

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

**Legislation**

**May 28, 2020**



**Communiqué 4**

***Care For Our Common Home***

TO: Diocesan Presidents (for information and forwarding to Parish Councils)  
Diocesan Chairpersons of Legislation  
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)  
CC: National Chairperson of Legislation (for information)  
FROM: Paulette Borgfjord, Provincial Chairperson of Legislation  
ATT: \_\_\_\_\_

*“The question is not how to survive, but how to thrive with passion, compassion, humor and style”—  
Maya Angelou*

Dear Sisters,

Since my last communique our country has been set on a difficult journey. We are in this together. Our politicians have had to come together for the greater good and put aside differences to plan on how our country and its citizens can come through this difficult time.

I pray that you and your families are safe and well.

**Federal Government**

As reported in our National Chairperson of Legislation’s communique the federal government has put forward two bills that received royal assent:

- Bill C-14 *A second Act respecting certain measures in response to COVID-19*. The short title for the bill is *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act, No. 2*. The bill received royal assent on April 11, 2020.
- Bill C-15 *An Act respecting Canada emergency student benefits (coronavirus disease 2019)*, The short title is *Canada Emergency Student Benefit Act*. The bill received royal assent on May 1, 2020.

The prime minister placed a ban on assault-style firearms and some gun components. The ban enhances Bill C-71 *An Act to amend certain Acts and Regulations in relation to firearms*, which received royal assent on June 21, 2019. The federal government will introduce legislation as soon as possible as well as implement a buy-back program to remove these firearms safely. The government will also look at options that will work with provincial and territorial governments to ensure the safety and security of Canadians.

**Manitoba Government**

The following statement was released by Premier Brian Pallister – Manitoba in coordination with Premier John Horgan – British Columbia and Premier Sandy Silver – Yukon

“We are pleased the federal government is looking at a sick leave program that protects people and businesses, and we look forward to advancing this initiative. Paid sick leave is crucial for the safe restart of our economy. A national paid sick leave program would ensure people can stay home from work when they are sick without fear of not being able to pay their bills. It will also give the public confidence that the businesses and workplaces they visit are safe.”

May Our Lady of Good Counsel watch over us and guide us safely through this storm.

Respectfully submitted

Paulette Borgfjord

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

**Legislation**

**February 29, 2020**



**Communiqué 3**

***Care For Our Common Home***

TO: Diocesan Presidents (for information and forwarding to Parish Councils)  
Diocesan Chairpersons of Legislation  
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)  
CC: National Chairperson of Legislation (for information)  
  
FROM: Paulette Borgfjord, Provincial Chairperson of Legislation  
ATT: \_\_\_\_\_

**Province of Manitoba**

The Manitoba website can be reached at: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/government/index.html>

Check out the Province's News Releases at:

<https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?month=1&year=2020&day=01&bgnG=GO&d=>

This site outlines initiatives introduced by the Provincial Government. The following is an initiative listed on the website:

**Government Invests In Granny's House To Help Keep Families Together.**

The government is investing \$400,000 to launch Granny's House, a one-year pilot project to provide short-term, culturally safe and community-led care. Granny's House will provide temporary respite care for children, so their parents can deal with whatever challenges and stresses they're facing in their daily lives. By providing trusted temporary support, Granny's House will help reduce the number of children who become involved with the child welfare system.

Staff for the home will be hired from the community and will include a full-time granny (housemother) and several aunties (support workers) to help the housemother in providing care for the children, as well as a case manager who will work with community partners and help connect families to other needed resources.

## **Federal Government**

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

Introduction and First Reading in the House of Commons on February 24, 2020

#### SUMMARY

This enactment amends the Criminal Code to, among other things,

- (a) repeal the provision that requires a person's natural death be reasonably foreseeable in order for them to be eligible for medical assistance in dying;
- (b) specify that persons whose sole underlying medical condition is a mental illness are not eligible for medical assistance in dying;
- (c) create two sets of safeguards that must be respected before medical assistance in dying may be provided to a person, the application of which depends on whether the person's natural death is reasonably foreseeable;
- (d) permit medical assistance in dying to be provided to a person who has been found eligible to receive it, whose natural death is reasonably foreseeable and who has lost the capacity to consent before medical assistance in dying is provided, on the basis of a prior agreement they entered into with the medical practitioner or nurse practitioner; and
- (e) *permit medical assistance in dying to be provided to a person who has lost the capacity to consent to it as a result of the self-administration of a substance that was provided to them under the provisions governing medical assistance in dying in order to cause their own death.*

#### **Resolution 2018.03 Framework for Palliative Care**

Please continue to monitor the *Framework on Palliative Care in Canada* and the office of palliative care. The framework is available at <https://www.canada.ca/en/health>

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

*Let us remember to include our Government officials in our prayers at this time of difficulty and instability in our country.*

Respectfully submitted  
Paulette Borgfjord

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

**Legislation**

**October 29, 2019**



**Communiqué 2**

***Care For Our Common Home***

TO: Diocesan Presidents (for information and forwarding to Parish Councils)  
Diocesan Chairpersons of Legislation  
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)  
CC: National Chairperson of Legislation (for information)  
FROM: Paulette Borgfjord, Provincial Chairperson of Legislation  
ATT: \_\_\_\_\_

We have cast our ballots and the results are in... a Conservative majority in Manitoba and a Liberal minority in Ottawa. Now everyone must get back to work.

**Province of Manitoba**

The House sat from September 30, 2019 until October 10, 2019. Bills were reinstated from the previous Session before the election was called. The House will sit again November 19 until December 5.

The Manitoba website can be reached at: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/government/index.html>

**Federal Government**

The Prime Minister visited the Governor General on October 29, 2019 to express his intention to form government. This should be an interesting time in Ottawa and we pray that all parties will work together for the good of our country.

I will follow federal bills to see if any that pertain to CWL interests are reinstated.

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

Paulette Borgfjord

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

**Legislation**

**September 30, 2019**

**Communiqué 1**



***Care For Our Common Home***

TO: Diocesan Presidents (for information and forwarding to Parish Councils)  
Diocesan Chairpersons of Legislation  
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)  
CC: National Chairperson of Legislation (for information)

FROM: Paulette Borgfjord, Provincial Chairperson of Legislation  
ATT: \_\_\_\_\_

*“We believe in just and peaceful sharing, but how is that to be achieved? We have gained for ourselves a certain measure of security for the aged and sick and helpless, yet poverty is still with us. So are regional disparities.*

*These are all problems of government, and therefore your problems .....When you take an interest in your community, when you form an opinion in politics, and when you cast your vote, you are part of government.” ....*

...The Honourable Eugene A. Forsey, author of *How Canadians Govern Themselves*

Welcome back. I hope you enjoyed your summer and are ready to get down to work.

Let me introduce myself ....my name is Paulette Borgfjord and I have been appointed as Legislation Chair of Manitoba Provincial Council. If you require assistance with this chair please feel free to contact me at [pborgfjord@shaw.ca](mailto:pborgfjord@shaw.ca)

We are now in an election period both provincially and federally. When a session ends all pending legislation dies on the Order Paper and committee activity ceases.

Bill C-418 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying) has only passed first reading in parliament and will therefore die on the Order Paper.

The Manitoba election is scheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup>.

The writ has not been dropped for the federal election, but traditionally it is scheduled to take place on or before October 21, 2019. The October 21 date is determined by the fixed-date procedures in the Canada Elections Act but the Act does not preclude the Governor General of Canada from issuing the writs of election at an earlier date.

I encourage you to make yourself aware of your candidates and how they stand on issues important to you as well as the League.