and economic costs in our society. So, as Manitoba Provincial Chairperson for Education and Health this year, I will try and address some or all of these topics.

Doreen Howe



CATH011269

Call 1-800-2DONATE (1-800-236-6283) to donate
to book your appointment

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

2
3 **Name of Council:** **Manitoba Provincial Council**
4
5 **Standing Committee:** **Education and Health**
6
7 **2017.01** **Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) and Environmental Sensitivities**
8

9
10 **Whereas,** Worldwide every year 4.3 million deaths occur from exposure to indoor air pollution and 3.7
11 million deaths are attributable to outdoor air pollution; and

12
13 **Whereas,** Approximately 3% of Canadians have been diagnosed with environmental sensitivities; and

14
15 **Whereas,** Housing may be the most crucial element in survival for people with multiple chemical
16 sensitivity (MCS); therefore be it

17
18 **Resolved,** That Manitoba Provincial Council, through the national council of The Catholic Women's
19 League of Canada urge the federal government:

20 (a) to develop health policy raising awareness of the issues faced by people suffering from
21 MCS and environmental sensitivities; and

22 (b) to encourage medical associations to develop policy, raise awareness and educate
23 members/doctors of issues concerning MCS and environmental sensitivities; and be it

24
25 **Resolved,** That Manitoba Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, urge the
26 Manitoba provincial government to build dwelling units that could be rented out, subsidized,
27 and/or rent-to-own to the people suffering from MCS and environmental sensitivities; and be
28 it

29
30 **Resolved,** That Manitoba Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, urge the
31 Manitoba provincial government:

32 (a) to develop health policy to raise awareness of the issues faced by people suffering from
33 MCS and environmental sensitivities; and

34 (b) to encourage medical associations to develop policy, raise awareness and educate
35 members/doctors of issues concerning MCS and environmental sensitivities; and be it

36
37 **Resolved,** That this resolution be forwarded through the national executive to the other ten
38 provincial councils, encouraging them to become aware of this issue as it pertains to their
39 province/territory, and to act on it, as deemed necessary/prudent; and be it further

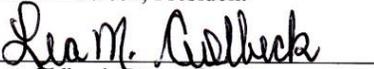
40
41 **Resolved,** That this resolution be forwarded to the national council of The Catholic Women's League of
42 Canada for consideration at the 2017 annual convention.

43
44 This resolution was adopted by a majority vote at the annual convention of Manitoba Provincial Council of
45 The Catholic Women's League of Canada held on June 4, 2017.

46
47 

48 Faith Anderson, President

June 4, 2017

49
50 

51 Lea Colbeck, Recording Secretary

June 4, 2017

52
53 **Resolution originated from:**

54 Our Lady of The Sacred Heart Parish Council	Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Council	Manitoba Provincial Council
55 Teresa Bodin, President	Lucille Rossington, President	Faith Anderson, President
56 P.O. Box 3938	P.O. Box 825	603 Silverstone Avenue
57 The Pas, MB R9A 1S5	Flin Flon, MB R8A 1N6	Winnipeg, MB R3T 2V6

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

2
3 **Name of Council: Manitoba Provincial Council**

4
5 **Standing Committee: Education and Health**

6
7 **BRIEF 2017.01 Multiple Chemical Sensitivity and Environmental Sensitivities**

8
9
10 According to the May 25, 2015 World Health Organization Assembly, "... air pollution is the world's largest
11 single environmental health risk. Every year 4.3 million deaths occur from exposure to indoor air pollution
12 and 3.7 million deaths are attributable to outdoor air pollution." (WHO) The resolution arising from that
13 assembly "...highlights the key role national health authorities need to play in raising awareness about the
14 potential to save lives and reduce health costs, if air pollution is addressed effectively." (ibid)

15
16 "The term "environmental sensitivities" describes a variety of reactions to chemicals, electromagnetic
17 radiation and other environmental factors at exposure levels commonly tolerated by many people." (Sears)
18 "Approximately 3% of Canadians have been diagnosed with environmental sensitivities. They usually
19 experience neurological impairments, and often experience other symptoms including runny eyes and nose,
20 headaches, fatigue, pain and breathing and digestive problems. Environmental sensitivities may develop
21 gradually after chronic exposure to relatively low levels of chemicals as seen in "sick buildings," or suddenly
22 after a major exposure to an environmental disaster or a chemical spill. This condition may be initiated by one
23 or a combination of environmental factors such as mould, pesticides, solvents, chemicals off-gassing from
24 carpets or furnishings, or electromagnetic phenomena." (ibid)

25
26 "In multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS) a person develops markedly negative reactions to everyday chemical
27 exposures. These include exposures to pesticides in buildings, in gardens, on our food, and on pets; chemical
28 cleaners; petrochemical heating systems; paints; perfumes; industrial emissions; and a myriad of others."
29 (Gibson) "MCS symptoms can affect any organ system including respiratory, digestive, neurological,
30 endocrine, urinary, cardiovascular, or immune." (ibid) "Once a person has developed environmental
31 sensitivities, reactions may occur to a broader range of factors, at levels of exposure that were previously
32 tolerated and that cause little difficulty to many others." (Sears) "Early recognition, environmental control,
33 avoidance of symptom-triggering agents, removal of residual toxins from the body, and recovery of normal
34 biological processes are key to regaining and maintaining health for people with sensitivities. However,
35 susceptibility to sensitivities will be life long." (ibid)

36
37 "Several medical organizations have not recognized multiple chemical sensitivities. However, medical
38 opinion is divided, and further research is needed." (CCOHS)

39
40 "Housing may be the single most crucial element in survival and possible improvement for someone with
41 MCS. Yet it is almost impossible for people with MCS to find places to live that are truly safe for them.
42 Housing may be their most difficult challenge, a challenge greater even than for people with other
43 disabilities." (Gibson) "Canadian statutes do not prescribe building standards that are protective for people
44 with environmental sensitivities." (Sears) "The person with MCS needs a home free of ALL petrochemical
45 heat and cooking sources, pesticides, conventional cleaners, solvent-containing paints, formaldehyde-emitting
46 furniture (foam and pressed board), perfumes and air fresheners, tobacco smoke, and other volatile chemicals.
47 Some need the home to be free of animal allergens as well." (Gibson)

48
49 "Our cultural response to MCS has been almost entirely negative. People with this primarily invisible
50 disability have been ignored, de-legitimized, dropped as friends, discriminated against in the workplace, fired
51 from their jobs, and excluded from housing and medical care." (Gibson) This resolution urges the federal and
52 the Manitoba provincial government to develop health policy raising awareness of the issues faced by people
53 suffering from multiple chemical sensitivity(MCS) and environmental sensitivities; and encourage medical
54 associations to develop policy, raise awareness and educate members/doctors of issues concerning MCS and
55 environmental sensitivities. The Manitoba provincial government is also urged to build dwelling units that
56 could be rented out, subsidized, and/or rent-to-own to the people suffering from multiple chemical sensitivity
57 (MCS) and environmental sensitivities.

58

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Name of Council: Manitoba Provincial Council

Standing Committee: Education and Health

**WORKS CITES and/or
CONSULTED: 2017.01** Multiple Chemical Sensitivity and Environmental Sensitivities

1. Gibson, Pamela Reed. "Understanding & Accommodating People with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity in Independent Living." (2002): n. pag. Ilru@ilru.org, 2002. Web. 23 May 2017. <http://www.ilru.org/sites/default/files/MCS%20FINAL.PDF><http://www.ilru.org/sites/default/files/MCS%20FINAL.PDF>.
2. Government of Canada, Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety. "Indoor Air Quality - General: OSH Answers." *Government of Canada, Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety*. N.p., 04 July 2016. Web. 15 May 2017. http://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/chemicals/iaq_intro.html.
3. Sears, Margaret E. "The Medical Perspective on Environmental Sensitivities ." *Canadian Human Rights Commission*. Canadian Human Rights Commission, May 2007. Web. 23 May 2017. http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/sites/default/files/envsensitivity_en.pdf.
4. "World Health Assembly Closes, Passing Resolutions on Air Pollution and Epilepsy." *World Health Organization*. World Health Organization, 26 May 2015. Web. 16 May 2017. <http://www.who.int/en/>.

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Name of Council: Manitoba Provincial Council

Standing Committee: Education and Health

**PROPOSED
ACTION PLAN 2017.01** Multiple Chemical Sensitivity and Environmental Sensitivities

1. Write letters to the prime minister and the minister of health with copies to your local member of parliament urging the federal government to develop health policy raising awareness of the issues faced by people suffering from multiple chemical sensitivity(MCS) and environmental sensitivities; and encourage medical associations to develop policy, raise awareness and educate members/doctors of issues concerning MCS and environmental sensitivities.
2. Write letters to the premier of Manitoba and the minister responsible for housing with copies to your local MLA urging the Manitoba provincial government to build dwelling units that could be rented out, subsidized, and/or rent-to-own to the people suffering from multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS) and environmental sensitivities.
3. Write letters to the premier of Manitoba and the minister of health, seniors and active living with copies to your local MLA urging the provincial government to: to develop health policy raising awareness of the issues faced by people suffering from multiple chemical sensitivity(MCS) and environmental sensitivities; and to encourage medical associations to develop policy, raise awareness and educate members/doctors of issues concerning MCS and environmental sensitivities.
4. Hold a speaker presentation on multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS)and environmental sensitivities.
5. Monitor the federal and provincial government's response to the request contained in the resolution.

COMMUNICATIONS STANDING COMMITTEE
Position Vacant
Annual Report prepared by Janet Brunger

January 1 to December 31, 2017

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting

(a) *The Canadian League* magazine

The Canadian League Magazine is read and heavily utilized by most of our members (56.6%), with articles being discussed at meetings (58.2%). Our ladies use it as a spiritual resource as well as an educational tool. In regards to the League Magazine being a resource for advocacy, approximately 48.5% of our membership reported finding useful tools that they could utilize. Of particular note is the interest demonstrated by our membership to the Spiritual Advisor's message in the League Magazine (one report indicated 88% of members read and utilized). Other articles that our membership read and utilized were: Marriage and Families in Today's World, 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care, and our President's Message.

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

Our membership promoted faith-based programs and media; the most common being Daily Mass or Salt & Light TV. In print media, the most common publications utilized by our membership were the Prairie Messenger and the Catholic Register.

Communiques and other articles received from other levels of the League are diligently distributed at meetings and notices of all kinds and Council newsletters are published in bulletins or copies placed on Parish CWL wall or bulletin board; therefore, it is clear that our members are using parish resources to ensure consistent communication with their membership. Virtually all Councils reported using a phoning committee to communicate events and notices to their membership.

A small percentage of our membership logged on to view/participate in the live-feed of the 2017 National Convention in Charlottetown. Virtually all Councils utilize *cwl.ca* as well as *On the Spot* and *CWL Facebook* for regular updates and current information. Also used were CWL testimonial videos, which were rated as good.

All communication to members is done through email. As Manitoba Provincial Council is currently without a communications chairperson, the provincial

president who receives League communication primarily through email, utilizes the diocesan presidents to forward to the parish presidents correspondence and time-sensitive information. The removal of email addresses when forwarding has been stressed to protect the privacy and contact information of the sources of the emails.

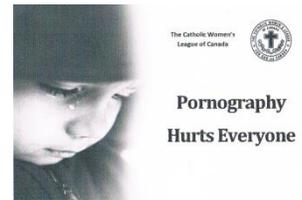
(c) media relations

Special events, Christmas messages and graduation messages are aired on the radio or papers in some of our northern communities. One council invited their local newspaper to attend the award of a 65th year pin and scroll to one of their charter members. Christmas wishes are aired on radio as well as ads to congratulate graduates at the end of the year.

World Communication Day in June was promoted by about 25% of our Councils, and approximately 70% of our membership voiced their objection to the Global Television Network and the Canadian Broadcasting Standards Council over their airing of the series "Mary Kills People". Sanctity of Life continues to be an important topic; 30% of members submitted material for publication to the media.

d) pornography

This issue continues to resonate with our members, and although the Pornography Hurts campaign appears to be waning, our membership is keeping informed (23%) and revisiting current legislation (19%). Internet safety (40%) and age verification control on adult websites (42%) are important topics that concern our members. Several members contacted their MP's and ministers of justice and our Prime Minister requesting legislation and the mailing of Pornography Hurts postcards to elected government officials.



Final Comments

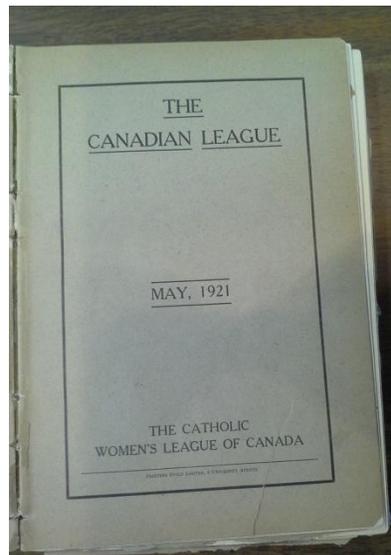
One Council has just become aware of Sony's move to delete explicit violence and sexuality and bad language of films, to make the movies family friendly. What a great initiative!

With the convenience of email, there has been a substantial increase of communication and information from the chairpersons at national level, and in order that it reaches our members, the diocesan presidents have become the most valuable link to the parish council presidents to keep members current of League developments and initiatives.

Manitoba Provincial Council is currently developing its website which should be active online mid-year 2018. One of the objectives of the website is to assist our members to utilize digital communication in serving the League. Our website will be a resource of pre-worded and formatted Word and PDF fillable

documents ready for download which are editable to suit the particular needs of our members.

Report prepared by:
Janet Brunger, Organization Chairperson
Rolande Chernichan, President



The League will be turning 100 years old in 2020!

Check back often to the CWL website for updates on exciting events and initiatives for you and your councils to take part in!



-  Facebook
-  Twitter
-  Email
-  Print
-  Gmail

Facebook – Twitter – Print – Email – Pinterest –

Gmail – Google+ – LinkedIn – Email App – Tumblr



RESOLUTIONS STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Con Marks

Sub-committee / committee members:

**Jeannette Ali, Faith Anderson, Janet Brunger,
Stella Ross, Rolande Chernichan (ex-officio) and
Fr. Paul Bringleston (ex-officio)**

January 1 to December 31, 2017

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting

Research and Preparation of Resolutions and Briefs:

Keewatin-The Pas Diocesan Council gifted the League with resolution **2017.01 "Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) and Environmental Sensitivities"** urging the Manitoba government to build dwelling units that could be rented out, subsidized, and/or rent-to-own to people suffering from multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS) and environmental sensitivities; and to develop health policy in order to raise awareness of the issues faced by people suffering from MCS and environmental sensitivities; and lastly to encourage medical associations to develop policy, raise awareness and educate members and physicians about issues concerning MCS and environmental sensitivities. No other resolutions were prepared by diocesan councils in 2017.

Up to 83% of councils report attendance at diocesan and provincial development days or at workshops that outline the resolution process. *Catch the Fire* or *S'Mores* workshops (30%) and diocesan, provincial or national conventions (30 – 50%) were other events attended.

Issues that councils were most passionate about include: euthanasia and assisted dying, palliative care, abortion, healthy eating and abuse of seniors.

One hundred percent of councils report referencing communiques and/or annual reports from other levels to obtain information. Approximately 70-80% of councils report consideration and discussion of ideas for resolutions with their members. At the same time they site underlying challenges, such as council too small, no chairperson and no interest or time to prepare a resolution as reasons for not going forward. Between 40 – 50% reported that their councils discussed action was already instituted by others or at other levels.

Study and Implementation of Resolutions Adopted by Other Levels:

Resolution 2017.01 "Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) and Environmental Sensitivities" was adopted at our provincial convention but was not brought to

the floor of the national convention. Instead it was forwarded to Education and Health Chairpersons to make this issue known by all levels.

The following resolutions from national convention and their action plans were dispersed to councils:

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

The following resolutions were acted upon by Manitoba's councils:

- **2017.04** Protection from Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals.
- **2016.04** Amend the *Canada Health Act* to Identify Palliative Care as an Insured Health Service
- **2016.05** Amend the *Canada Health Act* to Include Home Care as an Insured Health Service
- **2015.01** Increased Early Access and Interventions to Children and Youth Mental Health Services
- **2015.04** Invoking Section 33 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom in the case of *Carter v. Canada*

A variety of ways are used to bring information to members. The most widely used form of communicating information was reported to be at council meetings and through e-mail or newsletters (77%) followed by signed petitions (62%) and then letter writing sessions (23-50%). Guest speakers were invited to address about 25% of councils. Fifty percent of councils report members writing to the federal or provincial governments.

Presentation of Resolutions to Government at Provincial Level:

President Rolande Chernichan attempted repeatedly to set up a meeting with Premier Brian Pallister in order to present resolutions to our provincial government. Upon his request, the following resolutions from Manitoba provincial council and national council have been sent to his office for approval for presentation and discussion:

Manitoba Council Resolutions:

- **2017.01** Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) and Environmental Sensitivities (E&H)
- **2016.01** Extending Coverage of Insulin Pumps and Supplies to Manitobans of All Ages (E&H)

- **2016.03** Environmentally responsible solutions for the collection and disposal of grain bags and agricultural plastic waste products (E&H)
- **2015.01** Youth Engagement in Canadian Democracy and Governance (E&H)
- **2014.02** HZ (herpes zoster) Vaccine Coverage under Manitoba Health for persons 60 years and older (E&H)
- **2014.03** Expiry Dates on Prescription Labels (E&H)
- **2013.02** Efficient/Effective Modes of Transportation of Supplies to Northern/Remote Communities (CL)
- **2013.03** Emergency Communication and Cellular Services for Southeastern Manitoba (CL)
- **2013.05** Coverage of Psychologist Services under Manitoba Health Benefits (L)
- **2011.04** Removal of Retail Sales Tax on Healthcare Hostel and Hospice Facilities (L)

National Council Resolutions:

- **2017.01** Full Implementation of the Supreme court Decision in R. v. Gladue for Indigenous Offenders (CL)
- **2017.02** Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornographic Websites (C)
- **2017.03** Zero-Rated Status Under the Goods and Services Tax Provisions of the Excise Tax Act for Child Safety Products (L)
- **2017.04** Protection from Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals (L)
- **2016. 01** Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status, an Amendment to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (CL)
- **2016.02** Eating Well With Canada's Food Guide (E&H)
- **2016.03** Warning Labels on Food and Drug Products for all Inactive Substances and Additives (E&H)
- **2016.04** Amend the Canada Health Act to Identify Palliative Care as an Insured Health Service (L)
- **2016.05** Amend the Canada Health Act to Include Home Care as an Insured Health Service (L)
- **2015.01** Increased Early Access and Intervention to Children and Youth Mental Health Services (E&H)
- **2015.02** Ban Microbeads in Personal Care Products (E&H)
- **2015.03** Banning the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides (E&H)
- **2014.02** Electronic Cigarettes (resolution originated from Manitoba) (E&H)
- **2014.04** National Standard for Newborn Screening Including Screening for Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (resolution originated from Manitoba) (E&H)

- **2014.05** Old Age Security Allowance for Individuals 60 to 64 Years of Age Regardless of Marital Status (resolution originated from Manitoba) (L)

We have had no response from the government to date. The last meeting with our provincial government occurred September 2016. No meeting occurred during 2017.

Other:

A successful resolutions workshop was held November 25, 2017 at the St. Boniface Archbishop’s Residence. We analyzed an existing national resolution that was adopted at the national convention held in Charlottetown, P.E.I. (*2017.04 Protection from Coercion of Conscience for Healthcare Professionals*). This resolution was broken down into the various levels, starting at the parish level as we discussed what would have stimulated members to strike a resolution and how (potentially) each level (diocesan and provincial) following would have tweaked it in order to make it acceptable at their respective conventions. This was followed by a legislation workshop which culminated in letter writing to the government by participants regarding this very important issue. Approximately 22 members attended this workshop. They were very positive regarding this new format and found it to be very educational as everyone received the same information when discussions were held or questions were asked.

The next Resolutions and Legislation Workshop has been scheduled for Saturday November 17, 2018 at the Archbishop’s Residence in St. Boniface. *Save the date!!*

Summary and Final Thoughts:

Members that have attended national conventions find the Resolution Dialogue to be educational and informative. Since the national convention will be in Winnipeg in 2018, they plan to attend. They suggest more time be made available for discussion if possible.

Councils also report that even though no action has been taken with regards to preparing resolutions, interest in them remains high. It was suggested that a resolution workshop in the Westman area would be beneficial. This suggestion will be brought forward to the provincial executive for discussion.

Con Marks





LEGISLATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Paulette Borgfjord

January 1 to December 31, 2017

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting

Councils

16 councils reported. Many councils do not have a Legislation Chairperson. However, the president at the Parish and or the Diocesan level did report. Thank you to the Presidents who took on the responsibility to inform members of the issues and what we need to do as CWL members. I appreciate the work of the Presidents and of the members who willingly take on the position of Legislation Chair.

Communiques

All Communiques received from National Legislation Chairperson, Nancy Simms were forwarded to all councils as well as I sent out three communiques.

Attended:

Provincial Council Meetings
Resolution and Legislation Workshop

Campaign Letters:

- Councils active in supporting Manitoba bills regarding Medical Assistance in Dying, Palliative Care and Health Care concerns.
- Councils attended information sessions on MAID (Medical Assistance in Dying) and Palliative Care.
- Many councils were active on local concerns as well.
- Letters were written regarding Bill C-34 (The Conscience Rights of Health Care Professionals). This Bill was passed in the Manitoba Legislature and is now law in Manitoba.

Workshops

This year we added Legislation as part of the Resolution Workshop. It was well received and hopefully will help to create more interest and a better understanding of Legislation.

Remember when you write a letter or send an e-mail to your Member of Parliament or to your Member of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly you are creating a ripple in the water. Those ripples when combined with others can become a tide and can change the views of those in power.

Paulette Borgfjord



PAST PRESIDENT

Faith Anderson

January 1 to December 31, 2017

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting

Reports received from parish councils were 47% from one diocesan council and 67% from another diocesan council.

(a) serve in a consultative capacity

Past Presidents continue to serve their councils in a consultative capacity with some indicating being called upon for advice a few times a week to once a month. They attend executive meetings 60% and general meetings 40% of the time. 60% of the time they attend social and spiritual events. 60% of presidents feel supported by the past presidents. Eight councils out of twenty active councils reported having no past president.

(b) responsible for archives and history

85% in one diocesan council reported the past president was responsible for council archives and 60% in another diocesan council. Most councils store their archives at the church in a cupboard, filing cabinet or designated CWL room. A council reported (92%) of storing their archives in filing cabinets and photo albums. Photo albums were reported as a popular way to create an archive of their council. Some councils use memory sticks, CDs' and one used a DVD.

One council reported keeping material indefinitely: Annual reports (60%); Book of Life (80%); deceased member's histories (60%); financial (40%); past executive lists (100%); executive minutes (60%); general minutes (100%); pins and award recipients (80%); executive reports (40%) and years of service (100%).

Another council reported keeping material indefinitely for: annual reports, books of life, deceased members' histories, lists of past executive, membership renewal data, executive and general minutes, pin and award recipients, executive reports and years of service of members. Most councils kept their financial information for 5-8 years or more. Seven to fifteen percent do not keep executive or general minutes.

100% of one council and 76% of another know where their charter is located. Most of councils renew their archives as needed and the majority do not maintain a history book.

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

Most of councils reported having a copy of the *Constitution & Bylaws 2013*. Councils (approximately 40%) review the *Constitution & Bylaws* once in a two-year term.

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

80% in one council reported having a copy of the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*. Some (40%) refer to the manual and another council reported almost half of the councils reported they rarely refer to the National Manual of Policy and Procedure. 80% of one council have their own Manual of Policy and Procedure and another reported only 6/21 have their own manual. 50% reported reviewing their manual annually and most councils review the manual once in a two-year term.

(e) other duties as assigned by the president

- Most of councils reported seeking advice from diocesan (2-4 times/year); national (rarely); obtain information from national (rarely 60% and 10/21 councils) provincial (80% rarely and 1-4 times/year).
- Past presidents also chair a standing committee or fill other vacant positions. One council reported 80% of past presidents chair executive or general meetings. Past presidents reported chairing nominations and elections committee; organize fundraiser or charity event; prepare newsletters and some check the national website for updates. One diocesan council reported 100% of their councils promote their council in the parish and community and send representatives to conventions.
- Comments/Suggestions received from one diocesan council:
 - "... *past presidents said what they could do to help the incoming president is to talk to them and explain the policies and procedures more; act as a mentor; share documents; be an active part of the executive and take on duties to lessen the load. Some think that they should let the president do her job and help only when asked. Another, thinks that making a list of what to be done for the council, who to go to for help, where to access certain information quickly, and advise her to attend as many workshops as possible. One also said there isn't any interest in taking on the president role, because they are afraid that the 6-year term is too long.*"

Manitoba Provincial Council

As Past President of Manitoba Provincial Council, I have provided advice to the president when called upon; have undertaken the revision of the *Manitoba Provincial Council Manual of Policy and Procedure*; attended executive

meetings; served on Resolutions and Website Committee; developed poster for Manitoba Provincial Council Annual Day of Celebration and drafted application form for Rural Initiative Fund. I also provided support for the Resolutions Workshop. I attended the Winnipeg Annual Fall Workshop and Meeting and St. Boniface Diocesan Council Annual Day of Reflection.

As Past President it is important to be visible to the executive and council members. This promotes their ongoing support to the important work of the League in the parish, community, country and globally.

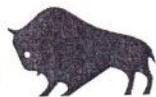
If you are working on something exciting that you really care about, you don't have to be pushed. The vision pulls you.

- Steve Jobs



All issues of the *Canadian League* magazine (since the beginning) are bound and stored in a cabinet at National Office, in Winnipeg. Anyone can go there to view them and will be warmly welcomed by national staff. Very interesting reading as changes in styles and content over the years in the magazine, from monthly issues to our glossy magazine of today, issued 3 times a year. In the beginning one had to purchase a copy.

Manitoba



Culture, Heritage and Tourism
Archives of Manitoba
130 -200 Vaughan Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 1T5
T 204 945-3971 F 204 948-2008
www.gov.mb.ca/archives.ca

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

**3 boxes of Provincial files were gifted to
the Manitoba Archives**

December 15, 2009





TREASURER'S REPORT

Lea Colbeck

January 1 to December 31, 2017

3 of 3 Diocesan Councils Reporting

Upon receipt and review of the treasurer's reports, I would like to offer my congratulations to all the treasurers for their dedication and diligence in the accurate recording of all the monetary transactions within their Councils – you have done well. I would like to acknowledge the service of the Diocesan treasurers to the League. Having done this job myself, I know the amount of effort it takes to keep things on track and flowing smoothly. Many thanks to you for your hard work!

Last year 21 councils completed the forms electronically. This year there was 26 councils that reported. It was terrific to see the increase in the number of councils making use of the electronic forms. Let us see even more councils next year.

The membership fee for 2017 ranged from \$22.00 to \$30.00. Most of the councils reported that their fees would stay the same for 2018. Councils reported that the majority of membership fees are collected in November (69.23%); December (69.23%) and January (50%) with the bulk of the remittance to National Office taking place in January (53.85%). Council treasurers work with the organization chairperson to reconcile the number of paid membership dollars with the number of paid members. Most of the councils stated that they write a cheque for memberships being sent to National office. Both of these items were at 73.08%.

Fundraising is a large part of the activities at the Parish level. Several of the fundraising activities are bake sales (53.85%); raffles (57.69%), silent auctions (53.85%); funeral lunches (50.00%); and others such as teas, rummage sales, bazaars, etc. Substantial amounts of money are raised at these events which then go to support local parish needs or charities locally, nationally and abroad.

Security is adhered to in that most councils require two signatures on their cheques. Financial reporting is presented at each meeting with an annual financial report being given. The books are audited on a regular basis.

My first year as treasurer is now over and it has most certainly has had a learning curve. There is always something new to learn at each level of the League. My final comment is thanks to all for doing such a great job for the League!

Lea M. Colbeck

DONATIONS FOR 2017
3 of 3 Diocesan Councils reporting

National Voluntary Fund	
Coady International Institute	945.00
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development & Peace	2,688.19
Catholic Missions in Canada	3,220.00
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition	1,125.00
Catholic Near East Welfare Association	590.00
National Voluntary Fund Sub-Total	8,568.19
Standing Committees	
Spiritual Development	14,646.40
Organization	6,283.98
Christian Family Life	10,406.46
Community Life	24,675.56
Education and Health	17,705.23
Communications	676.35
Standing Committees Sub-total	74,393.98
Parish Donations	24,912.88
TOTAL of all donations	\$107,875.05



**MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
FINANCIAL STATEMENT January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017**

BALANCE January 1, 2017 **\$ 4,433.03**

INCOME

Per Capita (@ \$6.00)			14,358.00
Day of Celebration	Registrations and lunches	2300.00	
	League Development	2086.58	
			4,386.58
Provincial Convention	Registrations		792.00
Resolutions Workshop			210.00
Donations from Councils	Kee Pas Missions		659.64
	INCOME SUBTOTAL		20,406.22

GIC's	GIC's Matured	10,002.13	
	Interest	142.81	10,144.94

TOTAL INCOME **30,551.16**

DISBURSEMENTS

National Convention	President Elect, 1st Vice-President, Kee Pas President		2,913.50
Nat Conv.- Prov. Night			200.00
Provincial Conventtion	Hotels for Executive (2 days)	1,754.30	
	Registrations/Meals/Travel	1,706.18	
	Photocopy (resolutions/ booklet/ etc)	405.26	
	Honorariums - 1	100.00	
	Project Expenses	48.59	4,014.33
Diocesan Conventions			639.83
Provincial Meetings			2,987.90
Day of Celebration	Catering		1,905.00
	Mileage		34.20
	Expenses paid by League Development Fund		2,086.58
Office	Photocopying/Ink/Paper		30.00
	Supplies/Postage		69.54
National Supplies			195.00
Insurance	Provincial executive & 2 years Directors Liability		1,728.19
Audit of Provincial Books	as per C&B & MMP&P		150.00
Resolutions Workshop	Meals		210.00
St Boniface Day of Reflection			173.10
Dinners	Alpha House/ Caritas/ House of Peace/ Life's Vision		295.00
Life Members Gathering			207.60
Website	Monitoring		150.00
Prov Pres travel to councils & special events			425.50
Chairperson's Discretionary Fund - 3			86.55
Donation to Kee Pas Missions	MMP&P		400.00
Gifts			200.00
Donations to Kee Pas Missions	Council Donations		659.64
Donation to MB/NW Ont. Legion			50.00

**MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA
FINANCIAL STATEMENT January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017**

	DISBURSEMENTS SUBTOTAL	19,811.46
GIC's Reinvested		10,092.15
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		<u>29,903.61</u>
BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2017		<u><u>\$ 5,080.58</u></u>
Balance Forward January 1, 2017		4,433.03
Income Subtotal	20,406.22	
GIC'S Income	<u>10,144.94</u>	30,551.16
Disbursements Subtotal	19,811.46	
GIC'S Reinvested	<u>10,092.15</u>	29,903.61
Closing Balance December 31, 2017		5,080.58
Balance of Account		5,080.58
GIC's (Surplus Funds)		<u>32,618.02</u>
TOTAL OUR ASSETS		37,698.60
GIC'S (National Convention Funds)		<u>32,835.98</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		70,534.58

NOTES:

Surplus Funds GIC

1.5 yr Non-Cash @ 1.35%	#102		5,337.63
1.5yr Non-Cash @1.35%	#103		5,067.81
1.5yr Non-Cash@ 1.35%	#104		5,158.70
1.5 yr Cashable @.8%	#107		8,717.10
1 yr Cashable @ .5%	#101		<u>8,336.78</u>
			32,618.02

<i>Nat Conv Trust Fund GIC</i>	1 yr Cashable @ 1.60%	#106	1,840.86
<i>Rural Initiative Trust Fund</i>	3 yr Non Red @ 1.25%	# 91	20,902.97
<i>Perpetual Nat Conv Fund GIC</i>	1.5 Yr @ 1.7%	#105	10,092.15
			32,835.98



MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL LIFE MEMBER LIAISON

SUSAN BERNIER

Life Members in Manitoba celebrated the joys and challenges of 2017.

We kept in touch at League events, days of celebration and spirituality, diocesan, provincial and national conventions. We received and shared communiques from Bev Weiler, our national life member liaison, as well as through both Terri Scott and myself as your provincial life member liaison. In June, Life Members and Bellelle Guerin recipients gathered for a delightful evening together to celebrate, pray and reminisce of the many adventures that we have shared over the years on our journey in the League.

This past October, our dear Pat Johnston left us for her eternal reward. She is probably in heaven right now organizing St. Peter, extoling the virtues of League membership while getting a letter writing campaign going!

We are truly blessed with a love of the League and for each other as our life members continue to step up and rise to the challenges that they face in life and as a member of the League, taking on the role of parish council president (again) so that our councils continue on, mentoring our councils and our League sisters, facilitating workshops and participating fully as a member of the League.

We may be smaller in numbers but we are mighty in faith, love and knowledge of the League. We invite members and councils to call on us, remember us and pray for us as we continue our journey together as sisters in the League.

Susan Bernier



Rolande, Jane, Pat, Margaret, Donna, Susan, Terri, Faith, Bernice, Dolores, Mary Margaret, Linda at gathering of LM & BG June 2017



LM & BG at Day of Celebration Feb. 2017



LM & BG at Winnipeg Dioc. Conv April 2017



LM at Provincial Convention June 2017



LM Booklet and photo album at Prov. Conv. 2017

Congratulations LM Rayleen De Luca from all your sisters in the League for being awarded (Nov.18, 2016) and invested into the Order of Canada (Aug. 25, 2017) by His Excellency, The Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada at Rideau Hall, Ottawa



**Rayleen V. De Luca, C.M., O.M.
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

Rayleen De Luca is known throughout Canada for her research on and activism against child sexual abuse. As a clinical child psychologist and professor at the University of Manitoba, she has conducted breakthrough research on the damaging effects of child violence, which has led to innovative treatment methods. She has worked tirelessly with communities around the country to eradicate child abuse and is a vocal advocate for increased dialogue on this difficult subject. She has also shaped the next generation of practitioners as the director of clinical training at the university.



DAY OF CELEBRATION FEB. 11, 2017

Members blessed by belonging to CWL

The Manitoba Catholic Women's League Provincial Day of Celebration is a day set aside once a year for CWL members to rejuvenate themselves, to learn about the League, and to study various issues. In February this year, the largest gathering since its inception in 1999, 125 members met at St. Peter's Church for this very reason.

Faith Anderson, provincial president, opened the gathering by quoting Alice Makodonski, the provincial president who initiated this tradition, by saying, "Just being together is a celebration by itself."

National president Margaret Ann Jacobs delved into the national theme, "Inspired by the Spirit: Women Respond to God's Call," for the workshop, which was broken into three sections: 1) Unconditional love of God 2) Empowered by the Gifts of the Spirit, and 3) Inspired by the Fruits of the Spirit.

Jacobs said that in our lives the greatest gifts we have ever received remain unopened. Open the gifts of the Holy Spirit as they remain in the wrapping of the Lord. She recalled a quotation she had read some time ago which said, "It is the wrapper, rather than the receiver who gets the gift." The gifts we have are not the same gifts others have. Every Christian receives some of the gifts, but no Christian receives all of them. Everything you see has been given to the world through God.

"I hope that the women go away appreciating the power of the Spirit in their lives and that we are called to respond." In a nutshell, this is what Jacobs said she wants members to take away from the day.

We need to love, even though some people are not loveable. A discussion on how we show love to another elicited responses of hugs, listening, and giving encouragement. Comments that we are blessed to belong to the CWL, having a common faith, and having a safe place to fail, were just a few suggestions to explain how we are blessed by belonging to the league. Eight other topics discussed included suggestions of how to bring peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control in our relationships.

The second part of the day included a discussion with five life members which was a parody of a well-known TV show, The View. Life members are the elders who are the holders of the wisdom. Interesting questions from the floor enlightened new members of what a life member is and what they do, which led to many laughable and teachable moments.

The day concluded with a presentation on the Centre Flavie-Laurent Inc., an organization in St. Boniface to help the impoverished and the vulnerable by providing aid of clothing and household items.

By LM Terri Scott – submission to *Prairie Messenger* (printed 03/22/2017)

Reprinted with permission of Terri Scott



Prov. Pres. Faith welcomed all; Janet & Mavis lead the spiritual opening presentation, before National President Margaret Ann Jacobs led members through her workshop on 'The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit' as a way for all members to develop our new two year national theme "Inspired by the Spirit - Women Respond to God's Call. Susan updates all on the 2018 Nat. Conv.



A beautifully decorated table awaited the 10 lucky members whose names were drawn to have lunch with the Nat.Pres. Others lined up for the delicious luncheon provided.



LM Suzanne & Albertine selling RFD wallets



LM Suzanne, Terri, Mary-Margaret, Faith & Susan share "their views" on being a Life Member



Nat. Pres. Margaret Ann; Prov. Pres. Faith; St. Peter's Pres. Donna



16 of the 20 members from host council St. Peter's



119 pounds of food and \$65.00 was collected for Winnipeg Harvest as part of Provincial Council's initiative for the Year of Mercy to help feed the hungry.



RECORDING SECRETARY

Ann Schenkeveld

January 1 to December 31, 2017

As Recording Secretary, I attended and took Minutes at the following meetings:

- a) August 26, 2017 Post Convention Executive Meeting
- b) October 15, 2017 Fall Executive Meeting
- c) December 2, 2017 Convention 2018 Planning Meeting

Shortly after each meeting the Minutes are distributed to all Manitoba Provincial Council members for their review. Minutes are motioned for approval at the next scheduled executive meeting.

All Minutes, as well as all chairpersons' reports, are filed and in due time will be archived. An electronic version of all Minutes is also saved.

I attended several meetings of the website planning committee.

Ann Schenkeveld



CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Colleen Holloway

January 1 to December 31, 2017

Most correspondence is done via email as it is the quickest and easiest method. Any special correspondence is handled as needed.

Invitations and information for the provincial convention are prepared and sent via email to all councils in MB via the diocesan presidents; to all provincial officers; to all Life Members in MB; and all invited guests.

'Notice of Meeting' is sent to executive for all provincial council meetings.

MB Provincial Convention June 3-4, 2017 in Virden



Opening ceremonies

Housekeeping



Memorial Service for Deceased Members

Food donated to feed the hungry donated to guest speaker Thea Dennis (Samaritan House Inc. Brandon)



Thank You Fr. Leo for serving us as Sp. Adv. For the past 5 years

Speaker Mary-Margaret



Thank you to outgoing president Faith Some of lap quilts donated on the side

Resolutions Archiving



Thank you Virden Council

Election of new executive



Installing new Spiritual Advisor Fr. Paul and new executive



Rose Anne as banquet Hostess Sat. evening

THANK YOU VIRDEN! The tour of your town was wonderful! Your hospitality was wonderful!

STANDING RULES OF CONVENTION

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

At the beginning of the business session of a convention, the rules are read and a motion is proposed, discussed and voted on to adopt the standing rules of the convention. 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 70th Annual Convention of the Manitoba Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

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 resolutions 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 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.

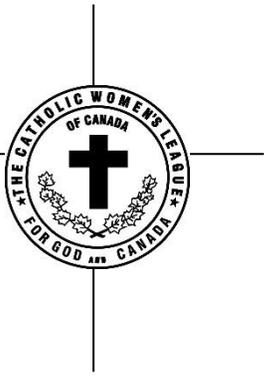
Minutes

- (a) The provincial president shall appoint a Minutes Review Committee to verify the minutes of all meetings of the convention (includes minutes of elections).
- (b) The provincial executive shall approve the minutes of this convention at its fall meeting.
- (c) 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 at a convention.

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.



The Catholic Women's League of Canada 2018 National Convention Planning Committee

May 15, 2018

Dear Sisters in the League,

It is hard to believe that the 2018 National Annual Convention is almost here! You have been amazing and without you, we would not be able to provide a true Friendly Manitoba welcome to delegates and guests from across Canada (as well as our Sisters from across Manitoba).

Members have taken on the challenge of selling (and buying) raffle tickets and RFID wallets to raise the funds required for an event of this magnitude, volunteering or chairing committees, writing and creating heartfelt and beautiful greeting cards for our guests and welcoming us as we coaxed, invited and challenged you over the past four years. You have risen to that challenge with joy and enthusiasm!

I know that the success of this summer's national convention will be due in part to hard work and dedication of our members but more importantly, the beauty of your welcome and the genuine love for the League that will be shared with all.

On behalf of the members of this planning committee, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to represent our Manitoba Provincial Council and to serve the League through this amazing event!

God bless,

Susan Bernier, Chair
National Convention Planning Committee



The team promoting the 2018 National Convention at the Provincial Convention 2017

OUR APPRECIATION GOES TO...

- Mary, Mother of the Church Council Acting President, **Faith Anderson**; members of the **Convention Committee** and **all members of Mary, Mother of the Church Council** for their heartwarming hospitality and for graciously hosting this convention.
- St. Boniface Diocesan President, **Paulette Chase** and Past President, **Mavis McLaren**, for welcoming us so warmly to their diocese.
- **Reverend Father Kevin Bettens** and the parishioners of Mary, Mother of the Church for the experience of faith community in the Celebration of the Eucharist.
- **Most Reverend Archbishop Albert LeGatt**, Archbishop of St. Boniface, for presiding at the Celebration of the Eucharist and for his support of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Thank you for sharing in our banquet and for your invitation to join in the various celebrations in your diocese marking the 200th anniversary of the Church in western and northern Canada.
- **Reverend Father Paul Bringleson**, Provincial Spiritual Advisor, for faithfully attending meetings and celebrating Mass with the provincial executive. Thank you for your inspired messages and spiritual guidance throughout the year.
- All the **Life Members** who participated in the 70th anniversary of provincial council this weekend! Thank you for your ongoing mentoring and sharing your love for the League.
- **Margaret Ann Jacobs**, our national president, for gracing our convention with her presence and for gifting the League with the theme: 'Inspired by the Spirit: Women Respond to God's Call'. Thank you for presenting a workshop about servant leadership as the League discerns its future following strategic planning consultations.
- **Members of the Provincial Executive** who by their service promote the objectives of the League and who keep members informed and educated via their communiques.
- Past President and Life Member, **Faith Anderson**, for assembling a pictorial and historical summary to mark provincial council's 70th anniversary. Thank you for willingly sharing your many talents with the League.
- President-Elect, **Janet Brunger**, for collecting the League reports to produce an Annual Report Book that captures the many good works and dedication by members in Manitoba throughout 2017.
- **Donna Candelaria** for her time and creativity in collating and formatting the Annual Report Book. We are blessed by your continued sharing of your many talents.
- **All parish presidents and council members** in Keewatin-The Pas, St. Boniface and Winnipeg Dioceses who continue to serve 'God and Canada' through membership and involvement in The Catholic Women's League of Canada.
- **Vince de Luca** for taking photos of the provincial executive for the annual report booklet and the provincial website. His years of dedication as photographer for League events are commendable.

Rolande Chernichan, President
Manitoba Provincial Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



A BIG BOUQUET TO



Mary, Mother of the Church Convention Committee

Faith Anderson (Chairperson)
Denise Pasieczka (Treasurer)
Rose Dobson (Spiritual)
Josephine Pettigrew (Registration and Credentials)
Doreen Smith (Decorations)
Zinny Deen (Accommodations)
Mary Brasier (Support)
Donna Dansereau (Hospitality)
Fr. Kevin Bettens (Spiritual Advisor)



All to of you who donated food at the diocesan and provincial conventions in 2017 to help feed the hungry for our Provincial Council Initiative for The Year of Mercy.

All members who so graciously and lovingly made blankets for the National CWL Lap Quilt Challenge initiative and donated them to those in need at hospices and nursing homes.



P.E.I. Provincial President Irene Gallant presenting Msgr. Louis McCloskey with Manitoba's submission of a lap quilt to the 2017 national convention in Charlottetown. The lap quilt had been lovingly made by the CWL council of St. Augustine in Brandon. Msgr. Louis, a former MB Provincial Spiritual Advisor (1997-2002), is retired and now lives in his home province of PEI.



The Catholic Women's League of Canada was organized nationally **June 17, 1920** (in Montreal) and granted federal incorporation Dec.12, 1923. At the first convention June 1921 (in Toronto) the term 'subdivision' was adopted for the parish units, a national annual per capita fee of \$.10 was agreed upon, membership in the parish would be \$1.00; **"For God and Canada"** became the League motto; the adoption of a permanent Constitution, the establishment of an official CWL publication **"The Canadian League"** and the design competition for the design of an insignia pin was left open. It became available for sale Dec. 1922 for \$1.00 (1.5" size); \$.50 (1/2" size).

1948 was a milestone year in the history of the League, as it received the formal approval and mandate of the Canadian Catholic Conference of Bishops, now known as the Canadian Conference of the Catholic Bishops. The Bishops had recognized the League as the voice of Catholic Women in Canada and the CWL Constitution and Bylaws was amended to recognize this mandate. **"A subdivision in every Parish and every Catholic woman a member of the League"** became the goal of all Membership Conveners.

Another milestone marked in 1948 was the formation of Provincial Councils within the League.

"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 the Provincial Councils of the League should be set up in Canada in order to achieve a high degree of efficiency, in bringing about proper, definite and prompt action reasonably expected and demanded of an organization such as ours, and also for the purpose of studying and taking such actions as may be deemed prudent upon matters of provincial input." The revised Constitution established a clear framework of activities for each level. Fundraising would be confined to the Parish level with the other levels being financed by the per capita fees from the Parish Subdivisions. ("EXCEPT THE LORD BUILD THE HOUSE.." 1990, pg52)

**These ladies have served with love of
and service to our League as
Presidents of the Manitoba Provincial Council**

Their home Diocese is indicated as (W) -Winnipeg (SB) - St. Boniface
(KP) - Keewatin Le Pas as well as where they resided at the time of their presidency.

Most pictures have been taken from League magazine articles.

Most have also been awarded their Life Memberships – diocese and dates included.

			No pic available	
Margaret KELLY (Winnipeg) 1948-1948 (W) LM 1951	Evelyn PAWELLS (Winnipeg) 1948-1951 (W) LM 1951	Dorothy MULLER (Winnipeg) 1951-1952 (SB) LM 1959		Mary COLTON (Winnipeg) 1952-1953 (W) Mary PANERO (Winnipeg) 1953-1955 (W)LM 1955
				
Winnifred ALEXANDER (Winnipeg) 1955-1957 (SB) 1961	Marjorie CYR (Flin Flon) 1957-1959 (KP)	Marguerite LANTHIER (Winnipeg) 1959-1961 (SB) LM 1961	Florence FABRIS (Winnipeg) 1961-1963 (W) LM 1951	Marion TRUDELL (Winnipeg) 1963-1965 (SB) LM 1963

				
Rose DION (Winnipeg) 1965-1967 (SB) LM 1967	Catherine BIRD (Winnipeg) 1967-1969 (SB) LM 1969	Florence FABRIS Nat. Pres. 1968-1970 HLM 1970	Jeanne REAGAN (Flin Flon) 1969-1971 (KP) LM 1971	Patricia JOHNSTON (Winnipeg) 1971-1973 (W) LM 1973
				
Mary PUNJENTE (Brandon) 1973-1975 (W) LM 1975	Kathleen WILLIAMS (Winnipeg) 1975-1977 (W) LM 1977	Shirley SCALETTA (Winnipeg) 1977-1979 (SB) LM 1975	Bernadette RUSSELL (Winnipeg) 1979-1981 (W) LM 1981	Elsie LITWIN (Winnipeg) 1981-1983 (W) LM 1989
				
Jean KEATING (Winnipeg) 1983-1985 (W) LM 1981	Doreen FERRATON (Winnipeg) 1985-1987 (SB) LM 1989	Diana McKENZIE (Lynn Lake) 1987-1989 (KP) LM 1988	Mary BENNETT (Winnipeg) 1989-1991 (W) LM 1988	Helen BEMBENEK (Winnipeg) 1991-1993 (W) LM 1994
In 1959 Parish Sub-divisions became Parish Councils.				
A president's pin on council level was made available for the first time.				
Provincial Presidents were appointed as National Councillors until 1968 when they were recognized as Presidents of Provincial Councils.				
1985- Provincial Presidents attended National Executive meetings for the first time.				
<i>Conveners of Standing Committees became Chairpersons of Standing Committees in 1999</i>				

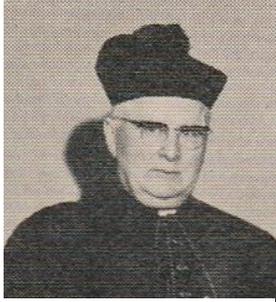
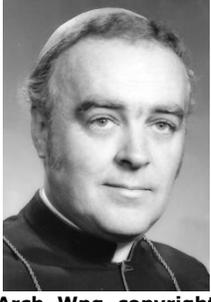
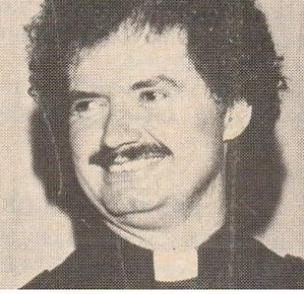
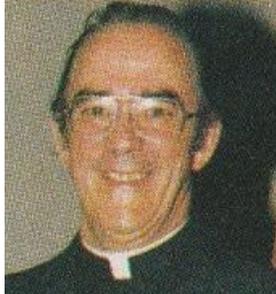
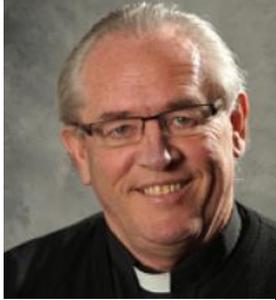
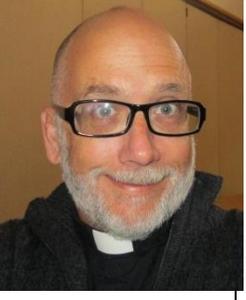
				
Linda PARKER (Selkirk) 1993-1995 (W) LM 1997	Beatrice GROSS (Brandon) 1995-1997 (W) LM 1999	Elizabeth DAVID (Winnipeg) 1997-1999 (W) LM 2001	Alice MAKODANSKI (Winnipeg) 1999-2001 (SB) LM 2003	Dr. Rayleen De LUCA (Winnipeg) 2001-2003 (W) LM 2002
				
Sandra BYRNES (Winnipeg) 2003-2005 (SB) LM 2005	Terri SCOTT (Winnipeg) 2005-2007 (W) LM 2007	Suzanne KIAZYK (Brandon) 2007-2009 (W) LM 2002	Susan BERNIER (Lorette) 2009-2011 (SB) LM 2007	Jacqueline NOGIER (Snow Lake) 2011-2013 (KP) LM 2014
			MANY OF THESE WOMEN ALSO SERVED ON THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE	<i>Most of these women were also presidents of their diocesan councils</i>
Monica BRECHKA (Winnipeg) 2013-2015 (SB) LM 2012	Faith ANDERSON (Winnipeg) 2015-2017 (SB) LM 2010	Rolande CHERNICHAN (Ile des Chenes) 2017-2019 (SB) LM 2016		

Here I am Lord, Trying to do what you want....
 Surely you deserve greater mind, a stronger will, a more intense love,
 but you know what I am and have extended the invitation to me.
 I should know by now that you do not need the most expensive oils, nor the finest brushes
 to paint a masterpiece; help me to trust your reasons for wanting me.
 Give me an open mind and heart that I may let in the knowledge of your love,
 that I may share it with others.
 Please help me over the rough spots so that I may accomplish your will. Amen (LM book)

These wonderful women have received their Life Membership but have not served as a Manitoba Provincial President.

		No pic available No date yet available either		
Margaret QUINN (W) 1948	Yvonne SMITH (W) 1948	Florence GALLAGHER (W) LM ?	Anna ZDAN (W) 1952	Maria BERTHIER (W) 1962
Hearst Diocese, Ontario Moved to MB No pic Available				
Florence KRUGER (ON) LM 1969	Jessie CHUDZIK (W) 1976	Viola SPECHT (W) 1979	Evelyn WYRZYKOWSKI (SB) 1979	Katherine KOMATICH (W) 1989
				
Evelyn WYRZYKOWSKI Nat. Pres. 1988-1990 (HLM)1990	Beatrice GROSS (W) 1999	Margaret SILVERTHORNE (SB) 2003	Jeanne TINSLEY (W) 2009	Dolores BLANCHARD (W) 2007
			MOST OF THESE WOMEN ALSO SERVED AS PRESIDENTS ON THEIR DIOCESAN COUNCILS SOME ALSO SERVED ON NATIONAL COUNCIL	
Mary-Margaret PATTERSON (W) 2013	Albertine MORAN (W) 2014	Ella NOGIER (KP) 2016		

**These men of great faith have served the Manitoba
Provincial Council as Directors (1948 – 1984)
Spiritual Directors (1984 – 1994)
Spiritual Advisors (1994 -**

No pic available at this time			 <small>Arch. Wpg. copyright</small>	
Rev. Charles J. KELLY 1948-1950 (Wpg)	Msgr. Ignatius E. ZIELONKA, P.D. 1950-1952 (Wpg)	Msgr. Charles A. EMPSON 1952-1973 (St. B)	Rt. Rev. Charles A. HALPIN 1973-1974 (Wpg)	Rev. Allen R. HALL 1974-1977 (Wpg)
				
Rev. Michael MOORE 1977-1982 (Wpg)	Rev. Roland BELANGER 1982-1987 (St. B)	Rev. Arthur SEAMAN 1987-1992 (Wpg)	Rev. Renato PASINATO 1992-1997 (St. B)	Rev. Louis McCLOSKEY 1997-2002 (Wpg)
				<i>Thank You for your spiritual guidance over the many years!</i>
Rev. Martin BRADBURY 2002-2007 (KP)	Rev. Martin BRADBURY 2007-2012 (St. B)	Rev. Leo FERNANDES 2012-2017 (Wpg)	Rev. Paul BRINGLESTON 2017 (KP)	
Right Rev. Charles A. Empson was our longest serving Director. His history can be found by googling his name on the web.				
Right Rev. Charles A. Halpin was installed as Archbishop of Regina on Dec. 12, 1973. His history can be found by googling his name on the web.				
Fr. Moore developed the Spiritual Advisor's Handbook in 1982 in consultation with the National Sp. Dir. & Nat. Sp. Dev. Convener Shirley Scaletta.				



The Catholic Women's League of Canada

To all members of the above Association wherever dispersed
Greeting:

Know Ye that with the approval of our NATIONAL DIRECTOR and by virtue of the power in us invested as NATIONAL PRESIDENT and NATIONAL SECRETARY of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, we do greet as your FIRST DIRECTOR **REV. C. KELLY, S.J.** and with his consent

Do Hereby Constitute and Ordain

your FIRST PRESIDENT **MRS. E. P. KELLY**
your FIRST SECRETARY **MISS CECILIA SHANNON**

and such other persons, being or who may become members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, to be, to have and to hold a **provincial council** Association in

- MANITOBA -
to be known as No. **8 - MANITOBA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL**

~~Subdivision~~ of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, and empower said associates and their lawful successors to perform, under the patronage of OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL, everything deemed conducive to the harmonious accomplishment of the aims and objects of this **council** so long as they strictly conform in all their doings to the Companies Act, the Letters Patent incorporating the Association, and the Constitution and By-laws of the Association.

Signed, sealed and delivered by the National Executive this day of **March** your official organization as a subdivision **1948.**



Eileen M. Drake
.....
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Anna T. ...
.....
NATIONAL SECRETARY

The Energies of the Spirit of God

1. When we come face to face with the challenge of self-giving, when we are asked to go the extra mile, to take the risk of reaching out to another, to offer forgiveness to the heart that rejects us ...

Response: Spirit of God, fill us with the energy of your love.

2. When our world seems bleak, when we walk with sadness written on our soul, when we have days in which everything goes wrong ...

Response: Spirit of God, stir the energy of your joy within us.

3. When anxiety and concern take over our spirit, when restlessness or boredom holds sway over us, when our world cries out in distress and turmoil ...

Response: Spirit of God, deepen in us the energy of your peace.

4. On those days when we hurry too much, during those times when our anger flares because our agendas aren't met, when we stop giving people our understanding and acceptance ...

Response: Spirit of God, draw us toward the energy of your patience.

5. When someone needs a simple gesture of thoughtfulness, when a look of love is all another asks from us, when a good word could take the sting out of the gossip of foes ...

Response: Spirit of God, create in us the energy of your kindness.

6. As we face the shadow of our inner world or peer into the darkness of our outer world, as we struggle to believe in our own gifts and blessings ...

Response: Spirit of God, strengthen in us the energy of your goodness.

7. In those difficult times when fear threatens to drown our trust in you, during those experiences of growth when we are tempted to doubt all the ways we have known you ...

Response: Spirit of God, renew in us the energy of trusting in you.

8. When harshness or abruptness dominates our moods, when we feel challenged by the power of another, when we use the things of this good earth ...

Response: Spirit of God, bless us with the energy of your gentleness.

9. As we walk on the edges of life and death, as we struggle with the disciplines of spiritual growth, as we yearn to be faithful amid the many changes of inner and outer growth ...

Response: Spirit of God, move us with the energy of your guidance.

ALL: Spirit of God, you are the stirring in our hearts. You urge us to get going. You prompt us to follow. You encourage us not to give up. You call us to open our minds and hearts to receive your energizing, transforming radiance. Make us receptive so that we will follow your loving movement within our lives. We trust in your powerful presence within us. AMEN.

(taken from May I Have This Dance – Joyce Rupp)



And the desert shall blossom

In 2018, the Catholic Church in western and northern Canada will celebrate a momentous anniversary, the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the RC church in these regions of Canada. The theme of our busy year and its many events and projects will be: *And the desert shall blossom*, a verse from Psalm 65 that Bishop Provencher chose as his motto on seeing the vast open spaces and the challenges before him, coupled with the promise of spreading the Gospel through those faraway lands.

Since July 16, 1818, that memorable day when Fathers Norbert Provencher and Sévère Dumoulin, and the seminarist William Edge arrived at the Red River Colony, the Gospel of Jesus Christ has been preached and lived – from the plains of the southern prairies and parklands to the Rocky Mountains, and from the northern forests, rivers, and lakes to the barrens of Hudson Bay and the Arctic Ocean.

The story of this land and its inhabitants of course begins thousands of years before, with the First Nations. Then each in their own time would appear: the explorers, the fur traders, the coureurs de bois, the Métis and the settlers from eastern Canada and Europe. Today, we welcome immigrants and refugees from many nations. Since these first missionaries arrived 200 years ago, the Gospel has been proclaimed to all the inhabitants of this land. The Church, parish by parish, diocese by diocese, has been built up, welcoming all. The reign of God has been built up, a reign of justice, peace and love.

In this anniversary year of 2018, the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface invites all to join in celebrating the story of this land and its peoples as a story of faith and love blessed by God in many and wondrous ways. The Mother Church established by Bishop Provencher invites all its sister Roman Catholic dioceses of western and northern Canada to give thanks to Jesus Christ for all those women and men of faith, laity, religious and priests who built up the Church over 200 years. As we engage ourselves together to be missionary disciples in the spread of the Gospel today and tomorrow, we remember and honour all the dedication and faithfulness of the years gone by.

It will be a yearlong Jubilee filled with many events large and small, both liturgical and cultural celebrations. There will be a variety of musical presentations, (choir concerts and a rock opera), a specially commissioned play bringing the past milestones of the history of our archdiocese to life, as well as an academic symposium. A book detailing all of our parishes will also be prepared, along with an illustrated history book (comic-book style).

The high point of the year will be on Sunday, July 15, 2018, when we will be joined by Papal Legate Cardinal Gérald Cyprien Lacroix, Archbishop of Quebec City and Primate of Canada. This celebration will include an historical re-enactment of the arrival of the first three missionaries, a solemn mass, performances by local musical and cultural groups in the afternoon and finally an evening concert featuring well-known celebrities.

2018, a year to:

- Celebrate 200 years of faith and Christian community, committing ourselves anew to sharing the Good News of Jesus;
- Give thanks for all that was light and to ask for forgiveness for all that was darkness, committing ourselves anew to true reconciliation and unity, justice, harmony, compassion, inclusion, tolerance and peace;
- Glorify God with joy and hope.

The desert has blossomed, is blossoming and will continue to blossom. Alleluia!

+ Albert LeGatt
Most Reverend Albert LeGatt
Archbishop of Saint Boniface



**The Catholic Women's League
of Canada
98th Annual National Convention
August 12 - 15, 2018
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

*Meet members from all over Canada
and share our stories
Explore and experience something new
Come celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the
Church in Western Canada*

