

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



**Annual Report
2019**

The Ontario Provincial Executive

2019-2021 Ontario Provincial Officers

Spiritual Advisor	Most Reverend Archbishop Terrance Prendergast
President	Colleen Perry
President-Elect/Organization	Linda Squarzolo
1 st Vice-Pres/Christian Family Life	Colleen Martin
2 nd Vice-Pres/Resolutions	Wilma Vanderzwaag
Recording Secretary	Joanne Hough
Administrative Assistant	Anna Tremblay
Treasurer	Marie-Theresa Lamphier
Past President/Historian	Anne Madden
Spiritual Development	Emma Rose Rayburn
Communications	Ann D'Sousa
Education and Health	Karen McDonald
Community Life	Mary Capobianco
Legislation	Margie Royle

2019 Diocesan Presidents

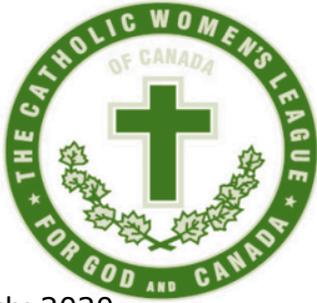
Alexandria/Cornwall	Lynn Pomainville
Hamilton	Catherine Feren
Hearst	Lorraine Cusson Arnold
Kingston	Nancy Richer
London	Rebecca McCarrell
Ottawa	Lynn Lavictoire
Pembroke	Joan Lemay
Peterborough	Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan
Sault Ste. Marie	Cathy McKinney
St. Catharines	Josie Rocca
Thunder Bay	Maria Bertoldo
Timmins	Annette Kelly
Toronto	Hilarion Mitchell

*** Mission Statement ***

The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith,
and
to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.

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ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

July 2020

Traditionally in this space there is a welcome to the annual convention of the Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada. The COVID-19 pandemic changed all of that. In an unprecedented decision convention at all levels of the organization were cancelled in 2020 for the health and safety of all members and our communities at large.

Your convention team led by Patricia Crawford and Joan Schurter, of the Hamilton diocese, have worked diligently to provide you with many memorable moments in Kitchener. Their dedication will not be overlooked, and we will be forever grateful for their efforts.

I want to encourage you all to pray for the continued success of the national implementation working committee.

Please take all we have learned through the national theme *Care for Our Common Home* and keep supporting a greener environment and clean water for all.

Thank you for supporting the transition of the provincial theme of Homelessness to Loneliness. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and continue to inspire all members in our parishes, communities, diocese, provinces and nationally.

Conventions are a special time to renew friendships, make new connections and share our faith as one, *For God and Canada*. My prayer is that, as you read this annual report book, you celebrate the accomplishments of the members across Ontario in 2019. I hope we can celebrate together next year.

Blessings and virtual hugs,

Colleen Perry

President, Ontario Provincial Council
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Spiritual Advisor's Message

The Poverty of Loneliness

Dear Sisters in Christ, Members of the CWL:

Mother Teresa of Kolkata spoke wisely: "The greatest disease in the West today is not TB or leprosy; it is being unwanted, unloved, and uncared for. We can cure physical diseases with medicine, but the only cure for loneliness, despair, and hopelessness is love... There are many in the world who are dying for a piece of bread but there are many more dying for a little love. The poverty in the West is a different kind of poverty—it is not only a poverty of loneliness but also of spirituality. There's a hunger for love, as there is a hunger for God."

These words resonate powerfully in this time of pandemic when we see so much suffering in the media and close to home. The deaths of the elderly in long term care facilities due to the Covid-19 virus have angered many who recognize we are failing our older sisters and brothers at a time when they are tragically vulnerable. The failure to safeguard their health though is only part of our lapse in care. Many in long term facilities suffer from loneliness with little connection to the world or loved ones outside their four walls or beyond the confines of their bed or chair. They are alone and forgotten.

The disease of loneliness, however, affects more people than the elderly. Street people suffer not only the poverty of lacking a home and security of food or shelter but also from living a kind of invisibility. Days pass without anyone greeting them by name, passing them by, avoiding even eye contact. This is a loneliness experienced by many surrounded by hundreds of people each day busy about their business.

Our young people also experience loneliness. Much is made of the social media's ability to put people in touch with one another, but such friendships or connections are often shallow. Our youth crave real relationships where they are known and affirmed as they grow into their adult identities. Virtual relationships are not a replacement for the live encounter of another person sitting with you by your side as you share chapters of your life.

I applaud your focus this year on loneliness and am confident you will develop ways to reach the lonely and support efforts to help change this plague in our local communities. May Our Lady of Good Counsel inspire you and may God bless your efforts to transform loneliness into connection, even communion.

✠ Terrence Prendergast, S.J.
Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall
Ontario CWL Spiritual Advisor

Inform the Membership of the League's Position on Current Issues and Priorities and New Programs

Members used the following resources to keep informed:

- national meetings, directives, research, media and CWL websites
- issues of concern from the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (ACBO)
- continued focus on Homelessness and the new (July 2019) provincial theme of Loneliness

The following current national priorities were introduced and discussed or acted upon by our councils:

- strategic planning and cooperation with the national implementation team
- continued work on the 100th anniversary of the CWL
- palliative care
- mental health strategic planning
- environmental issues, especially water

The following methods were used to introduce these topics:

- strategic planning/implementation workshops at diocesan meetings
- celebration of 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care
- the continued work on Homelessness/Loneliness by educating members to know how they can help

Foster Open Communication on All League Matters

Communication was fostered with the spiritual advisors and all members through:

- the ON-Line Newsletter
- the provincial website www.cwl.on.ca
- oral reports at executive meetings
- directives from provincial officers to counterparts
- the OPC bulletins re: urgent matters
- personal and conference phone calls and emails

Preside at All Council Meetings and Conventions

The following resources were used to preside at meetings:

- Constitution & Bylaws
- national and provincial policy and procedure manuals
- Roberts Rules of Order
- national directives
- knowledge gained from attendance at national meetings

Be a Signing Officer for All Official Documents

On behalf of provincial council, the president:

- Worked with the provincial treasurer and recording secretary (when needed) to review claim forms and sign cheques.
- In consultation with the resolutions chair, sent letters and documentation to the premier and relevant MPPs re resolutions, visits and reception.
- Signed certificates for presentation on behalf of council.

Provide Active Leadership

- The OPC was represented at all 13 diocesan conventions.
- Reps from OPC attended development days, workshops, retreats, special council anniversaries/events.
- Council members were subsidized to attend events:
 - Courage for Caregivers
 - Indigenous Cultural Awareness Training
 - Putting Care into Mental Health

Initiate Policy in Consultation with the Officers

- Provincial manuals (policy and procedure, convention guide and provincial guidelines) were updated as "living documents".
- Kept fully informed on the operation of the League and reported annually to the membership.
- Provincial executive members were encouraged to visit the national and provincial CWL websites to glean information especially on Website Wednesdays.
- Directives submitted by every executive member were shared via email with all other executive members and posted on the website.

Be an Advisory Member of All Committees except the Nominations and Elections Committee

- Participated as chair of the administration committee.
- Participated as an *ex officio* member of Guideline and Policy Review, Resolutions Review, and Social Justice Committee.

Be the Official Spokesperson for the Council

- Represented the province at the national table.
- Attended meeting with ACBO executive in September with 1st vice-president.
- Had representation at special anniversaries, award ceremonies, funerals, as requested or as needed.

- Administration, convention, executive and president's meetings were arranged, and executive members engaged in dialogue on relevant topics.

Appoint Committees

The following committees were appointed:

- administration committee
- policy, guidelines and convention guide review committee
- registration and credential committee
- resolutions review, reading, government visitation and archiving committees
- minutes review committee
- Bishop Bernard F. Pappin bursary committee
- social justice committee
- nominations and elections committee
- annual report book committee

Diocesan Highlights

- Homelessness/Loneliness activities, such as Warmth and Comfort Project and the C.A.R.E Connection Project
- Focus on Palliative/Hospice Care including medical assistance in Dying
- Find Your Voice Workshop shared and facilitated with provincial counterparts

President's Activity Report

- Attended national executive meetings / convention as required and gave written and oral reports.
- Worked with administrative assistant to send letters for a variety of reasons (congratulatory, sympathy, information, etc.).
- Prepared monthly submissions to *ON-Line newsletter*.
- Visited future convention sites.
- Selected guest speakers for annual convention in keeping with the national theme and the provincial theme of Homelessness.
- Accepted requests to speak at meetings within driving distance.

Recommendations

- New executives hold a mentoring session soon after election, with their previous counterparts, to swap materials and glean ideas.
- Save files to flash drives for ease of access and to decrease the amount of paper transferred and stored.
- Presidents keep a running list of activities for their future counterpart

Spiritual Development Standing Committee Report 2019

Chairperson: Emma Rose Rayburn

Sub-chairpersons: Lisa Fillingham, Anne Vincelli

Dioceses Reporting: 11 / 13

Spiritual Growth of Members

- Majority of the councils reported that they reflected on the theme "Care for our Common Home", with Pope Francis' *Laudato Si* being a great resource.
- Many have mentioned practising *Lectio Divina* as part of their spiritual growth.
- Over 70% report that one third of their meeting has spiritual aspects.
- Many encourage their members to take part in pilgrimages, retreats, adorations, Stations of the Cross, Divine Mercy Chaplet, novenas, rosaries, crowning of Mary and litany prayer services to complement further spiritual growth.
- A variety of awesome materials/websites and retreats have been used in helping with their task.

Study of Catholic Teachings

- Alpha Program, 33 Days to Morning Glory, and Why Catholic were the most popular materials used to study Catholic teachings.
- Half (50%) of councils formed groups and encouraged members to attend lay formation programs and retreats.
- Many different materials and websites were listed as aids.

Role of Women in the Church

- A few dioceses mentioned the article "The Genius of Women", studied it and prepared a reflection on joy of service for council.
- Participated and worked jointly with the Knights of Columbus in their parishes.
- Studied women in scripture and promoted awareness of women's place in Church and society.

Evangelization and Mission Assistance

- The Catholic Missions In Canada, Esk-Omi Missions, Kee-Pas Missions and St. Francis Xavier Missions were the popular missions that the members assisted monetarily or with goods.
- Sharing and supporting the Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Campaign was our number one listed evangelization practice.
- All councils supported some type of mission or charity (nationally or locally).

Lay Ministries

- Councils reported that they have very active members in the Church: lectors, eucharistic ministers, sacristans, altar servers, children's liturgy leaders, parish collection counters, hospitality, choir, cleaning, catechist facilitator, ushers, and visitors to the sick and shut-ins.

Ecumenism and Interfaith Endeavours

- All dioceses took part in World Day of Prayer. Some reported that was the only interaction with other faiths they have.
- On the whole, most dioceses reported that councils reached out to women of other denominations/faiths in the following ways: joint prayer services, invitations to meetings, and social events.
- Many also promoted Fellowship of the Least Coin, Week of Prayer for *Christian Unity*, *World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations* (WUCWO), and Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada.

Chairperson's Report

- Attended provincial executive meetings and convention.
- Prepared prayers and prayer services for administration and-executive meetings, and convention.
- Forwarded information received from national counterpart.
- Prepared and sent directives to diocesan counterparts.
- Worked on ideas to fulfill her calling as chair of this committee.
- Submitted articles for the *ON-Line Newsletter*.

Recommendations

- Continue the great work of evangelizing and working for Christ and Canada.
- Give more in your silent prayer to give more in your active life.

Organization Standing Committee Report 2019

Chairperson: Linda Squarzolo

Sub-chairpersons: Glenda Klein, Shirley Deleurant

Dioceses Reporting: 12 / 13

Recruit Members and Maintain Membership

Members in Ontario – 42,006

Parish Councils in Ontario – 530

- Advertising in church bulletin was cited as most successful method for recruiting new members, closely followed by personal invitation.
- Most commonly used reminder of dues was church bulletin followed up by phone calls.
- Members who did not renew were given personal telephone call or invited to a meeting by email.
- Most common reasons members did not renew their membership were that they had moved or passed away.
- Members who did not renew were contacted by phone, mail or email to invite them back.
- Former members who were no longer able to participate were kept in contact.
- Members were recognized by presentation of service pins, and cards or announcements.
- New members were welcomed at meeting, engaged in conversation and invited to participate.
- Women of diverse age groups and cultures were welcomed at Mass then invited to attend meetings and events.
- Online membership was used by between 50 to 75% of councils.

Leadership Development

- Members participated in the League development days, retreat days and leadership workshops.
- Members attended their diocesan conventions.
- Members from across the province attended provincial convention in Kingston.
- Many members attended national convention in Calgary.
- "Planning Strategically" sessions were held in many dioceses.
- Majority of councils followed 90 minute meeting protocol with a one third dedication to each of the faith, fun and fulfilment aspects.
- Councils made members aware of the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation and its leadership development program for women and promoted application to the foundation for leadership studies.

League Resource Material

- Members cited the following materials as very useful: *The Constitution and Bylaws, Policy and Procedure Manual, Executive Handbook, The League Prays* and *The Canadian League*.
- Members accessed diocesan, provincial and national websites to obtain handbooks, guides and prayers.
- Many councils presented service pins.
- Other promotional material was used less frequently.

Annual Reports

- Most councils used the guidelines to complete the annual reports.
- Methods used to complete the reports included: reviewing the minutes, meeting as a group and keeping monthly activity reports.

Life Membership

- Most councils indicated that they have benefited from life members residing in their area.
- Life members have provided leadership and offered support to parish and diocesan councils.

Chairperson's Activities Report

- Attended and participated in executive meetings and the annual convention.
- Prepared reports, newsletter articles, and directives.
- Assisted with and distributed information regarding annual reports at all levels.
- Collected annual reports and distributed to provincial executive.
- Attended the national convention in Calgary, Alberta as an accredited provincial delegate and co-wrote a report about the convention.
- Reviewed the 2020 applicants for the provincial Social Justice Award.
- Attended diocesan conventions representing the provincial president, prepared and presented workshops and wrote reports about the conventions.

Recommendations

- That parish councils be encouraged to do memberships online.
- That efforts be made to have a greater participation in the completion of annual reports by parish councils and diocesan executive members.
- That parish and diocesan councils seek the support and expertise of life members.

Life Member Liaison: Jeannie Coleman

Diocese Reporting: 13/13

Honorary Life Members: 3

Life Members: 134

Deceased Life Members – 2019

We were saddened by the loss of four life members:

Joan Hastie (Toronto - February 24), Alexandra (Sandra) Levesque (Hearst-Moosonee - April 1), Anne Teschke (Thunder Bay - July 11),
Jerri Hasey (Hamilton - August 24).

Newly Appointed Life Members – 2019

We were honoured to welcome five new life members: Shirley Christo, Toronto Diocese; Marie-Theresa Lamphier, London Diocese; Ana Sousa, Hamilton Diocese; Anna Tremblay, Sault Ste. Marie Diocese; Anne Vincelli, Alexandria-Cornwall Diocese.

Life Members Across the Province

- There are three honorary life members in Ontario.
- One life member is our provincial president.
- Several life members serve on provincial and at national levels as officers, sub-committee members, parliamentarians, screening officer and also the Chair of the Centenary Committee.
- We pray for all members, our bishops, priests, deacons and seminarians.
- Many life members attend diocesan, provincial and national conventions.
- A life member created the H.U.G. Project 2019, preparing packages for local community shelters.
- Many are active members in their parishes as eucharistic ministers, sacristans, cantors, lectors, money counters and parish council members.
- Life members are active as presidents and standing chairs as well as serving on committees and keepers of the *Book of Life*.
- Many acted as mentors, guest speakers, financial advisors and facilitators.
- For a parliamentary visit, a life member wrote an impact statement to accompany one of the resolutions that was presented to the premier and the ministers of the assembly.
- One life member made CWL-Strategically Planning presentations.
- Some organized and participated in the World Day of Prayer.
- Some life members worked on committees to update policy and procedure manuals, promoted and assisted in writing and proofreading resolutions.
- Many organized various diocesan social and fundraising events as well as CWL anniversary celebrations; many volunteered with various charities.
- We welcome and encouraged new members to bring fresh ideas.
- Life members were part of the 2020 provincial convention committee.

- One liaison requested their life members write their CWL story to be compiled into a booklet to be shared at their 2020 convention.
- The members supported one another through prayer, phone calls, emails, cards, luncheons, personal visits and birthday celebrations.
- Many acted as an honour guard and organized funeral luncheons.
- Life members were involved in acts of mercy throughout the year while acting on our theme of "Care for our Common Home".

Life Member Liaison's Activity Report

- Forwarded requests for prayers to all diocesan life member liaisons for distribution to their life members, honorary life members, the provincial executive, provincial presidents and the national life member liaison.
- Forwarded the national life member liaison's monthly communique to all diocesan life member liaisons, honorary life members and the executive.
- Cards or emails of support, congratulations, anniversary, thinking of you, get well and sympathy, were sent to life members and/or their families.
- Christmas greetings were sent by email to all life member liaisons to forward to their life members in their respective dioceses. A Christmas card was mailed to all life members without an email address.
- A Mass was celebrated for the intentions of all members.
- A birthday list was sent out every month indicating the birthday celebrants and the date of their celebration with a request for prayers.
- A birthday wish was emailed to life members, and those without email addresses were sent a card in the mail.
- Kept in touch with life members without emails and reminded them to pray for the intentions of all members in the Catholic Women's League.
- Updated the life member directory and emailed it to the diocesan life member liaisons to check with all life members as to the accuracy of the information that was listed. All will receive a corrected copy.
- Worked on the life member book to bring it up to date.
- Many life members attended diocesan and national conventions.
- As the life member liaison at the provincial convention, I hosted the luncheon and led a service to honour deceased life members.
- Spoke on life membership at a general meeting in the diocese.

Recommendations

- That life members help with workshops, presentations, resolutions.
- That life members be role models and a good resource for members.
- That life members actively seek new members and look to current members for their talents that could show leadership abilities.
- That a different new life member liaison be appointed every two years.
- That all life members mentor members, encouraging and supporting them to take positions at the parish and diocesan level and offering assistance.

Christian Family Life Standing Committee Report 2019

Chairperson: Colleen Martin

Sub-chairpersons: Pat Weller and Shelley Tamas

Number of Dioceses Reporting: 10/13

Marriage and Family

- Offered encounter weekends for engaged and married, marriage prep, natural family planning, parenting courses and programs to address domestic abuse.
- Had guest speakers from and gave care packages to women's shelters.
- Attended workshops on family life, and arranged events for Mothers' /Fathers' Day events, family week and others related to the family.

Sanctity of Life

- Councils were members of pro-life organizations such as Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, Campaign Life Coalition, and Right to Life as well as other organizations that help with family and pregnancy and family life support services.
- Councils supported Campaign Life Coalition, Priests for Life and LifeCanada.
- Members attended March for Life, 40 Days for Life vigil, Life Chain, pro-life dinners and walks; hosted masses and outdoor rosary rallies, pro-life masses; wrote letters to and met with legislators; attended 'Fatal Flaws' and 'Unplanned'; displayed pro-life brochures in parish; and prayed regularly for protection of life.

Ministry to Youth

- Members encouraged young people to participate in liturgical ministries; some offered instruction to youth in ministries.
- Supported children's liturgy, World Youth Day, leadership camps, Holy Childhood Association, Catholic Christian Outreach, NET ministries, summer camps, Girl Guides of Canada, Meet the Priest, and church tours.
- Purchased subscriptions for school/parish libraries.
- Some councils hosted Catholic Girl Leagues.

Ministry to the Disabled

- Members encouraged/supported people with disability to participate in liturgical celebrations.
- Members provided communion, visits, cards, gifts for special occasions, transportation, and prayers.
- Councils supported respite caregivers; volunteered to assist programs for those with disabilities; urged churches to be more accessible; organized special events and arranged for a designated space for wheelchairs.

Ministry to Seniors

- Members provided visits, communion, special occasion gifts, prayers, transportation, cards and calls; drove for Meals on Wheels; and gifted memberships.
- Councils involved seniors in council events; organized special programs/celebrations; shared/served meals and involved them in intercessory prayer.

Ministry to Widowed

- Councils sent cards of condolences; arranged memorial services and funeral luncheons; visited and called; extended invitations to attend CWL events; provided prayer shawls; participated in parish bereavement program and created a specially decorated candle to express sympathy.

Ministry to Separated & Divorced

- Some councils purchased "*Annulments Today-Merciful and Just*" pamphlets; while others invited participation in events and offered babysitting services to assist.
- One council had an informal presentation of the annulment process.

Vocations

- Councils adopted/supported seminarians; supported priestly retirement funds; offered masses for vocations; hosted luncheons for priests and religious; gifted spiritual bouquets and cards; encouraged inviting priests and religious into the home; and offered the sanctuary lamp for families to pray; and supported programs in priest's homeland.

Chairperson's Report

- Attended and gave reports at all meetings and convention.
- Prepared and sent directives and submitted a newsletter article.
- Promoted Petition of One Million and *Laudato Si* pledge.
- Collated diocesan results and prepared annual report for provincial booklet.

Recommendations

- Consider hosting events to support marriage and family.
- Include at least one pro-life event / project in each year's planning.
- Offer programming or support for separated and divorced and purchase "*Annulments Today-Merciful and Just*" for your parish.

Communications Standing Committee Report 2019

Chairperson: Ann D'Souza

Sub-chairpersons: Debbie Bates, Joan Schurter

Dioceses Reporting: 12/13

The Canadian League Magazine

- The magazine was rated excellent by the councils (85%). The highest percentage received was for categories in advocacy, spiritual and educational resource (81%), as it helped the councils to get new ideas and some used it for their oral reports in executive meetings.
- Articles relating to Human Trafficking in Canada, President's Message, resonated highest with councils (72%). The highlights and convention oral reports were appreciated by most councils.
Some suggestions for future articles: Personal articles which always touches the hearts, how communities can deal with the ever-growing homelessness'.

Media: for Evangelization

- Councils invited local media to their events and some of the following media was used to assist in their mission to evangelize: The Catholic Register; Salt & Light TV; Mass for Shut-ins; canadiandailymass.com, CCCb.ca, Vision TV and EWTN. The highest number of councils supported Salt & Life, Vision TV and Catholic Register.
- Councils (61%) promoted Faith oriented programs. 90% mentioned that they promoted World Communications Day and 68% shared in Mass on April 26, 2019 in honour of the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Media: to Promote the League

- Majority of the councils (86%) encouraged their members to use the National website cwl.ca as well as Facebook and twitter to keep themselves updated with the current news. The personal touch of having the telephone tree is still used (75%) despite sending the agenda, minutes and events information via email (87%). The Church bulletin, messages from the pulpit (80%) and Parish websites (61%) were also utilized.

Media: Evaluation and Promotion of Good Content

- Councils encouraged members to monitor media for content. At meetings members spoke about inappropriate content that affects children. Some councils complained to Canadian Broadcast Corporation on the timings of shows when young children are still up.
- Members were made aware of inappropriate movies, books and television program. Councils sent letters and petitions to Governments (Federal & Provincial) on Government issues related to the League.

Media: Relations

- Councils (57%) worked with local media for the benefit of the League with invitations to events, submitting material for publication and sending thank you cards after an event was advertised or attended.

Media: Newsletter and Bulletins

- Councils (42%) produced newsletters - either annually, twice a year or quarterly, while very few published on monthly basis. The newsletters were distributed either via email or on council's website. Councils (70%) encouraged members to subscribe to the newsletter and to use the National and Provincial websites.
- Councils (75%) encouraged members to subscribe and promote Catholic newspapers, periodicals and magazines.

Pornography

- Pornography continues to be the focus and members took steps to become informed about the influence that pornography has on children and adults by doing the following: read newspaper articles (44%), reviewed legislation (38%), attended a seminar/conference (69.25%).
- Distribution of the Pornography Hurts postcard was done by 65% of the councils. The "Over 18" documentary was well promoted (41%). "Red Light Green Light" was promoted less than 30% of the time. Not many councils (42%) viewed "fightthenewdrug.org".
- Resolution 2017.02 Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornography Websites was adopted at the 2017 annual national convention and 71% of councils reported they encouraged members to become educated on internet safety and the appropriate use of technology. Councils (47%) made members aware of the lack of age verification controls on adult websites and 45% monitored the federal government's response to the issue.

Chairperson's Report

- Attended executive meetings and provincial and diocesan conventions.
- Completed directives, reports and published the monthly ON-Line newsletter.
- Managed the OPC website and Facebook page with postings.
- Promoted the study of loneliness, encouraged assistance for the homeless, and *Care for our Common Home*, the National theme.

Recommendations

- Encourage members to view CWL websites, Facebook and twitter. Read/subscribe to OPC On-Line newsletter for up-to-date information.

Community Life Standing Committee Report 2019

Chairperson: Mary Capobianco

Sub-chairperson: Sharon St. Jean

Dioceses Reporting: 11/13

Dignity and Rights of Persons

- Majority of councils were familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Councils supported financially and/or through volunteer hours those suffering from homelessness, domestic violence, human trafficking, racism and poverty.
- Councils continued to educate themselves on the struggles facing Indigenous women by holding workshops and inviting guest speakers.

Social and Economic Justice

- The majority of councils encouraged their members to participate in the work of local organizations.
- Financial/volunteer/prayerful support was given to before, during and after school programs, drop-in centres, emergency shelters for the homeless, food banks, soup kitchens, domestic abuse shelters, violence prevention programs.
- Councils familiarized themselves with the restorative justice programs and prison ministry.
- One diocese participated in Project ONroute on Highway 401 in support of those suffering in human trafficking.
- Awareness and educational presentations were held on human trafficking.
- Councils held food and clothing drives and continued to take part in the Warmth and Comfort initiative.

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

- Councils reported their participation in Remembrance Day services, supported the poppy campaign and supported the Canadian troops by wearing red on Fridays.
- Members worked with their parishes sponsoring immigrant families in their communities and acknowledged familiarity with the needs of immigrants.
- The majority of councils were confident in their knowledge of the differences between a temporary worker, foreign worker and refugee.
- Several councils made donations to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA).
- Councils reported studying Resolution 2016.01 *Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status* and kept their members informed on the amendments to the Immigration and Refugee Protections Act.

Canadian Catholic Organization for Development & Peace (CCODP)

- Members continued to be involved and attended Development and Peace Workshops in their communities.
- Councils supported the Development and Peace Share Lent Campaign at their parishes.
- Members from one diocese attended a presentation on the Fall 2019 CCODP Campaign *For Our Common Home* which focused on the plight of the Indigenous groups in the Amazon.

Developing Countries

- Councils reported an improved knowledge regarding conditions of child labour and the implications of trade laws and practices in the global economy.
- Councils financially supported national and international organizations such as: *Canadian Red Cross, Doctors Without Borders, Operation Eyesight International, Sleeping Children Around the World, Habitat for Humanity, Canadian Food for Children, Chalice and CNEWA.*

Chairperson's Report

- Attended fall and winter executive meetings, provincial and national conventions.
- Prepared directives and submissions for *On-Line Newsletter*.
- Forwarded communiqués from national chairperson.
- Initiated the C.A.R.E. Connection project in response to provincial theme on Loneliness.
- Attended presentation on Restorative Justice Housing Ontario.

Recommendations

- Councils should study and become knowledgeable about the subheadings under this committee.
- Councils should study and act on the resolutions pertaining to this committee.

Education and Health Standing Committee Report 2019

Chairperson: Karen McDonald

Sub-chairpersons: Elizabeth (Betsy) Currier, Joan Schurter

Dioceses Reporting: 11/13

Catholic Education

(i) Catholic Schools and Catechesis

- Majority of councils were aware of the quality and availability of Catholic religious instruction in their parishes and local schools, and encouraged parents to participate in all areas of Catholic education and activities.
- Councils identified school needs that they could assist with (faith development, scholarships/bursaries, breakfast/lunch programs, donations of clothing, personal hygiene products, supplies and tutoring).
- Members taught students how to make a rosary and to pray the rosary.
- Students were helped through Project LOVE (Let Older Volunteers Educate).
- Majority of councils were aware of family life programs being taught.
- Personalized bibles were given to grade 5 students to use until grade 8.

(ii) Rites of Christian Initiation

- Members took part in sacramental preparation and trained altar servers.
- Several members assisted with RCIA programs and one council gave 'welcome' greeting cards to candidates at Easter.

Literacy and Continuing Education

- A few councils encouraged members to help people improve literacy skills.
- Members tutored students and participated in Family Literacy Day.
- Some councils had a list of Catholic universities/colleges in their diocese.

Scholarships and Bursaries

- Majority of councils awarded bursaries to graduating Catholic elementary, high school and university/college students.
- Many councils donated to the NET Ministries of Canada.

Wellness and Sickness/Disease

- Councils acted on resolutions 2016.02, 2015.01, 2011.03, 2008.03, 2007.03, 2004.08 and 2001.01.
- Several councils participated in the *Relay for Life*.
- One council donated proceeds from a fashion show to a hospice centre.
- Resolution was presented on shortage of long-term care beds in Ontario.
- Donations were made to Alzheimer Society, Autism Canada, Cancer Society, Diabetes Association, Mental Health Association, Red Cross, Children's

Treatment Centers, Crohn's and Colitis, Heart and Stroke, MS Society, MaterCare International, and Ronald McDonald House.

- Funds were raised to support a member's family for medical treatment.
- One council paid the travel expenses for a cancer patient.
- Seminars on 'falls prevention' and 'safety on ice' were presented.
- Guest speakers were invited to discuss organ donation and MAiD.
- Councils supported the CWL Mental Health Postcard Campaign.
- Members donated blood through the *Partners for Life* program.
- Councils participated in *12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care*.

Environment

- Members were educated on World Water Day, participated in Water Pledge Challenge, and promoted use of rain barrels.
- Members recycled paper/plastic products, eliminated Styrofoam and plastic water bottles, and encouraged re-usable containers.
- One council made re-usable produce bags and sold them at their tea.
- Members participated in city clean-up days, and promoted composting.
- Many invited speakers on waste management, climate change, water use.
- A few councils participated in the International Earth Hour Vigil.
- Several members studied Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si*.
- Councils educated their members on the use of flushable wipes.
- Action was taken on water-related resolutions 1999.09, 2004.07, 2001.04.

Genetics

- Councils subscribed to Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute newsletters.
- Members reported having a good knowledge of advantages and disadvantages of technology to alter genes in light of Catholic teachings.

Chairperson's Report

- Reminded members of *Bell Let's Talk Day* and Catholic Education Week.
- Reported on Starbucks *FoodShare* initiative, '*Built for Zero Canada*' initiative, Green Churches Forum, Ontario Health Teams, vaping laws.
- Reviewed *Bill 151 (Vaping is not for Kids), 2019*.
- Provided members with new Canada Food Guide.
- Attended '*Courage for Caregivers*' retreat.
- Provided members with Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute articles.
- Sent information on Canadian Blood Services '*Partners for Life*' program.
- Attended executive meetings and provincial and national conventions.
- Prepared reports, directives, monthly submissions to *ON-Line Newsletter*.
- Forwarded updates from national chairperson.

Recommendations

- Research more information relating to climate change and genetics.
- Encourage free newsletter subscriptions to Catholic Bioethics Institute.

Chairperson: Anne Madden
Archive support: Pauline Krupa
Dioceses Reporting: 12 / 13

Serve in a Consultative Capacity

Past presidents in Ontario:

- About half attended council meetings regularly.
- Prepared to mentor / provide advice when asked; many have chaired projects / fund raisers in the parish or community.
- Sought advice from a higher level when necessary.
- Were a benefit to presidents and executive members (52% sought advice).
- Majority (66%) were repeat past presidents.
- Many were over 65 years old who have been members for over 25 years.
- Felt their position was respected and appreciated.

Be Responsible for Archives and History

To ensure the preservation of League history, historians:

- Maintained, reviewed and kept current the councils' history / archives (82%).
- Reported archived materials were kept indefinitely; (80%) reported materials kept for up to eight years; 80% reported they kept a history or labeled photo albums.
- Were aware of where the council charter was kept (95%).
- Reported materials such as minute books, important reports, photo albums, scrapbooks, CDs, memory sticks were kept in cool, secure, water-proof areas in the parish hall; the majority used acid- free covers, filing cabinets, totes and/or bankers boxes.
- Kept lists of past executives with highlights from each term; kept list of pins and awards recipients.
 - Reviewed diocesan archives and initiated plan to compile an inventory of existing archives with intent of preparing an updated diocesan history book.

Facilitate the Study and Implementation of the *Constitution & Bylaws 2013*

- High percentage of councils had copies of the *Constitutions and Bylaws 2013* (91%), policy and procedure manuals and other resources but rarely referred to them (20%); some might when a question arose.
- Encouraged regular visits to the national and provincial websites.
- Assisted and encouraged the preparation and updates of parish manual of policy and procedure.
- Most (80%) were in favour of Strategic Planning and have been doing workshops.

Other Activities

- Facilitated a variety of workshops for League development days focusing on Strategic Planning.
- Took photos for Book of Memories; kept scrapbook of important events in parish and community.
- Prepared for 100th Anniversaries.
- Supported projects for national and provincial themes, focusing on homelessness and water conservation.
- Oversaw elections as per policy and procedure; chose an elections committee.
- Planned and supported fund-raising events for a variety of purposes.
- Promoted the council through parish bulletin and speaking from the pulpit; supported and mentored new executive members.
- Margaret Ann Jacobs, National Past President, and a past Ontario provincial president, was presented *Bene Merenti* papal medal for her selfless contributions to her community and the League.

Chairperson's Report

- Attended meetings and completed reports and directives as required.
- Researched viable ways to keep archived materials.
- Began collecting items required to update archives.
- Attended meetings and teleconferences, prepared presentations and other duties of the position as required.

Recommendations

- Consensus by past presidents / historians was that they are more than willing to assist when asked. Ask.
- Suggest ways you can keep members current with changes to C&B and policy and procedure. The majority of members rarely refer to these important documents.
- Offer support to president but allow and encourage the president to try her new ideas if they are within the policies of the League.
- As mentors, encourage and support your future leaders.
- Encourage councils to have a parish policy and procedure manual and an up to date history.

Chairperson: Margie Royle

Sub-Chairpersons: Kathy Huffman, Jan Sosiak

Dioceses Reporting: 11/13

Out of 526 councils in Ontario, 42% submitted a report to their diocese.

Monitor and Study Legislation at All Levels of Government

- The large majority (95 to 100%) of those reporting, know the names of their municipal, provincial and federal representative.
- Fewer than 20% report accessing Hansard.
- On average, 40% - 50% received mailings from all levels of government.
- Some councils monitored or acted on:
 - Resolution ON.19.03 Education and Health - Long Term Care Beds in Ontario.
 - National Resolution 2019.02 *Canadian Support for the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.*
 - Resolution ON.19.02 - *Abortion and the Effects on Mental Health*
- Bill C-57: *Federal Sustainable Strategy and Resulting Water Challenge* - 22% to 38% reported being aware of this Bill.
- Bill C-75: *An Act to Amend the Criminal Code, the Youth Criminal Justice Act and other Acts and to make consequential amendments to other Acts* - 22% to 53% reported being aware of this Bill.
- Bill C-418 *Protection of Freedom of Conscience Act* – 52% to 77% reported being aware of this Bill.
- Resolution ON.19.01: *Psychotherapy Pilot Project for Adults* - 84% to 100% reported being aware of this resolution and to have taken action.
- Resolution ON.18.03: *Legislate Designation of Hospice/Palliative Care Services in Facilities to Exclude Medical Assistance in Dying* - most councils reported being aware of this resolution and to have taken action.

Preparation of Briefs and Position Papers On Proposed Legislation

- No action was taken at this level.

Other Activities

- Most reported studying, discussing, and/or actively responding to a variety of current social justice issues and active resolutions.

Summary of Concerns from Diocesan Chairpersons' Reports

Concerns noted in the reports were:

- Most members found this committee unimportant.
- The information given did not filter down to the parish chair.
- Many members found legislation overwhelming and confusing.
- The biggest challenge for this position was lack of interest.
- There was a feeling of a big disconnect between the existing structure and what is really happening at the parish level.
- It was difficult to find time to fit in all the topics due to a decrease in number of meetings in a year.
- Many members stayed on as legislation chair for repeated terms as it was difficult to find someone to take this position.

Chairperson's Report

- Worked cooperatively with resolutions chair on all resolutions sub-committees. Co-presented resolutions at convention.
- Prepared reports and attended all provincial meetings and convention.
- Created and distributed directives for national and diocesan counterparts.
- Forwarded national communiques to diocesan legislation chairs.
- Submitted an article for the *ON-Line Newsletter*.

Recommendations

These recommendations respond to suggestions from the national survey:

- Invite a representative from diocesan or provincial to your meeting or workshop to help demystify the work of the legislation committee.
- Ask for more guidance at the local level through monthly newsletters from provincial and national.
- Work cooperatively and/or share duties with other chairs such as education and health, community life and Christian family life to influence government action related to their committees.
- As an option, get the whole council involved as a team involving members who are passionate about certain issues and government legislation. Choose a topic and share information at each meeting. Choosing to focus on faith, service and social justice can immensely decrease the stress of finding chairs.

Chairperson: Wilma Vanderzwaag

Resolutions Review Committee: Wilma Vanderzwaag, Margie Royle, Colleen Martin, Archbishop Terrence Prendergast, Secretary-Tracy MacInnis

Government Visit Committee: Colleen Perry, Anne Madden, Linda Squarzolo, Wilma Vanderzwaag, Margie Royle

Dioceses Reporting: 12/13

Research and Preparation of Resolutions and Briefs

- Topics of intent for a resolution included: restore prominence of milk in 2019 Canada Food Guide, national strategy on loneliness, promoting a holistic parish-based theology of body lifestyle and procreation teachings, prohibition of E-cigarettes with cannabis, polyethylene beads in cosmetics, permanent resident status for religious workers, utilizing health and physical education specialists in elementary school.
- Three dioceses/parish councils were in the beginning stages to create a potential resolution in 2020.
- Half of diocesan councils reported educational opportunities/workshops regarding resolutions and the process for resolutions.
- Resolutions were prepared, studied, edited, and adopted at the provincial convention as listed below:
 - ON.19.01 Psychotherapy Pilot Project for Adults
 - ON.19.02 Abortion and the Effects on Mental Health
 - ON.19.03 Long Term Care Beds in Ontario
 - ON.19.04 Canadian Support for the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)
- Members were encouraged to become aware and fulfill action plans on these resolutions, even though dioceses reported that 71% of councils had no chair for this committee.

Study and Implementation of Resolutions Passed by Other Levels

- Ninety percent of all councils reported studying and implementing action plans on 2019 resolutions.
- Even though this position is difficult to fill at parish and diocesan levels, councils were aware of resolutions and educated members, signed petitions, wrote letters to both federal and provincial governments and arranged for speakers on resolution topics.
- Topics were studied and action taken on:
 - Psychotherapy for adults
 - Mental health effects of abortion
 - Long term care beds in Ontario
 - Prohibition of nuclear weapons
 - Health and physical education specialists in elementary schools
 - Canada Summer Jobs

- Pornography Hurts Campaign
- Flushable items
- Protection of conscience rights for health care providers
- Plastics
- Micro-beads in products
- Income security for the disabled
- Education cuts to autism programs
- Banning of neonicotinoids
- Becoming a green parish
- Ink cartridge recycling
- Mental health issues
- One diocese reported action on resolution ON.15.04 Provision of Regulated Housing for the Chronic, Severely Mentally Ill. Support was given through local campaign which resulted in \$20,000.00 awarded to stable housing for people leaving mental health hospitals.

Chairperson's Report

- Prepared directives, notices and reports as required by provincial guidelines.
- Submitted articles for the *ON-Line Newsletter*.
- Attended all meetings and the convention.
- Submitted adopted resolutions via email to local MPPs and related provincial government ministers.
- Created resolution power-point on new resolution supplement from national council.
- Organized and prepared resolution workshop for diocesan counterparts to be held on Feb 6-8, 2020.

Recommendations

- Lack of time at regular meetings was mentioned by councils. Host a special event or meeting to discuss resolutions in detail and perhaps have a speaker on a specific resolution to continue to encourage advocacy.
- Encourage all councils to have representatives meet with their provincial and federal representatives and give them recent resolutions.
- Host workshop on resolutions.
- Keep members/councils informed on resolutions and meetings with their MP/MPPs through diocesan council websites and other forms of communication used by diocesan councils.

Activities

- Attended all Ontario Provincial Council (OPC) meetings.
- Attended diocesan, provincial and national conventions.
- Prepared reports and summary reports for meetings.
- Prepared two directives.
- Prepared submissions to the monthly *On-Line Newsletter*.
- Forwarded executive reports prior to OPC meetings.
- Prepared and sent correspondence as required/requested.
- Attended to OPC correspondence, including sympathy and get-well cards, congratulatory letters, thank you cards, anniversary certificates, and birthday certificates as directed by the provincial president.
- Mailed or emailed Christmas greetings to all arch/bishops in Ontario.
- Mailed or emailed Easter greetings to all arch/bishops in Ontario.
- Maintained and circulated updated committee lists for provincial officers, diocesan presidents, and spiritual advisors.
- Updated name plates and seating plan for OPC meetings.
- Prepared binders for correspondence sent and correspondence received for circulation at executive meetings.
- Prepared and submitted annual report for *OPC Annual Report 2019*.
- Prepared biography for provincial website *Executive Profile*.
- Reviewed *OPC Guidelines* as it pertains to this position.

Recommendations

- That corresponding secretaries have copies of *Good Gracious! Good Grammar!* (available on the Ontario provincial website at <http://cwl.on.ca/sites/default/files/resources/627.pdf>) and *Handbook for Secretaries*.
- That the *Handbook for Secretaries* be updated to reflect greater focus on the use of technology and social media.
- That corresponding secretaries, at all levels, be instructed in the use of social media for distribution of news/information.
- That consideration be given to providing workshops in developing and maintaining an electronic distribution list and the use of electronic greeting cards.
- That all corresponding secretaries enlist the help of a good proof-reader and have all correspondence proof-read before sending.

Recording Secretary: Joanne Hough
Dioceses Reporting: 10/13

Recording Secretary

- More than 170 parish council secretaries reported using an electronic format for minutes.
- Minutes of meetings were prepared and increasingly distributed by e-mail to members.
- Some reported the use of the computer to distribute minutes to the members was new to them. With support, secretaries were able to increase their own skills and felt very good about this new learning.
- Some recording secretaries had a team approach with one member taking the role of corresponding secretary and another member assisting with sending occasional cards to members to offer CWL support.
- The majority of secretaries indicated that they were a signing officer for the council.
- The vast majority of secretaries attended and provided minutes for both the executive and the general meeting.
- The recording secretaries were a mix of appointees and those elected to the position. Many indicated that they had held the position for a previous term.

Chairperson's Report

- Attended administration committee and executive meetings of the Ontario Provincial Council.
- Attended diocesan, provincial and national conventions.
- Prepared and distributed notes pertaining to administration committee meetings.
- Recorded, prepared and distributed minutes of the pre-convention meeting, the 72nd annual provincial convention and the post convention meeting.
- Recorded, prepared and distributed minutes and motions for all Ontario Provincial Council executive meetings.
- Appointed minute review committee members in consultation with the president for all executive meetings and the convention.
- Distributed notice of meetings and meeting agendas to Ontario Provincial Council executive members prior to all executive meetings.
- Requested summary reports from the executive members.
- Responded to requests from diocesan counterparts for information relating to the role of the recording secretary.

- Prepared directives for the diocesan recording secretaries.
- In keeping with the national theme *Care for Our Common Home* –continue the *Ink and Toner Printer Cartridge Project Challenge* for councils.
- Updated the provincial elections register, prepared mailing labels and forwarded to the chairperson of elections.
- Completed documents from Libro Credit Union and provided documentation as a new signing officer.
- Reviewed material in *Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised 11th Edition* and *Roberts’s Rules of Order in Brief, Handbook for Secretaries, Ontario Provincial Guidelines, Provincial Manual of Policy and Procedure, National Manual Policy and Procedure as well as the Constitution and Bylaws.*
- Reviewed materials and signed cheques as required.

Recommendations

- That members be encouraged to use the electronic format to distribute minutes prior to meetings.
- That members be encouraged to learn more about the use of a website and use of social media such as Facebook.
- That the secretary know where the council charter is located.
- That councils at all levels have a motions book where all motions are listed and stored. This book should be brought to all meetings for reference.
- That diocesan councils offer a workshop for recording secretaries based on information contained in the *Handbook for Secretaries, the National Manual of Policy and Procedure* and *Robert's Rules of Order - The Role of the Secretary.*

Treasurer's Report

2019

Treasurer: Marie-Theresa Lamphier

Sub-chairperson: Patricia M. Rivest

Dioceses Reporting: 13/13

All 13 councils reported on the donations received in the past calendar year.

Summary of Annual Survey Responses

- Eight dioceses reported on the annual national survey.
- The majority of councils filled the position of treasurer.
- Councils used bank statements, cheque books, deposit books, ledger columnar books and receipt books as well as Excel spreadsheets and computer programs as a means of recording their finances.
- Good accounting practices were followed by many councils and most councils kept financial statements and account books on file for at least five (5) years.
- The majority of councils submitted the bulk of their per capita fees in December and January.
- Fundraising initiatives included bazaars, bakes sales, funeral lunches, teas/luncheons, and sale of plants.
- Many councils prepared budgets and were presented to council members in January or February.
- In some instances, books were examined either annually or every two years by an independent individual experienced in accounting

Treasurer's Activities Report

The following activities were performed:

- Prepared and presented the 2020 budget.
- Processed cheques, deposits and correspondence to acknowledge receipt of all donations.
- Prepared annual survey for national secretary-treasurer.
- Prepared directive and reports as well as articles to *ON-Line Newsletter*.
- Met with financial institutions to open new accounts and to review GICs.
- Prepared financial reports, and membership reports for all executive meetings.
- Arranged accommodations and meals for the executive to attend executive meetings, workshops, special meetings, provincial and national conventions.
- Prepared all financial information for the auditing firm.
- Ensured that financial statements were forwarded to the voting and accredited delegates 21 days prior to annual convention.

- Reviewed, along with the administration committee, all applications for development fund, seminarian bursaries and cash advances for conventions.
- Kept everyone apprised of rising costs of accommodations, meals, etc., and completed comparison analysis of different hotels.

Recommendations

- That diocesan and parish councils should apply for provincial and national development funds to promote training for their members.
- That all councils promote the planning of a treasurer’s workshop every two years.
- That all councils prepare an annual budget.

+++++

Loneliness

Loneliness has been chosen as the focus for the provincial council during the term 2019-2021.

Saint Mother Teresa said, “We think sometimes that poverty is only being hungry, naked and homeless. The poverty of being unwanted, unloved and uncared for is the greatest poverty. We must start in our homes to remedy this kind of poverty.”

Loneliness is an emotional response to isolation, but it can even be felt when surrounded by other people. Loneliness has been described as social pain, a psychological mechanism meant to motivate an individual to seek social connections (Wikipedia).

As the world faces the effects of the COVID-19 virus and the associated social isolation, it is heart-warming to hear stories of League members reaching out to others in this difficult time.



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

ONTARIO DONATIONS SUMMARY 2019

TREASURER: MARIE THERESA LAMPHIER

DONATIONS RECEIVED FOR PAST CALENDAR YEAR

National Voluntary Fund	
Coady International Institute	8,231
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace	13,158
Catholic Missions In Canada	44,182
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (until August 18, 2020)	10,562
National Bursary Fund	3,392
CNEWA	9,350
National Voluntary Fund Sub-total	88,875
Standing Committees	
Spiritual Development	139,753
Organization	131,672
Christian Family Life	167,000
Community Life	439,693
Education and Health	184,276
Communications	26,093
Standing Committees Sub-total	1,088,487
All Donations	
National Voluntary Fund Sub-total	88,875
Standing Committees Sub-total	1,088,487
Parish Donations	580,350
Other Donations	
TOTAL	1,757,712

Name of Treasurer: Marie-Theresa Lamphier

Signature: *Marie-Theresa Lamphier*

Date: March 2020

Report completed according to guidelines in the *National Manual of Policy and Procedure*.

Alexandria-Cornwall Diocesan Council Report 2019

President: Lynn Pomainville

Spiritual Advisor: Father Dan VanDelst

Members: 667

Life Members: 10

Councils: 9

- Members of the Alexandria-Cornwall Diocesan CWL had been inspired by the national theme "Care for our Common Home" and provincial theme of "Loneliness" and had been active with diocesan and parish activities benefitting the poor, the homeless and the needy.
- Members attended the Faith Fair which was sponsored by the Alexandria-Cornwall Diocese and we were fortunate to have met our new Auxiliary Bishop Guy Desrochers.
- Our first resolution in many years had been brought to us from our St. Andrew's Council. The other councils had been asked to help formulate and prepare for presentation at our 2020 convention.
- We continued to be active in the Cornwall Service Club which enabled us to reach out to the needy in our community.
- Our Spring Retreat was held on April 24th with 60 members in attendance at Alexandria's Shalom House.
- St. Bernard's Council in Finch hosted our diocesan convention with 96 members registered for the day and 111 for the banquet and were happy to have had Linda Squarzolo in attendance representing OPC! We covered all business, had a lot of spiritual time and social time!
- We've welcomed Anne Vincelli as a new life member in 2019. She has been hard at work mentoring members across the diocese.
- Our diocese was very well represented at the provincial convention in Kingston and chartered a bus with 28 members attending for the day!
- On the 12th of October, members attended a Rosary Rally in the city of Cornwall and one was held in Alexandria.
- In November we had Provincial President Colleen Perry share the Strategic Planning steps with over 30 in attendance from the diocese.
- Our Advent Retreat was hosted by St Francis de Sales Council in Cornwall. The guest speaker was Richard Murphy who will soon become a deacon and his talk on our Blessed Mother Mary was extremely informative and opened our hearts for the coming of Jesus!
- And finally keeping in mind our theme of Loneliness and where this sometimes leads us, we have begun a project where each of the nine councils are given a specific month to collect peanut butter, crackers and canned beans that will be brought to the hospital in Cornwall. The recipients are patients who have been suffering from alcoholism, loneliness and/or mental health issues! A very rewarding project brought to us by our community life chair.

Hamilton Diocesan Council Report

2019

President: Catherine Feren

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. John Redmond

Members: 8182

Life Members: 11

Councils: 96

Regions: 4

- Members in Hamilton Diocese continued to reflect and act on the Ontario focus on homelessness in the first half of 2019. Guest speakers at councils and at the diocesan convention brought messages of awareness and suggestions for concrete action for members to take in response to this serious issue. Members donated a variety of supplies to homeless shelters, social service agencies and on their own in an effort to assist. The loneliness focus, introduced for the 2019-2021 provincial term, resulted in a new awareness of those in our midst who may experience loneliness and how small gestures, a smile, a "hello", a hug can make a profound impact.
- "Care for our Common Home" was enthusiastically embraced by members throughout the diocese. Awareness campaigns related to recycling, our use of scarce resources, and how to make small adjustments in consuming behaviour inspired members to action. Councils held retreats, days of reflection and formed working groups to address our call to "walk softly upon the earth."
- "Welcome Home", the diocesan theme introduced at the 2019 convention, continued to be developed and expanded for the 2019-2021 term. Members were encouraged to work together, participate in a welcoming environment for all League gatherings and recognize and affirm the giftedness of all members. A special "Welcome Home" song was composed by Diocesan First Vice-President and Spiritual Development Chair Teresa DiFalco and was made available to all members in the diocese. It will be sung throughout our 100th year, and beyond.
- Ana Sousa was recognized as a new life member of national council.
- As an acknowledgement of our collective responsibility for truth and reconciliation, a special land acknowledgement was offered at the diocesan convention for the first time. Councils were encouraged to offer similar acknowledgements at local gatherings.
- A renewed commitment to learning and teaching foundational principles of the Constitution & Bylaws and National Manual of Policy and Procedure was made by the diocesan team. A governance presentation was created and offered at all fall regional meetings. A comprehensive nomination and elections workshop and package were developed and offered in individual councils. This workshop will be offered throughout the diocese in the fall of 2020.

Hearst - Moosenee Diocesan Council Report 2019

President: Lorraine Cusson Arnold

Spiritual Advisor: Father Praveen Kumar Sangabathuni

Members: 263

Honorary Life Members:

Councils: 6

Life Members: 9

- the 93rd annual convention was held in Longlac on May 3-5th. Our theme centered on "Care for our Common Home".
- the keynote speakers were - Evelyn M. Marcon, M.A., MTh.
Session 1: *Laudato Si: Our Point of Reference* - Evelyn M. Marcon gave a power point presentation and talk focusing on appreciation that the world is bigger than our own back yard. No matter whatever culture, or ethnicity we are all "ONE".
Session 2: *Water Entrusted to us as a Gift: Being the Change* - Evelyn M. Marcon's session began with an eye-opening video and presentation about the precious gift of water.
- Marlene Pavletic, Ontario Provincial Past President, provided an update on the Strategic Planning of the League. Marlene explained that membership was dropping and so we need to change and evolve as nothing stays the same forever.
- at the fall, diocesan meeting the new theme "*Loneliness*" and introduction to project "*C.A.R.E.*" was presented by our Diocesan Spiritual Chairperson. Local members were invited to participate.
- at the winter executive meeting, Bishop Robert Bourgon gave a presentation on Medically Assisted Death.
- Service pins and Maple Leaf pins were awarded at year-end socials.
- Worked diligently and received a positive outcome for our application to the National Development Fund for our spiritual project "*Sisters Together in Christ*"
- Our Diocesan Spiritual Chair formulated a pamphlet on "*Loneliness*", and dispersed the pamphlets throughout the parishes. Workshops on "*Loneliness*" were presented to the Councils. Councils continue reaching out to seniors and others living alone through prayers and visits
- Councils have not forgotten the homeless. Donations to food banks and shelters are ongoing
- plans for the 94th diocesan convention have started

Kingston Diocesan Council

2019

President: Nancy Richer

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Dale Wright

Members: 2791

Honorary Life Members: 1

Councils: 45

Life Members: 1

- I am pleased to report that the majority of council presidents use *The Canadian League* magazine, national, provincial and diocesan websites and directives to inform members and initiate council projects and discussions. Presidents appreciate the availability and easy access to information and ideas. Many are weekly perusing The Catholic Women's League of Canada on line at the national, provincial and diocesan levels.
- The national priorities, "Care for our Common Home" and "excluding medical assistance in dying from palliative care facilities", have been discussed and acted upon in most councils.
- Councils again participated in the 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care in May. Some councils joined with neighbouring councils.
- In March we held our annual retreat at the Providence Spiritual Centre, the theme "Honouring *the* Mystic in You" presented by Sister Lucy Bethel. It was so well attended we needed a waiting list for cancellations.
- In May we were invited to attend the Installation of Archbishop Michael Mulhall. Diocesan President Maureen Vincentine brought greetings and welcome from the Catholic Women's League and laity.
- At our convention, Joe Gunn was the keynote speaker and his talk was on "Journey to Justice", looking at social justice issues.
- At the same time, a presentation on the councils work on homelessness was presented in a binder.
- In July our diocesan council was busy with the final preparations and hosting of the provincial convention.
- Our development day, in the fall of 2019, was a day devoted to preparing and updating the diocesan council policy and procedure manuals in the morning and an internet safety presentation in the afternoon by Nancy Richer and Lyne Tuepah.
- In November at our presidents' meeting, Robin Jones spoke about human trafficking.
- Members continued to value the friendships and support of the League. They appreciated working together, supporting each other in faith, fun and fulfilment.

London Diocesan Council

2019

President: Rebecca McCarrell Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Gregory Bonin
Members: 10,600 Honorary Life Members: 0
Councils: 95 Life Members: 9
Regions: 7

London Diocese continues on their journey to celebrate 100 years in 2020. Many of the activities in the 2019 year were in support of this quest combined with Care for our Common Home (National theme) encompassing environmental concerns, Homelessness, and Loneliness (Provincial themes) and our own theme of Educate, Engage, and Empower.

Our membership is quite active in Social Justice issues and have been instrumental in support of Farmtown Canada's initiatives on Human Trafficking especially throughout the 400 highways in Ontario. Hundreds of our membership supported the demonstration in July.

The Provincial Theme of Loneliness was given much attention throughout the year. The Lenten Retreat is held yearly and winds it way throughout our diocese. This year the theme focused on spiritual loneliness, was held in Chatham at the Spirit & Life Center and was facilitated by Ann Shore.

Our "Out of the Cold" Campaign ended at our 2019 Convention. Over 18,000 pairs of socks were donated. These were distributed to the many agencies that support the homeless and less fortunate of the London Diocese.

At our 2019 Convention held at the St. Clair Center for the Arts in Windsor, Ontario Provincial President Colleen Perry addressed the members on her theme of Loneliness. She gave us much to think about and presented 2 scenarios for actions.

Our Christian Family Life Chairperson, Denise Lalonde Morris brought the HUG campaign to life. She spearheaded our campaign to bring these bags of sunshine to our shutins and those in need in our communities. With that, many of our councils continued to home visit members and others in their communities. This is an on-going effort and when home visits are not possible, members are reaching out to others via email and phone calls. The HUG bags were collected at our Fall Regional meetings and distributed throughout the communities.

2019 was a year of transition; within our parishes, councils and communities. We look forward to celebrating 100 years in 2020.

Ottawa Diocesan Council Report

2019

President: Lynn Lavictoire
Members: 1,481
Councils: 26

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Fr. Paul J. Gaudet
Honorary Life Members: 1
Life Members: 10

- January began with changes to the diocesan team including a new president.
- In February, we held our first "Find Your Voice" Public Speaking Course. Attendance doubled compared to previous courses.
- In March, members participated in our yearly Lenten Morning of Reflection. Following Holy Mass, guest speaker Legion of Mary Spiritual Director Deacon James Scheer reflected on Mary's journey from the birth of Jesus to His death. The morning ended with a Living Rosary.
- World Day of Prayer services were well attended by members in the diocese.
- In April, the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel was celebrated and included participation from families of deceased members. Members who received awards in the last year were also recognized.
- In early May, we held our annual diocesan convention. Two speakers discussed *Care for our Common Home* with a focus on water. Ontario Provincial Spiritual Development Chair Anna Tremblay led us in a spiritual workshop which was well received. Annunciation of the Lord Council gifted the Ottawa Diocesan CWL with a resolution which was passed on to the Ontario Provincial Resolutions Review Committee. Diocesan Treasurer Diana Baines received the Bellelle Guerin Award. This convention also brought in a new executive: a small one but a mighty one!
- Members participated in the March for Life rally on Parliament Hill.
- In July, the Ottawa resolution was presented and adopted at the provincial convention. Thirty-five members attended this convention. One of our life members, Colleen Perry, became the new Ontario Provincial President.
- Councils collected eye glasses, stamps and milk bags as part of the Reduce and Reuse Program. The milk bags were woven by members to make mats for those in Third World countries.
- "Twelve Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care" took place throughout the diocese.
- The new provincial theme of "loneliness" was a focus at our fall executive meeting with guest speaker Sarah Bercier from the Council on Aging Ottawa and Dr. Eric Schiller who spoke on our national theme: *Care for our Common Home*. An update on the *Plans Strategically* was also presented. Parish presidents at this meeting shared personal stories on loneliness in their life journeys.
- A highpoint in October was Holy Hour. It was wonderfully led by our diocesan spiritual advisor; those in attendance received a beautiful spiritual gift.
- November ended with the Advent retreat. After mass, our facilitator Dr. Carol Kuzmochka led us into the meaning of the first Advent candle and the Advent journey then brought us to "loneliness" as reflected in the desert of loneliness and the garden of solitude. It was an uplifting preparation for Christ's coming.
- Parish councils continued their good works while embracing the national theme and the provincial theme of "homelessness" as it transitioned to "loneliness."

Pembroke Diocesan Council

2019

President: Joan Lemay
Members: 1763
Councils: 30

Spiritual Advisor: None
Honorary Life Members: None
Life Members: 10

- Diocesan Executive presented *The CWL Strategic Plan* throughout the diocese. Over 80 parish council members attended. There was positive response to the strategic plan.
- Councils throughout the diocese held prayer sessions for *12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care* in May.
- Diocesan executive completed presentations on the executive positions with presentations at the spring meeting on Communications and Education and Health and at the annual convention on the Treasurer and President positions.
- Pembroke Diocesan Annual Convention was hosted by St. Michael's CWL Council, Douglas. St Michael's Council was celebrating its 80th anniversary. Over 100 delegates attended and heard a motivating presentation from then OPC President-Elect Colleen Perry titled "We Can Make A Difference". Author Phil Small spoke about his book *On the Way to Here: Reflections on Things that Matter*. Three councils were presented with anniversary certificates. In keeping with National's theme, *Care for Our Common Home*, a collection was held and a donation of \$1700 was made to Water First organization.
- Diocesan Executive held a one day retreat in Eganville. Father Ken O'Brien led the retreat. We contemplated the CWL Mission and how members can live the mission through prayer and action.
- A Day of Reflection was held in September for all councils in the diocese. Two CWL members, Carol Sulpher and Betty Ross spoke about "The Genius of Women" with reference to saints and women in the bible to demonstrate leadership and actions of women throughout history. Combined with this day, we held our annual service for deceased CWL members and spiritual advisors.
- At the Diocesan Fall Meeting in October, Anita Bowles from Life Canada spoke on "Loneliness at the End of Life", and Diocesan Community Life Chair Pat Weller, and Education and Health Chair Sheila Bielawski gave an informative
- Presentation titled "A World Without Plastics. Can We Make It Happen?"

Peterborough Diocesan Council Report

2019

President: Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Damian Smullen

Members: 1735

Life Members: 10

Councils: 29

- At our 98th annual diocesan convention on April 27th and 28th at St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School, Peterborough, spiritual videos were shown throughout the convention. President Paddy introduced a Healing Circle and encouraged us to think about where we need healing in our lives—our children, spouse, coworkers, etc. Amazing Grace in the Cherokee language played while we held hands. The ceremony ended with prayer. Our keynote speaker Anne Taylor, Cultural Archivist at Curve Lake Community, spoke about the First Nation Treaties and of the problems and issues faced by Indigenous people inside our diocese and in our very neighbourhoods. In the memorial service for deceased CWL members and three spiritual advisors, a candle for each was processed in and placed by the Marian statue. Father Tom Lynch gave highlights of the diocesan survey and plans for evangelization. Provincial President Anne Madden gave a workshop on leadership focusing on definition, styles, listening and personal journeys. Personal care items were collected and distributed to shelters within the diocese. Joanne Hough made a presentation about our updated website and the national strategic plan. Historian Wendy Tedford showed two videos for 100 years celebration and next year's elections. A funky fashion show followed our banquet.
- At our fall meeting and development day in Bracebridge, two workshops focused on "Loneliness" and "Come, Holy Spirit". Ideas were brainstormed, shared, recorded and then appended to the minutes for further council use.
- Officers mentored council presidents through phone calls, emails and visits.
- Fifteen members attended the annual Officer's and LM Retreat in November in Peterborough. Tanya Kowalenk, Health Program Co-Ordinator for Canadian Mental Health Association gave a talk about loneliness.
- Three or more councils participated in national 100th Project H.U.G.
- The anniversary committee reviewed files and updated the diocesan history books. Over four hundred recipes were collected and included in our 100th anniversary cookbook which was ready for Christmas sharing.
- The diocesan president visited with parishes, attended retreats, presented pins and other awards, celebrated anniversaries, and offered support and advice when asked. She also coordinated efforts of members, officers and parishes for 2020 convention.

St. Catharines Diocesan Council Report

2019

President: Josie Rocca
Members: 2480
Councils: 32
Regions: 4

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Richard Kowalchuk
Honorary Life Members: 0
Life Members: 13

- Diocesan executive meetings were held in February, April, June, September and November.
- Monthly diocesan Holy Hours were held in St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland and Beamsville.
- Annual Diocesan Workshop was held in March. Topic: The Future of the League, Gaining a New Perspective Moving Forward.
- Diocesan officers and parish reps participated in procession before Mass at the Respect for Life Mass at the cathedral in St. Catharines.
- Annual Diocesan Retreat held at Gethsemane Ministries, Welland
- Regional Spring Conferences were held in:
 - Fonthill (Welland) Rosary and Shoe Box donations presentation
 - Stevensville (Niagara) Speaker Fr. Peter Rowe re Our Lady of Guadalupe. High Tea Social, followed by high tea and social.
 - St. Catharines - Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel, speaker National Council Legislation Chair Betty Colaneri, Chair of National 100th Anniversary Committee spoke on A Century of Faith and Service
- Six convention committee planning meetings were held
- Diocesan Convention was held on May 21 – 22: Theme “Living as Women of Faith”. Speakers included: Dr. Anne Jamieson, on A Recipe for Faith: Choosing and Using the Best Ingredients and Ted van Der Zalm on Wells of Hope. A new executive was elected and installed.
- Council anniversaries included St. Helen, Beamsville (60), St John Bosco, Port Colborne (70), St. Michael, Dunnville (60)
- Hosted 9th Annual St. Catharines Diocesan Golf Tournament at Whiskey Run Golf Course, Port Colborne
- Evenings of Reflection were held in Smithville and Fonthill
- Co-hosted Mass for Deceased Members of CWL and Knights of Columbus in St. Catharines
- Diocesan anniversary dinner was held in St. Catharines
- Re national theme, Care for Our Common Home and as a diocesan initiative, 25 parish councils have pledged to ban the use of bottled water at parish council meetings and events hosted by them.
- Showing a video, “The Story of Bottled Water” at a diocesan meeting educated members.

Sault Ste. Marie Diocesan Report

2019

President: Cathy McKinney

Spiritual Advisor: Father Trevor Scarfone

Members: 2,611

Life Members: 11

Councils: 30

Regions: 3

- Our diocesan CWL workshop "Find Your Voice!", a course to develop communication skills, increase self-confidence, provide a warm, supportive and fun learning experience, was well received in all three regions. The Ottawa Diocesan CWL has now had a presentation and is going forward with their own program.
- One hundred and eighty-one delegates attended the 99th diocesan convention in Sault Ste. Marie. Marcel Damphousse, Bishop of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie sent video greetings, and Anne Madden, Ontario Provincial President, brought greetings. Paul Baines, a representative from Blue Communities did a workshop on water as a sacred gift. Anna Tremblay received her life member pin and certificate.
- Several members attended the 72nd provincial convention (Kingston) and nine attended the 99th national convention (Calgary).
- Diocesan activities focused on the national theme of "Care for our Common Home". Councils participated in a variety of initiatives including working to ban single use plastics in the household, reducing water consumption and becoming a Blue Community.
- Seven councils celebrated significant anniversaries: Holy Family (55), Christ the King (95), Holy Redeemer (80), Our Lady of Hope (60), St. Kevin (55), Holy Name of Jesus (65), Our Lady of Sorrows (70).
- The top national priority which councils introduced, discussed or acted upon was: Care for our Common Home. Our provincial theme of Loneliness was implemented and worked on by the majority of councils through ongoing activities such as; phone calls and visitation of shut in members, delivering Communion to the sick/shut ins and helping the poor by a number of activities.
- For new presidents, the greatest assistance came from their past president and Life Members.

Thunder Bay Diocesan Council Report

2019

President: Maria Bertoldo Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Michael Mahoney
Councils: 25 Life Members: 9
Members - 2430

During our League Development Day held last year, Council Presidents outlined how they were addressing the theme of Loneliness. Blessings bags, bingos at Senior's Homes, clothing drives, telephone visits and inviting foreign students for coffee after Mass, were just a few of the items reported. This December, councils were wrapping doors to look like presents for the residents at long-term care homes. Another council organized a Christmas Caroling choir to visit people who are isolated due to age or health or someone who would appreciate a visit.

Pauline Krupa and Colleen Martin spoke about their presentation to the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, entitled "More Than Just Kitchen". They spoke to the teachers about CWL strategic planning, social justice, visiting government and loneliness for kids.

Evelyn Marcon, chairperson of Development and Peace, paralleled the life of St. Francis of Assisi and Pope Francis and their views on the protection of our earth.

"Start by doing what's necessary, and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

Speaker, Jacob Porter, Climate Adaptation Coordinator for Earthcare: a program through the City of Thunder Bay, provided ideas on conservation/lessening impact on energy, waste, community greening and water.

The diocesan president spoke at the Marion Prayers for the Unborn Service presented by the Knights of Columbus and facilitated by Bishop Colli.

President M. Bertoldo, made presentations at two councils celebrating their 70th Anniversaries, St. Andrews and St. Agnes.

A Diocesan Advent Prayer Service, The Light of the World was held in December, at St. Dominic's Church, with Fr. Mike Mahoney giving a spiritual perspective.

Timmins Diocesan Council Report

2019

President: Annette Kelly

Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Wayne Mills

Members: 479

Life Members: 3

Councils: 8

- The 85th Timmins Diocesan Convention included a talk on Climate Change and the dangers it is imposing on our society and world. Provincial President Colleen Perry gave a presentation called "The Spirituality of Service". Colleen also gave a workshop on "Mentoring" at the pre-convention meeting.
- The resolution "Utilizing Health and Physical Education Specialists in Elementary Schools" was presented and accepted.
- The special collection from the opening mass was split between Kirkland Lake Mental Health Association and their food bank. A large number of items for the homeless was brought to the convention for distribution to shelters and to Canadian Food for Children. The Warmth and Comfort project has been a success.
- A new diocesan council was acclaimed with only one vacancy.
- "Project Garbage" was introduced at the post-convention meeting. Councils were asked to participate in garbage 'clean-up' in their communities.
- An Environmental Water Project contest was held in the Catholic elementary schools in our diocese. Students made posters and two classes that participated received certificates and prizes.
- The annual spiritual retreat day held in September featured Sr. Margo Genier speaking on 'different ways to pray' and Anna Tremblay presented information on "Care for our Common Home".
- Two diocesan members attended the Living Space Summit on Homelessness and reported to the fall executive meeting.
- League of the Future – Strategic Planning presentations have been given to most of the councils.
- Discussed ideas for ways to alleviate loneliness.

Toronto Diocesan Council Report

2019

President: Hilarion Mitchell
Members: 7110
Councils: 101
Regions: 7

Spiritual Advisor: Msgr. Patrick O'Dea
Honorary Life Members: 1
Life Members: 14

- Annual Reports: Eighty-six councils submitted at least one or all their 2019 annual reports.
- Reactivated Councils: Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, Scarborough Region and St. Bernard de Clairvaux, North York Region.
- Development Day: Our Lady of Miraculous Medal, Humber Valley Region hosted with 403 registered. Margaret Ann Jacobs, National Past President and Chairperson of Laws presented on the League Strategic Plan. Sister Francis of the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood spoke on the Humour of God.
- Toronto Diocesan 98th Annual Convention (May 2nd & 3rd): Karen Van Loon, Canadian Chapter of the Global Catholic Climate Movement spoke on the *Care for our Common Home*. Mass collection of \$2,512 was shared with the Faith & the Common Good and the Jesuit Forum. St. Mary's, Peel Region United Nations Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons resolution was adopted at Toronto, provincial and national. The 2019–2021 diocesan executive was elected and installed. Patricia Beattie Mentoring Awards recipients were Karen Lawless, Life Member, auxiliary level and Mary Lynch, parish level.
- *Care for our Common Home* and *Homelessness* Themes: Councils undertook projects such as the Ink and Toner Cartridge return, Project Warmth and Comfort collection of socks, peanut butter, crackers, etc. with over 15,955 items distributed to shelters, food banks and drop-in centers.
- Our Lady of Good Counsel Televised Mass: Toronto members including the diocesan executive attended the taping of this mass at Loretto Abbey.
- Father Patrick O'Dea was bestowed the title of Monsignor by the Holy Father, Pope Francis in October 2019.
- Pro-Life: Promoted the March for Life, Life Chain, 40 Days for Life, movie Unplanned, Alliance for Life One Million petition, Campaign Life Coalition.
- Indigenous Day Mass: The fourth annual mass was held on June 24th with the theme "Being thankful for Creation". Guest speaker Father David Rylander from Catholic Missions In Canada.
- Toronto Diocesan Council 100th Anniversary (2021): Logo contest winners were Irene Debono and her daughter Alyse Sanborn with the Madonna design pins which has been a very successful fundraiser.

Recognition

The Ontario Provincial Council 2019 Social Justice Award

was presented to

Doris Labelle

St. Kevin's Parish, Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie.

CONGRATULATIONS!



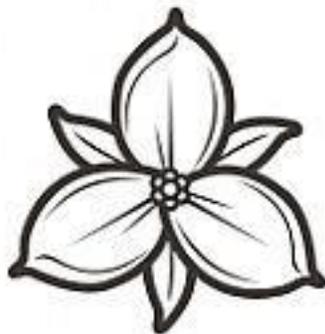
**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
OF CANADA**

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

1920 - 2020

The Purpose of the Ontario Provincial Council

- To implement the Catholic Women's League objectives and policy in the province
- To represent the Catholic Women's League members of Ontario at the national level
- To coordinate the diocesan councils in the province
- To be a link between the diocesan councils in Ontario and the national council for reporting, for resolutions and for those matters requiring an instructed vote at the national convention
- To disseminate information and direction from the national council to the diocesan councils in the province
- To provide direction, inspiration and encouragement to Catholic Women's League members and councils in the province
- To submit resolutions and briefs on provincial matters as required
- To maintain contact with the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (ACBO)



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