



The Catholic Women's League  
**Manitoba Provincial Council**  
71<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention  
June 9, 2019  
**ORAL REPORT**  
**Past President**  
Faith Anderson

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My report can be found on pages 59-61.

This is an election year for Manitoba Provincial Council and the process began in January 2019. Councils were gifted several years ago with a *Nominations and Elections Guidelines* binders for parish, diocesan and provincial councils. This has been a wonderful tool providing timelines, instructions and templates to use. Councils are encouraged to utilize this tool during their election process. Although I was part of the development of this document, this was my first time to use the tool. It made the process easy. (Show cover page of Nomination and Elections Guidelines for Parish Councils.)

Each year an *Elections Register* is prepared/updated by the recording secretary and in an election year provided to the Nomination and Elections Chairperson. An *Eligibility List* is created from the *Elections Register*, identifying any restrictions for each candidate (i.e. not eligible for standing committee – have served two terms, served two terms as treasurer). Personalized invitation letters to serve were emailed to current officers and eligible diocesan presidents. The president-elect was contacted to confirm her willingness to assume the office of president. A *Nomination Acceptance Letter*, *Acceptance Form* and *Resume of CWL Service Questionnaire* was sent to eligible members. Only at the parish council level can the Committee seek nominations for vacant positions. From the received Acceptance Forms, an *Eligibility List* with replies and *Acceptance List* is compiled. This list, along with the resumes and *Nomination Form* is forwarded to diocesan council presidents. The diocesan executives prayerfully discerned and reviewed the *Acceptance List*. Their nominations for the officer positions for a new provincial executive are the instructed vote that the diocesan president uses to vote during elections at provincial convention.

Archives are an important aspect of the past president's duties. The contents of your council's archives are a living testimony to the members and their accomplishments since receiving your charter with The Catholic Women's League of Canada. In a recent meeting with Manitoba Archives some of their recommendations were to: use paper clips instead of staples, file folders instead of binders, for newspaper clippings – keep original but make a photocopy to preserve the content and any photos should be labelled with event and include names. Please refer to the archives guidelines in the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure* for complete information on organizing your archives. Celebrate who you are and your accomplishments. When the archives are developed, they are easy to maintain.

Once in every term, the *Manual of Policy and Procedure* should be reviewed and updated. At province level an extensive review has been undertaken. Several hours was devoted to this process updating and incorporating adopted motions and including any necessary new policies. With the cooperation of the provincial executive a comprehensive document has been developed. The Manual of Policy and Procedure is a living document and with the fresh eyes of each new executive valuable additions and revisions will continue to be made. This is an important process at each level of the League in order to have a document defining policies for their councils.

In closing, I would encourage all past presidents to continue to mentor and provide guidance as required to members and their councils. Even though you are a past president you have an important role in the future of the League as it strategically plans to strengthen and grow for the next millennium.



The Catholic Women's League  
**Manitoba Provincial Council**  
70<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
June 3, 2018  
**ORAL REPORT**  
**PAST PRESIDENT**  
Faith Anderson

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My report can be found on pages 59-61.

How many Past Presidents are at convention today? Please stand. Just your being here is an indication of the dedication you have for the League. You are an inspiration to others who are currently serving or perhaps those who may be thinking of taking on a position. Through your service, you have provided guidance, leadership and I am sure learned much along your journey. Now in your Past President capacity, you can mentor, mould and influence the members in your council and speak from experience what the League has to offer. As Past Presidents you continue to be leaders not only in your councils but at the various programs and activities you attend throughout the year. Just seeing you there is a testimony to the League and for everything our members do "for God and Canada". Thank you.

Past Presidents are charged with updating and maintaining council archives. Many of us may have boxes filled with memorabilia such as wedding invitations, children's programs, special anniversaries and of course tons of photos. All of these are cherished as wonderful memories, but will never be looked at because of the daunting task of going through the material. Your council's archives are your permanent history not only to your council but could very well be a valuable resource to your diocesan and provincial councils. As provincial past president, I have had the privilege of typing the history of Manitoba Provincial Council for the website and to assemble the last decade of history. Those pages are filled with members and council's accomplishments; they record those who have left us; document who has served; acknowledges your charitable contributions but most of all brings back wonderful memories and the women who have served before us. I am honoured to have served alongside some of the women documented in our historical records. It is never too late. Take those boxes and start to organize. If as a Past President, this isn't your interest, organize an Archives Committee. It is always more fun to work with others, enjoying some cookies and perhaps a glass of wine.

Please refer to the 10year update of Manitoba Provincial Council History. Check the website for the complete history when the website goes live. Thank you to those councils who submitted photos for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Slide Show. I hope you enjoyed the presentation.

Another fun activity and yes it can be fun – there is always more fun in numbers – is to gather a group and study the *Constitution and Bylaws*. This document outlines the rules and structure of our organization. An additional document, the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure* provides policy and works in tandem with the *Constitution and Bylaws*. As members of the League we are regulated by these documents. They help us conduct our business; provide a source for our collective efforts through service and outlines procedures to follow such as the election process. We all work better if we know what is expected of us. Going one step further is for each diocesan and parish council to have their own Manual of Policy and Procedure to outline and record those policies pertaining to your council.

In closing my message is that as Past Presidents you have a very important role to play in the success of the League and your council. Please continue to be involved and interested in all the League offers in Manitoba.