



Ontario Provincial Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Organization Standing Committee

Directive #1

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August 2017

To: Diocesan Organization Committee Chairpersons
From: Colleen Randall, Ontario Provincial Council, Organization Chairperson
bcc: Diocesan Presidents, Provincial Officers, National Organization Chairperson, Sub
Committee Chair, Glenda Klein

*"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to **his** purpose" Romans 8:28*

Greetings

May you all be abundantly blessed with the ability to share your gifts.

Welcome to all new organization chairs and those who are in the second year of their terms. I am honoured to have been elected as organization chair of the Ontario Provincial Council (OPC) and I look forward to working with all of you. First, a little about me. I am Colleen Randall. I joined the Catholic Women's League in 2003 at the request of my pastor. I was elected president of our reactivated council that first night. It has been quite a journey. This is my fourth term on OPC. I have served as legislation, communications and education and health chairs. The opportunity to serve as Organization chair excites me. Membership and training are my passion. I just want to share the gift of the League and the Holy Spirit with everyone! It is my hope that my enthusiasm will be contagious.

Duties of the Chairperson (as found in the Executive Handbook: cwl.ca)

The duties of the chairperson are:

- Recruit members and maintain membership
- Leadership development
- League resource material
- Annual reports
- Life membership

Recruit Members and Maintain Membership

The strength of the League is in its membership.

Our challenge will be to maintain the 45,174 members that were registered in Ontario in 2016. Our goal would be to increase that number.

I challenge you to be innovative and energetic.

Leadership Development

Great League members do not just happen; they must be encouraged, trained and supported.

My plan for leadership development is to start with a monthly conference call for diocesan chairs where we can spend one hour discussing local ideas and sharing accomplishments. More details to come on that...

League Resource Material

To ensure the council operates efficiently and effectively, it is essential to have a good working knowledge of the League.

Every council should have a printed or digital copy of the *Constitution & Bylaws, National Policy and Procedure Manual* and *Executive Handbook*. There is a *Handbook for Organization Chairpersons* available from national that you will find helpful. (<http://www.cwl.ca> click on resources and then on manuals). Check it out. I did. It is awesome! As well I want to encourage you to utilize "Web Wednesdays". It is good practice to keep informed.

Annual Reports

Reports are an important means of communicating with others in the parish, community and country at large. Time lines are important in getting reports to the next level.

The deadline dates for submissions are as follows (from the National Manual of Policy and Procedure):

From	To	By
Parish President	Diocesan President	December 15
Parish Chairpersons	Diocesan Chairpersons	December 15
Diocesan Chairpersons	Diocesan President & Provincial Chairpersons	February 15
Diocesan President	Provincial President	March 1
Provincial Chairpersons	Provincial President & National Chairpersons	March 15
Provincial Life Member Liaison	National Life Member Liaison	March 15
Provincial President	National President & National Office	March 31

I will be sharing additional, detailed information regarding annual reports under a separate cover in the next few weeks.

Life Membership *(This does not reflect the fact that the nomination should be approved by motion and vote by diocesan executive as well. We are the only province to award LM at diocesan level because of*

our numbers. It looks to me like both the diocesan and provincial councils must complete checklists. You might be wise to modify national's form to read "diocesan" and post it to the provincial website.)

Life membership is an honour that entails responsibility. Life membership is not intended to be a reward for years of service or a retirement gift.

The nomination form (available on the national website under forms) must be approved by the diocesan executive by motion at an executive meeting and submitted to provincial council by September 15th. Upon endorsement by the provincial executive (as noted by signature of the secretary and the date of motion), the application must be submitted for final acceptance to national office prior to December 15th. The life member diocesan (soon available on the provincial website) and provincial checklists along with a cheque for \$100.00 from the submitting council must be forwarded by provincial council to national office by February 1st. Upon confirmation that all criteria have been met, the list of nominees is presented to the national executive at its winter meeting for approval by motion.

Yours in service to God and supported by Our Lady of Good Counsel,

Colleen Randall