

TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

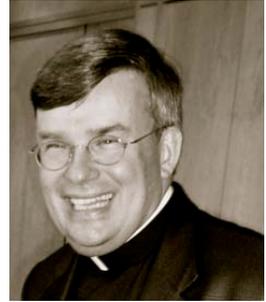
NEWSLETTER

Fall 2014

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You have probably heard that Cardinal Collins has been presenting a pastoral plan for our archdiocese, for its parish communities and for the many associations and groups of people who make up our Family of Faith.



The time has now come when these plans will begin to have a direct impact on how we live our faith. The Catholic Women’s League of Canada has been in the midst of pastoral life in places all across the country for generations now and it will continue to be.

For some of us the thought of change is difficult and for almost all of us the act of change is even more challenging. When Jesus called his disciples, however, He didn’t call them to stay the same or just keep doing what they were doing. He called them to have faith in Him, to be with Him and to learn from Him. So it is our happy challenge to say, “Yes”, just as the disciples did.

Did you know that many priests feel the same way? Leading a community of several thousand people is not easy, even when things are smooth on the outside. Many years ago while I was Director of Lay Ministry, I conducted a survey of personal interviews with pastors asking them to share their needs and priorities. A common finding among the 40 pastors we interviewed was their concern about passing on the life of faith. *Amen!* I think that captured not only their concerns, but those of many of the people in their parishes.

We can be like St. Thomas in our relationship with the Lord. We can say: *“Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”* Jesus doesn’t dwell on this question; He repositions it. *“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.”* He calls Thomas to know and love Him.

This is the heart of our faith – intimacy with Our Lord. To evangelize is to share our encounter with the Lord and to do what is necessary to support others so they can encounter Him too. With large communities this simple reality will mean learning new ways to relate with each other and to work together. It may cause some of us to accept a new kind of service, especially quiet service that allows God’s light to shine on others.

Lead us not into temptation when our pastor asks us to change something. Let us resist the urge to defend the status quo and instead

ask, “*How can I be of help?*” You will be surprised at the new life that this can bring to your own relationship with the Lord and edified experience the fruitfulness that will certainly come.

With the deep commitment to faith of the membership of the League, especially fidelity to prayer and the intercession of Our Lady, we are called to be helpful allies of the shared building up of our parish and diocesan life. Our pastoral plan is a wonderful shared journey that will lead us into profound communion.

In Christ, and invoking the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel,

Fr. Bob O'Brien
Spiritual Advisor
Toronto Diocesan Council

PRESIDENT

Mary Capobianco

"I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last."
(John 15:16)

Our convention theme, *We Have Seen the Lord, Let His Light Guide Our Path*, set the tone for a wonderful two days of prayer, fun, fellowship and celebration. The 93rd Annual Toronto Diocesan Convention held in May was a huge success! Many thanks to Madeleine Burke, her co-chairs Debbie Bates and Mary Antonio, the members of the executive, regional chairs and all those members who generously volunteered their time and talents. Everyone did a superb job ensuring that the convention ran smoothly and efficiently! I hope that everyone who attended had a memorable time.



Thank you also to the many members who made the time to attend the convention. I am very happy to report that the numbers for both the daily registration and the attendance for the Banquet Gala were up considerably from past years. Thank you also to the many Spiritual Advisors who joined us to celebrate the opening and closing Masses. We are always happy to have their support. Heartfelt thanks to Alice Warford and the wonderful Scarborough Choir. We are fortunate indeed to have so many talented women among us.

Our keynote speaker on the Monday evening was Maria Karajovanova, the pastoral minister at Covenant House. She spoke passionately about the challenges many of the youth of our city face daily and the hope she sees in their faces.

We were honoured to also have Monsignor Pat Stilla from St. Patrick's Cathedral in Thunder Bay, as our guest speaker at the Friday afternoon session. He spoke about the many challenges Catholic women face today, both in their communities and within the CWL. Msgr.'s presentation, filled with his wonderful sense of humour, along with a very thorough understanding of the League, made the afternoon a very memorable one for all.

Thanks and appreciation was extended to the outgoing Regional Chairs. We thank Margherita Thurlow (Humber Valley), Laurie van den Hurk (Northern) and Inez Meleca (Toronto) for their dedicated service to their regions and for their participation on the Toronto Diocesan Council. May Our Lady of Good Counsel continue to guide them in their future endeavours in support and mentorship to all League members.

We also extend a warm welcome to the three new regional chairs: Connie Cristinziano, Sharon Bellon and Maryse Ristuccia. We look forward to working with them.

Congratulations to Imelda Santos, our newest recipient of the Bellelle Guerin Award. The Toronto Diocesan Council was delighted to nominate Imelda in recognition of the many years she has served the League at many levels. A well deserved honour!

At the closing banquet, we welcomed His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins. He wholeheartedly continues to support and encourage the CWL.

Three hundred and eighty seven members, including seventy-two members from our Toronto Diocese, gathered in Cobourg, Ontario, for the 67th Annual Ontario Provincial Convention held in July. The theme for the convention was *We Have Seen the Lord*, and each diocesan president was asked to describe how they had *Seen the Lord* through a Social Justice project in their diocese.

Congratulations to our Diocesan Resolutions Chair, Hilarion Mitchell, for her excellent presentation of the Toronto resolution "Mandatory Labeling for Genetically Modified Products" at the Ontario Provincial

convention. With a few minor amendments, it was passed and forwarded to the National Resolutions Chair for consideration.

In August a number of members from the Toronto Diocese attended the 94th Annual National Convention in Fredericton, New Brunswick, and a good time was had by all. You will hear more about the national convention at the Fall Regional Meetings.

A topic that you will be hearing more about in the coming months is the need for parish councils to comply with the new *Not-For-Profit* legislation. These requirements are laid out in the Constitution & ByLaws booklet dated 2013, **Part XIV, Section 2: Parish Council** and **Section 10: Financial Statements**. You can read more about this in the Treasurer's article in this newsletter. As well, more information will be provided at the Fall Regional Meetings, but in the meantime, I ask each president, along with her treasurer and executive members, to please review these sections of the C&B.

As we head into the fall months and turn our thoughts to council activities for the remainder of this year and into the next, I pray that the Holy Spirit guides you to plan activities that will nourish and fulfill your members.

To help you come up with some fresh ideas for your calendar of activities, each of the Diocesan Standing Committee Chairs has been asked to choose an area of focus for their particular committee and to come up with a project or activity to work on for the next year. They will be communicating these ideas later this fall and in the early winter months in the form of directives to their regional and parish counterparts. The hope is that parish council standing committee chairs will then have something specific to work on and will be able to set specific goals for themselves and their councils. There will be more information about this initiative at the Fall Regional Meetings. Information will also soon be posted on our website at www.cwltoronto.ca, so stay tuned!

Whatever League work we may choose to focus on, let our bonds of sisterhood and dedication to doing God's work lead us through the coming months. Most of all, I encourage ALL CWL members to make the most of their membership by getting involved - there's plenty of God's work that needs to be done!

The Fall Regional Meetings are now scheduled in each of your regions. If you don't know the dates or locations for these meetings, please be sure to check with your presidents or regional chairs. Or you can check our Toronto Diocesan website and click on Regional Information. Mark

your calendars and plan now to attend. Also make plans to bring a couple of other members with you. Some of my favourite CWL memories are from car-pooling to meetings with my CWL sisters!

I look forward to seeing you all once again at the Fall Regional Meetings.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Lucia Vacca

"Let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth."

(1 John 3:18)

Sub-Conveners:

Catholic Biblical Association	Sr. Jocelyn Monette
Catholic Missions In Canada	Patricia Gyulay
Lay Ministries	Alice Warford
Women's Inter-Church Council	Pat Sheehan
	Delma Alphonso

The *Council Prayer Partners Project* came to a conclusion with a ceremony at our Toronto convention in May. Thank you to everyone for taking part in this successful prayerful initiative. The Spiritual Development 2015 project will be introduced to the Parish Councils in the Fall, based on the Fruits of the Holy Spirit.



Attending conventions is a way to become energized and reaffirmed with the bonds of faith together with our sisters when attending Masses, spiritually-filled prayer services, singing hymns, and listening to keynote speakers. One keynote speaker at the Provincial convention was Fr. Frank Freitas. His message to us was that we should not miss opportunities to be present to one another. Come and Go is what we are called to do, come and get closer to God and go to serve others. Pray before we can serve, live our lives and look for the moments and whispers in everyday and remember that we are loved and that we are His. Fr. Freitas has a new book *“Are we there yet?”* which is available through The Catholic Register.

As we continue on our journey, let us stop and pray daily for world peace, be peacemakers, and seek ways to bring peace at home, at work

and in our communities. Read and meditate on scripture and on the words of Pope Francis. “*Give up the way of arms and go out to meet the others in dialogue, pardon and reconciliation in order to rebuild justice, trust and hope around you.*”

Annual Rosary Sunday, September 21st 2014 - 30th Anniversary– Martyrs' Shrine, Midland

The 30th year celebration of this annual event will begin with Mass at 12:00 pm at the Polish Altar. At 2:00 pm, there will be a procession of the Blessed Sacrament with the Living Rosary and Benediction at the Papal Altar. The homilist will be His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto. CWL councils are encouraged to bring your banners for the procession. We would very much like to see many parish councils participate in this annual event. For more information, email living-rosary@rogers.com or phone 705-435-3406 or 705-428-3540. Pray the Rosary!

Reporting Deceased Members for the Book of Life

It is imperative that each council report their deceased members ASAP and not wait, so that no member is missed in the reporting in the appropriate year. This is sometimes a coordinated effort between President, Spiritual Development Chair and the Organization and Membership Chair. If you are not on the online system, fill out the form for Reporting Deceased Members and mail it to National Office (form can be found at www.cwl.ca under Resources: Form for Reporting Deceased Members). National Office will notify the Provincial and Diocesan Councils on a quarterly basis. If your council is using the Online Membership Administration reporting system, go to Membership, Report a Deceased Member panel, input the required information including the deceased's date, and submit. This process will notify the Provincial and Diocesan Councils instantly.

As a League member, one of the many benefits is that we pray for our members and that they are also remembered in the *Book of Life* after death. If the names are not submitted in a timely fashion, they will be missed at the Diocesan, Provincial and National levels.

Did you know that in the *Ceremonies Booklet* there is a Prayer Service for Deceased Members? More information is found in the *Manual for the Spiritual Advisor*. Each council should have a copy for their Spiritual Advisor. It is also available to read or print on the National website.

If your parish council does not have a *Parish Book of Life*, create one. This book may contain the names of members, a picture, the obituary,

etc. Be sure to keep it up-to-date and display it at all CWL Masses and events for active members and parishioners to see and to remember our sisters.

Learn About Our Faith

The Office of Formation for Discipleship provides opportunities for lay Catholics to nurture their spiritual lives as well as to prepare for liturgical, catechetical, pastoral and social ministries. This fall there will be three regional faith formation days for parish catechists and volunteers: “*Go and Announce Good News of Great Joy*” will be held at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School in North Pickering on September 27th, at St. Joseph’s Secondary School in Barrie on October 4th and at St. Basil the Great Secondary School in North York on October 25th. Each of these events is from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. Call the office to sign up for one of these free events: 416-934-3400 Ext. 523. A full listing of opportunities for this fall will be posted by the end of August on the website: www.archtoronto.org/discipleship.

The Archdiocese of Toronto has information on their website on various aspects of our faith and the terms used. Go to www.archtoronto.ca and then click on About Our Faith; this page gives detailed explanations on: Glossary of Common Church Terms, Catechism of the Catholic Church, About the Sacraments, Learning About Mass, Prayer and Worship & Vocations.

Women’s Inter-Church Council of Toronto

The Fellowship of the Least Coin Ingathering Service will take place on Tuesday, October 28th, at 1:30 p.m., location TBA. All are invited to attend; more information will be forwarded.

This ecumenical prayer for peace, justice and reconciliation began in 1956, when Shanti Solomon, a women leader of northern India, was denied access to Korea as part of a Christian women’s mission because India did not have diplomatic relations with Korea. She prayed for a way to make all women a part of a worldwide family of faith and the idea of the Fellowship of the Least Coin was formed.

Once a year, the least coins of each country are collected in local “ingathering” services. These offerings are held in trust at the WICC offices and forwarded to the global FIC fund administered by the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin (ICFLC). Each year the ICFLC awards grants to Christian organizations around the world for projects including social justice, health, education, leadership development, literacy and disaster relief.

World Day of Prayer

WDP Festival Day will take place on January 10, 2015, at 9:00 a.m.. \$10.00, location TBA. The service has been prepared by the Women of the Bahamas. The theme for 2015 is Jesus said to them: “*Do you know what I have done to you?*” WDP services will be held on March 6, 2015. Visit www.wicc.org for more information.

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

A liturgy service for *National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women - Heal Us, Strengthen Us, Renew Us*. **Everyone is invited to attend**, Friday, December 6th, for a special service of remembrance written by members of the council. This service will be held at the Toronto School of Theology, 47 Queen’s Park Cres., E. (at St. Joseph Street) at 11:00 a.m., in Boardroom 1 on the main floor.

Advent Season

The season of Advent will begin on November 30th ending December 24th. It is a time of prayer, fasting and the sacrament of confession. Take time to attend the many events and retreats being offered at this time of preparation for the coming of Christ - the Nativity of our Lord. The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is on December 8th and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is on December 12th.

Resources

Books, prayers services and daily retreats are available on the Provincial website - go to www.cwl.on.ca/prayers, as well as on the National website www.cwl.ca/resources/programs-and-workshops. The Jesuit Ministry www.loyolapress.com offers a daily 3-minute retreat, sign up and receive it in your email. Great way to start your day!

I am looking forward to reading your 2014 Annual Reports, all your accomplishments, prayers, events, retreats and good works your councils have attended and organized under Spiritual Development.



Toronto Diocesan Life Members Mary Ellen Stinson, Marlin Taylor and Patricia Cross dance up a storm at the National Convention in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

ORGANIZATION

Shirley Christo

Sub-Conveners:

Annual Reports	Patricia Cross
Life Members' Liaison	Karen Lawless
On-Line Membership	Val Egerton
	Lucia Vacca

Warm greetings to all who have chosen to serve as CWL Organization Chairs. I am honoured and humbled to continue journeying with you for the next year with Pauline Krupa, <http://www.cwl.on.ca/executive-profile>, our Provincial Organization Chair and also our newly elected national Organization Chair <http://www.cwl.ca/>.



Membership

Although our National records for 2013 indicate that the membership for the Toronto Diocesan CWL has declined again by approximately 400 members, we remain hopeful that our councils will continue to work together to reverse this declining trend for 2014-15. At this time, more than ever before, we need to reach out for CWL recruitment across the generations.

In our important meetings with the provincial and federal governments, it is essential to speak with a voice that represents over 100,000 Canadian women, especially when presenting the options of good hospice and palliative care with ethical use of palliative sedation to counter current societal requests for euthanasia and assisted suicide (Carter vs. Supreme Court of Canada is to begin October 14, 2014).

Towards this end, please consider **Shirley's Membership Drive Tip #3** Announce from the pulpit and/or in the bulletin and/or through the school board to the mothers, and appropriate teachers and the students, 16 years and over, the many benefits of becoming a CWL member. *Be sure to include that one important benefit is strengthening our voice to the governments on such important matters as ethical 'End of Life' care.*

Membership Dues / Online Membership

Your membership dues for 2015 are due on January 1, 2015, and council lists and fees should be submitted to national office by **February 28, 2015**. NOW is the ideal time to sign up your council via the **on-line registration system** and to appoint an administrator. This is often the

Organization Chair, but does not have to be. There are many benefits such as submitting/reporting membership payments and making speedy updates in the system and Lucia Vacca and Val Egerton are willing to walk you through the process. (Contact information is above.)

Members' Development

Our '*Catch the Fire*' workshop day now has a *S'MORE*' addendum to it! At our provincial CWL convention, I attended a special luncheon hosted by our provincial Organization Chair, Pauline Krupa, and attended by Organization Chairs from across the province. Our national representative, Barbara Dowding, overlooked as we received our S'Mores follow-up kit for *Catch the Fire*. Please stay tuned as your Toronto Diocesan *Catch the Fire* team works with me to review your S'Mores list (filled out at the end of your *Catch the Fire* session) and decide with your regional chairs which workshop(s) to develop for your further League development.

Annual Reports

Annual Report packages for the 2014 year are to be delivered to you through your regional chairs following our September executive meeting. Don't hesitate to fill them out ASAP at your council executive meeting and if possible, return them to me at your Fall Regional Meeting. If this does not work, please mail them to me no later than November 15, 2014, so that we can share them with provincial and national councils. I look forward to reviewing them and to presenting the summaries of your wonderful Toronto CWL councils' accomplishments in the 2014 Annual Report.

Development Day

Plans are underway for our Development Day, 2015. We are trying to arrange a location that is available before or after Family Day weekend this year, so stay tuned for more details to come!!!

Elections / Parish Executive Training

With many CWL parish councils having elections this fall, consider starting early to invite members to let their names stand for office. Seek out and print off a copy of the resource *Parish Elections – Key Point'* at www.cwltoronto.ca to guide you through getting organized for your election.

Earlier this year, we completed the training for most of the Parish Executive Training facilitators for the Toronto diocesan regions and will be rolling out the workshop for the CWL councils in your region after we

complete the training of facilitators, editing and guides. Please watch for further announcements.

PAST PRESIDENT/HISTORIAN

Mary Hawkey

Welcome to all Past Presidents. This role is unique in that as Past President we have usually had the opportunity to fill numerous other roles on the council, and thus we are able to help keep our council on track for the future as well as having the knowledge that links it to its past. I look forward to working with you as we serve in a consultative capacity, maintain the history and archives of our council and facilitate the study and implementation of the Constitution & Bylaws.



Patricia Beattie Annual Memorial Mentoring Award

At our diocesan convention in April, we presented two Patricia Beattie Mentoring Awards. Mary Anthony, a 50-year member of Holy Cross Council, Oshawa, Durham Region, received the award for service to her council at the Parish Level. Mary has held many chairs over the years and was President in 1967-68 and 1990-91. She ran the White Ribbon Campaign at the parish for many years and was involved in writing letters to two Prime Ministers regarding new legislation against prostitution and pornography.

To quote Adele Pellegrino, Past President, “She has been an experienced and trusted advisor to many of our members, especially me. She always offered friendship and her knowledge of the League and the rules to follow which could not be found in a book. League policy and procedures were explained with a phone call and the past events, terms and policies were given with ease; and her presence at meetings was very relaxing, knowing she was there to help out with the proceedings. Mary believes strongly in the CWL. She is still very involved with our council and our members. Just talking to her gives them the fire and excitement they need. We are still going strong.”

The Diocesan Level winner was Marjorie Robinson, Co-President, St. Patrick/St. Noel Chabanel Council, Stayner-Wasaga Beach, Northern Region. Marjorie has been a CWL member for 30 years. She was President of Our Lady of the Assumption Council, Brentwood, from

1990-92 and Northern Regional Chair from 1992-94. In 1998-99, she was Corresponding Secretary for the Provincial Council during Margaret Ann Jacobs' presidency.

In 2006, Marjorie co-wrote ON.06.01 - Amendment of the Greenbelt Legislation, a resolution which passed unanimously at both the diocesan and provincial levels. In addition, she has facilitated the Leadership and Public Speaking Course numerous times, the Field Worker Training program in both Durham and Northern Regions, executive training and the National Grass Roots program.

Marjorie served on the Toronto Diocesan Convention Committee for many years and was part of the recording and editing committees for minutes of conventions. She helped to revise the Manual of Policy and Procedure. As Laurie van den Hurk and Willow Windatt said in their submission, "Over the years we have seen Marjorie quietly take women aside to affirm in each the gifts she has noted, as she did with each of us". "She has been a true and dear friend at a time of my life when I needed one most," says Willow. "In all of these things Marjorie has mentored all who know her by her passion for the League and her example of dedication, excellence of service and her spoken and written words of affirmation for each person. While continuing with full time employment, Marjorie has continued to make the League a priority in her life."

Moira Ste. Marie Memorial Lecture

It is with pride that we announce the first of what we hope will become a series of lectures in honour of the late Moira Ste. Marie, Life Member. Moira was a mother of seven, a teacher, an athlete and avid fan of many sports, the Returning Officer for Elections Canada for the Riding of Oshawa and later Oshawa/Whitby for 30 years, the innkeeper of the Victorian Inn on Rice Lake for ten years and a volunteer for many different charities and organizations, including being a member of the Board of Directors for Catholic Charities. As a Life Member of the League, having served at the parish, regional, diocesan, provincial and national levels, Moira was a well-loved mentor to many.

In Moira's honour we have created a lecture series. We are thrilled to have Dr. Margaret Somerville from McGill University as our first guest lecturer. Professor Somerville holds professorships in both the Faculty of Law, where she holds the Samuel Gale Chair and the Faculty of Medicine. She was the founding director of the McGill Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law. She plays an active role in the development of applied ethics, in particular the study of wider ethical and legal aspects

of medicine and science. She will speak to us on the topic of Euthanasia. This lecture will take place on Wednesday, October 8, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Charbonnel Lounge of Elmsley Hall, 81 St. Mary Street, Toronto, on the Campus of St. Michael's College. We invite you to join us and participate in a wonderful evening which will be very informative. This event is open to the public, so invite relatives and friends to join you. Please see further details in this newsletter to order your tickets.

Diocesan Elections Registry

This registry contains the names of all women eligible to seek office at the Diocesan level of the CWL. Each parish president is eligible to stand for election at the diocesan level for six years (three terms) after her parish presidency. To help keep the registry accurate and up-to-date, it is essential that each parish council send an updated list of their executive to the Corresponding Secretary of the Diocesan Council. It is the Corresponding Secretary's job and mine to ensure that all those eligible for the Diocesan election coming up at the 2015 convention, can be contacted and offered the opportunity to let their names stand for election. Therefore, please forward those updated executive lists as soon as possible.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Donna Capobianco

September is already here and the year-end is approaching. Some of you may be nearing the halfway point or you may be coming to the end of your term. No matter what the case may be, this is a good time to go through your checklist and prepare what is needed for your successor. Be sure to check that the following are in order:



1) Check that the minutes from all meetings have been signed and are filed in chronological order. Copies of the reports should also be kept with the minutes, especially if in the minutes it states that "full copy submitted and filed".

2) Be sure to have a motion book for your meetings. In this, you will record and date the motions made at all your meetings. This will often be referred to as it is a record of the decisions and votes that took place for your council. Be sure to keep it up-to-date and always bring it with you to all meetings.

3) Write a brief job description. There are many handbooks and resources, but sometimes it would help to know how your predecessor handled the duties that come with the position. Although the recording of the minutes is basically the same format, each council is unique and just might need a different approach

As I attended the Provincial and National Conventions this summer, I realized the recording secretary's position at any level, all basically have the same responsibilities and face similar challenges. Most of all, I realized that being a recording secretary is the perfect position to increase your knowledge of your council's history and the League in general .

TREASURER

Sonia Villanueva

Financial Statements

At the Toronto Diocesan Convention in May 2014 and at the Spring Regional Meetings, we informed you of the new requirement to submit financial statements to the general membership at least 21 days before the annual meeting for approval. At the diocesan level, we have complied with this requirement by providing the 2013 financial statements to the voting delegates before the annual convention, where the financial statements were approved.



For parish councils that already prepare their annual financial statements and have them reviewed or audited at year-end, complying with the new requirement should not be a problem. It would simply mean adjusting the date of the preparation and review or audit of the financial statements, so that they can be provided to the general membership at least 21 days before the general meeting date, when the financial statements will be presented for approval.

We recognize that certain parish councils may still be struggling with the preparation and review or audit of year-end financial statements. For these councils, complying with the new requirements will be a challenge. Yet, this will also be a good opportunity to address any issues related to financial reporting.

The Toronto Diocesan President will be providing more information at the Fall Regional Meetings with respect to the new financial statements

requirement. In fact, she is in discussion with the Provincial Treasurer in this regard. In addition, we will be conducting a survey of all parish councils in the Fall, to determine the extent of financial reporting provided at the parish level. The information will assist us in developing an implementations strategy for the new requirement. We would appreciate your co-operation in this endeavour.

Voluntary Funds

We encourage you to continue or start to support the Diocesan, Provincial and National Voluntary Funds. Please make cheques payable to “The Catholic Women’s League of Canada” and remit to the respective councils using the appropriate forms. These voluntary funds include the following:

- Toronto Diocese – St. Michael’s Scholarship Fund, Hope for Children Scholarship Fund
 - Provincial – Bishop Bernard F. Pappin Memorial Bursary Fund
 - National – Coady International Institute Fund, Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, Catholic Missions In Canada, Velma’s Dream/Catholic Near East Welfare Association
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Congratulations to Mary Kehoe of St. Mary Star of the Sea Council, Peel Region, on celebrating your 100th Birthday this year on April 30th. Mary is a very fascinating lady, who has many delightful stories to tell. We wish Mary continued good health in the coming years.





"Are One's Religious Beliefs the Only Reason to be Anti-Euthanasia?"

A Lecture Series
in Honour of
the late
Moira Ste. Marie



Past Toronto Diocesan
President & Life Member

DATE: Wednesday, October 8th, 2014

LOCATION: University of Toronto
St. Michael's Campus
Charbonnel Lounge, Elmsley Hall
81 St. Mary Street, Toronto

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

TICKETS: \$10.00 each



Guest Speaker:

Dr. Margaret Somerville,
Full Professor & Founding Director,
Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law.
Samuel Gale Chair in Law

For more information or tickets please contact:
Mary Hawkey

Space is limited so please order your tickets today
Organized by the Toronto Diocesan Council
Of The Catholic Women's League of Canada

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 21, 2014	Rosary Sunday, Martyrs' Shrine, Midland
October 8, 2014	Lecture Series: U of T - St. Michael's Topic: "Euthanasia" Speaker: Dr. Margaret Somerville
November 6, 2014	Cardinal's Dinner
January 10, 2015	WDP Festival Day
February 2015	Development Day

FALL REGIONAL MEETINGS

Durham	October 1, 2014 - 7:00 p.m. Mass St Isaac Jogues, Pickering
Humber Valley	October 28, 2014 - 7:00 p.m. Mass St. Roch, Weston
North York	October 16, 2014 - 7:00 p.m. Mass St. John Chrysostom, Newmarket
Northern	September 23, 2014 - 7:00 p.m. Mass St. Andrew, Brechin
Peel	October 23, 2014 - 7:00 p.m. Mass Sts. Peter & Paul, Mississauga
Scarborough	October 6, 2014 - 7:00 p.m. Mass Precious Blood, Scarborough
Toronto	At time of printing no date had been set for Toronto Regional Meeting

SERVICE AWARDS

Maple Leaf Service Pins

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord: Maria Gianggioppo

North York Region

St. Bonaventure:	Bonnie Beverley	Mildred Cope
Joyce Hisey	Sue Norman	Eva Trace

60-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Mary of the People: Cecile Gaboury
St. Andrew, Brechin: Philomena Brennan Helen Cormack
Bernice Lamb Bernadette Readman Rita Shier
Madeline Windatt Carmel Winfield

50-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Mary of the People: Antonia Komel Marie Smith
Ann Whitney
St. Andrew, Brechin: Anne Corrigan Cathy O'Donnell

Scarborough Region

St. Joseph Highland Creek: Eileen Farquason

40-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Transfiguration Parish: Catherine Perrier Charollette Pazier

Northern Region

Holy Martyrs of Japan: Carol Belanger Marian Kemp
Susan Simurda

North York Region

Blessed Trinity: Ann Marie Moffatt

25-Year Membership Pins

Durham Region

St. Mary of the People: Maria Dell Apa Ramona Froseca
Mary Ann Fox Marie Kriesz
Teresa Russo Elsie Shields

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord: Anita Bergin Martha Frigault
Betty Reeder Linda Wisz
Transfiguration: Beverley Storseth

Northern Region

Holy Martyrs of Japan: Katerina Schmich

North York Region

Blessed Trinity: Marie Dale Ileen Kennedy
Ellen Leckie Margaret Liu

Scarborough Region

St. Joseph Highland Creek: Delma Alphonso

10-Year Membership Pins

Humber Valley Region

Nativity of Our Lord:	Violet MacDonald	Erma Pitre
Transfiguration:	Frida Guarino	Nadia Guarino
	Tina Guarino	

Northern Region

Holy Martyrs of Japan:	Teri Cino	Zizi Ferreira
Jane Gauvin	Christine Houlieff	Lynn Lush
Delia McEvenue	Marillia Paulos	Maria Viveiros

North York Region

Blessed Trinity:	Mary Amyotte	Marita Enriquez
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Peel Region

Sts. Peter & Paul:	Anna Abbruscato	Bernice Brand
the late Julie Bryce	Mary Byrne	Editha Eduarte
Juliana Fernandes	Jennifer S. Fonseca	Joyce MacDonald
Evelyn Martinez	Antonella Nardulli	Joyce Pinto
Pinto Lobo	Eremita Rebello	Eveline Richard
Barbara Smethurst	Madge Somasundaram	Rose Marie Tokar

Scarborough Region

St. Joseph Highland Creek:	Joanne Cline	Mary Dagamao
Linda De Acetis	Christine Domingo	Hyacinth Fernandes
Danielle Giggie	Patsy Jordan	Doris McKeogh
Maria Ricupero	Jennifer Schroeder	Maria Tuccitto

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

Sue Lubowitz

Sub-convener: Suzanne Cockburn

As League activities start up again after summer holidays, I would urge all chairs to familiarize themselves with the expectations of this committee by reading the Constitution & Bylaws (Part XIII Section (3) and the Executive Handbook (CFL-1 to CFL-4).



Marriage and Family

In October 2013, Pope Francis called for an Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops to be convened October 5-19, 2014. The synod will focus on

“pastoral challenges to the family in the context of evangelization.” In June of this year, the Vatican released its *Instrumentum Laboris* (working document). This official Vatican document summarizes the results of the questionnaire which was circulated last fall to the faithful. The full text of the document, with a breakdown of topics, can be read by following the link on the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) website <http://www.cccb.ca>. CCCB publications will publish a print edition of *Instrumentum Laboris* (expected mid-August). The print edition is intended to facilitate personal study of the text. It would also be useful for parish CWL councils to study. Given the importance of the Synod, a Day of Prayer for the Synod will be held on Sunday, September 28th. Councils are urged to join in this Day of Prayer and are also urged to hold up in prayer, bishops and those in authority, as a special intention at the start or at the end of council meetings, so that they will lead the Church into an ever-fuller implementation of God’s plan for the family. We will continue to focus on the results of the synod throughout the next year, leading up to the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia in September 2015.

National Family Week is being celebrated October 6th to 12th. Thousands of Canadians have celebrated National Family Week every fall since 1985, when it was proclaimed an official week of the Government of Canada. This fall, the theme is **Families and Finances - It just adds up!** For more information, check the National Family Week website at www.frp.ca/nfw for ideas. This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the International Year of the Family, first declared by the United Nations in 1994. (www.family2014.org/home.php)

Sanctity of Life

The next 40 Days for Life campaign starts September 24th (to November 2nd). Go to the website (www.righttolife.to) to find out more about the pro-life campaign in your area.

National Life Chain will be held on Sunday, October 5th. Life Chain is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 90 minutes, praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. Check www.LifeChain.Net for the location in your community.

Toronto Right to Life receives a significant part of its funding through its annual Christmas card campaign. Many of our councils noted this as an example of their pro-life work in their annual reports. If you would like more information or to book a speaker, please contact Toronto Right to Life at 416-483-7869 or e-mail at office@righttolife.to.

Euthanasia and assisted suicide continue to make headlines. Councils are urged to discuss this issue during meetings. A renewed dialogue on palliative and end-of-life care could not be more timely. Seniors make up the fastest-growing age group in Canada, and by 2036 will reach ten million, double what it is today. (Statistics Canada, 2011) The national CWL website has two excellent workshops available for use by councils. One workshop is only 15 minutes and the second one is longer at 1¾ hours. Simply go to the national website www.cwl.ca and go to the header labeled *Programs and Workshops*. The workshops are under the Christian Family Life heading. Another useful resource is the Catholic Organization for Life and Family's workshop available at www.colf.ca. The hope is that any of these workshops will be a launching pad for further dialogue about end-of-life and palliative care. That should make a difficult topic a little more comfortable for all of us.

Catholic Girls League

Congratulations go to St. Aidan's CWL Council, Scarborough Region, who become the third council in the Toronto CWL Diocesan Council to form a Catholic Girls League (CGL). All councils are encouraged in the formation of a CGL in their individual parishes. Please remember that any CGL is a parish-based, parish run initiative. If your council would like to start this journey, then the first step is to contact your Regional Chair or myself, the Christian Family Life Chair. We will assist you in ensuring that all steps in the process are followed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Andrea Tjioe

Sub-conveners:

Orlanda Sousa
Nina Fernandes

Welcome back to you all! It has been a hectic summer for me, but I enjoyed the warmer weather, even the rainy days. It's hard to believe that one year has gone by so quickly. I'm getting the hang of my Communications role and tasks, including maintaining the website. Since our May convention and the Provincial Convention in Cobourg, I have not had too much time to focus on updating our website. Now that the summer is almost over, school is back, so are we back to our Fall Regional Meetings.



My utmost appreciation to Orlanda, my sub-convener, our official photographer at the Diocesan Convention. She took over 500 pictures over the two days, and put together a beautiful slide show with 140 pictures of our diocesan sisters in action throughout the past year, from regional meetings, Development Day, and, of course, the Convention. Thank you, Orlanda, for sharing your wonderful talent. Check out the website for many of the wonderful faces of our sisters in action.

Welcome to our newest Regional Chairs: Connie Cristinziano (Humber Valley), Maryse Ristuccia (Toronto) and Sharon Bellon (Northern). Visit our website, click on these respective regions and get to know them, and also their regional executive members. I'm looking forward to the coming year, back on the road to the regional meetings, the various diocesan events, and working with the rest of our faithful diocesan executive and Fr. Bob.

Fall is time for membership drives, and communication is key to recruiting new members, remembering, and keeping the seasoned members up-to-date with all the activities that are being planned throughout your parish councils. I know many of you have Parish Council Newsletters published, and perhaps your own website, blog and/or Facebook page. Don't forget you can keep up-to-date with the many levels of the League on-line. Diocesan: www.cwltoronto.ca - Provincial: www.cwl.on.ca - National: www.cwl.ca

Other available resources:

The Canadian League Magazine

Be-League a monthly on-line publication mainly focused on submissions from councils across the country.

Trillium News and Views Newsletter is published twice a year by the Ontario Provincial Council. Also you can check out a monthly issue of their **ON-Line** Newsletter. Both are available through the Ontario Provincial website.

Toronto Diocesan Council Newsletter published three times a year, is a must-subscribe for all the executive members of your council.

“Pornography Hurts” Campaign

Wow, the response to getting those postcards signed before the summer break, were so wonderful and very positive. During the month of August, our Prime Minister and our local MPs would have received more than 4,000 postcards from us, Toronto Diocesan members. I had 4,000 of those postcards printed, plus the ones that came with your Fall 2013 League Magazine. At the end of our May Diocesan Convention, I had 838 postcards which were given to me, and I have mailed them out (on a

weekly basis) throughout the month of August. Thank you all for your response to the “Call for Action”. So, by now our Prime Minister and MPs are aware that:

“Number of pornographic websites: **4.2 billion** (12% of total websites)”

“Number of pornographic e-mails daily: **2.5 billion** (8% of total emails)”

Just in case you have did not mail your postcards in August, you may do so at any time.

I look forward to hearing all your good news at the Fall Regional Meetings and your Annual Reports.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Claudette Wilson

Sub-convener:

Inez Meleca

Our first year in this position has ended and what a year it has been; with everything that is happening in the world one cannot help but wonder what is left for us to do but to keep praying for peace.



Dignity of Rights of Persons

Recently we have been hearing of so many different tragedies with people being killed by air, it becomes worrisome.

On July 16th, the Malaysian flight 17 was blown out of the sky killing 295 people; among them were 80 children, 15 crew members and the rest men and women. Some of these were members going to the AIDS Research Conference, who were going to try and help people with this illness. What a loss this is for everyone. Now we are learning that these individuals’ bodies are being tossed around with no sense of dignity.

Another loss was the first Malaysian flight that cannot be found and it seems that no one can account for what happened to the 310 people who are missing. It appears that each day we hear of another plane with so many people’s lives lost, yet there is no answer to these disasters.

Human Trafficking

What can we say about “Boko Haram”, a group of people who have taken a position as vigilantes, who feel that they do not have to account for their actions?

On April 15, 2014, they captured a group (200+) of young girls from their sleep at their school and held them hostage. Then they captured another 64 girls, taken by a group of gunmen on June 10th. They kidnapped 20 women from a nomadic settlement in northern Nigeria. This group seeks to establish a pure Islamic state ruled by sharia law. On June 8th, it was reported that a group of about 64 girls got away from their hiding place and walked for 24 hours before anyone saw them and took them to a safe place; the others are still unaccounted for. What bravery the 64 girls had in risking their lives. On July 22nd, it was reported that 11 parents of these girls have died, seven of them being fathers and the others, moms with heart and stress problems stemming from the disappearance of their children.

Prostitution Crackdown

Legislation introduced in June 2014, if passed would criminalize the purchase of sexual services and would take aim at those who benefit from prostitution and outlaw the sale of sex near places where children gather. The Conservatives are cracking down on Johns and Pimps because legalizing their activities would be unacceptable to Canadians, says Prime Minister Harper. The federal government had a choice with its new prostitution regulations, said Justice Minister Peter McKay, it could “condone the exploitation” of women and children “or protect them”. The government took the protection route.

Social and Economic Justice

Federal court reinstates health coverage for refugees. In 2012, cuts to the Interim Federal Health Insurance Program violated the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, constituting “cruel and unusual treatment” and cannot be justified, said Justice Anne Mactavish in the 268-page ruling, particularly when it affects children in refugee families. This policy risks the lives of these innocent and vulnerable children in a manner that shocks the conscience and outrages our standards of decency.

Sam is a refugee and a cancer survivor, thanks to Church fundraisers and the generosity of the doctors and hospitals working for free. He said he thanked God when the Federal Court ruled on July 4, 2014; he is now entitled to health coverage from the federal government.

Refugees, Immigration and Citizenship

On July 1st, Canada embraced a great number of immigrants who became citizens of this great country Canada; what a thrill this must have been for them to call this country home.

Development and Peace

Today we find that more and more young people are becoming involved in D & P. There are a growing number of committed young members who are showing their solidarity with the program. The *THINKfast* program is a 25-hour educational and fundraising fast done in schools celebrate their 25th anniversary. Funds raised by this program assist many families in Africa, Asia and Latin America with basic needs.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Val Egerton

Sub-Conveners:

Public Speaking, Poetry & Essay Mary Lou Bonnici
St. Michael's Scholarship & Health Mary Tuccitto

Youth Awards

It has been said that speaking in public is more terrifying than the fear of flying. You would not have noticed this from the performance of the six finalists of the Toronto Diocesan Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest. The participants were well rehearsed and the topics were creative and varied. The judges debated long and hard before reaching a consensus on the first and second place winners, who went on to charm and entertain the CWL members and guests at the 93rd Annual Toronto Diocesan Convention on May 29th this year.



The entries for the Mary Dobell Poetry and Writing Contests were also impressive, and the youth who applied for the Jean McCann Youth Service Award were a shining example of some of our future citizens, of whom we should be very proud.

Unfortunately, not everyone can win but you may recognize some of the names of the winners below. Congratulations and thanks to all concerned for the effort which went into making these awards a huge success.

MARY MATTHEWS PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

2014 Winner: Ariana Zunino, Holy Spirit Catholic School
St. Patrick, Wildfield, Brampton, Peel Region

Topic: "Barbie"

MARY DOBELL PRO-LIFE ESSAY AND POETRY CONTEST

Winners - Essay Contest - 2014

Senior: Evan Cvitkovic, All Saints Catholic Secondary School
Holy Family Parish, Whitby, Durham Region
Topic: The Unnecessary Debate: God is Pro-Life

Intermediate: Francesco Del Giudice, Nativity of Our Lord C. S.
Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Humber Valley Region
Topic: Pro-Life Awareness

Winners - Poetry Contest - 2014

Senior: Faith Green, All Saints Catholic Secondary School
St. John the Evangelist Parish, Whitby, Durham Region
Poem: For Those Without Voices

Intermediate: Cassandra Mercieca, Nativity of Our Lord C. S.
Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Humber Valley Region
Poem: Pro-Life Poem

JEAN McCANN SERVICE AWARD FOR YOUTH

2014 Winner: Kassandra Galaski, St. Theresa Catholic School
St. Margaret Parish, Midland, Northern Region

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOLARSHIP AWARD Winner 2013

Mariam Rafo, Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School
St. Anne's Parish, Brampton, Peel Region

HOPE FOR CHILDREN FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD Winner 2013 - Shanice Johnson

CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic School Trustee? In a brochure "*Catholic Education – Keeping Faith in Mind*", the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association promotes Ontario's publicly-funded Catholic schools by maintaining that these schools have a long history of academic excellence, are "an integral part of Ontario's history for more than 170 years", and bring "a distinctive faith component to learning". Students bring a commitment to service through their works and initiatives and strive to become "a light of Christ" for the world.

According to the brochure, Catholic schools "nurture the development of the whole person – mind, body and spirit." This sentiment is reflected in the seven "Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations", some of

which include: “Discerning believers formed in the Catholic Faith; Effective communicators; Collaborative contributors; Caring family members; and Responsible citizens.”

Catholics are urged to check their property tax bill to ensure that their support is directed to their local Catholic school board. If you are a tenant you can verify your support through your local Catholic School Board or municipal office. If you would like to learn more about the Catholic board in your area, you may visit www.ocsta.on.ca or call 416-932-9460.

HEALTH

Underage drinking

Keeping our youth in mind, our thoughts turn to an informative brochure which reflects the combined efforts of the Hamilton Public Health Services, Hamilton Police, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board. The brochure addresses the strategies for *Parents to Prevent Underage Drinking*.

Some statistics taken from the brochure tell us that 54.9% of Ontario students in Grades 7 to 12 reported using alcohol in the past 12 months. Reports on binge drinking went from 1% of Grade 7 students to 40% among grade 12 students. Google *Strategies for Parents to Prevent Underage Drinking* for more information.

Conscience rights and the practice of medicine in Ontario

First Among Rights: Freedom of Conscience and Religion. Check out the Catholic Organization for Life and Family contribution to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario’s Consultation on Conscience Rights.



CONGRATULATIONS 

*...to our own Margaret Ann Jacobs
on her election to the position of
President-Elect
to the National Council of The Catholic
Women’s League of Canada.
We are so proud!*

LEGISLATION

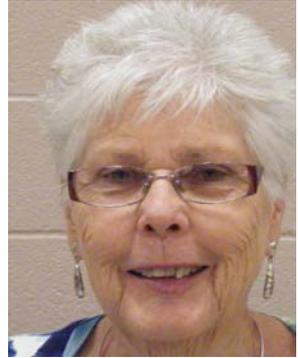
Dorine Dubreuil

Sub-Conveners:

Imelda Santos
Ilona Binns

According to the National Manual of Policy and Procedure, the duties of the Legislation Chair are:

- (a) Monitor and study legislation at all levels of government.**
- (b) Preparation of briefs and position papers on proposed Legislation.**



Some councils will be holding elections in December. I encourage you to let your name stand; take on the role of legislation chair if you are asked. Legislation is not “*scary*”. You will be amazed at the knowledge you gain from researching legislative issues before Parliament. I know I sound like the proverbial broken record, asking members to take on the role of legislation chair. We need to continue to make our political leaders aware of our Catholic values and be a voice for the voiceless. We are encouraged *to be the eyes of the Lord. Don’t be afraid let His light shine through us.*

It is time to start planning for Annual Reports. Last year there was a slight increase in annual report submissions. However, seven councils stated having a legislation chair but submitted a blank report. Letter-writing is the most effective tool for expressing our concerns on legislative issues. If your council engaged in letter-writing, signed petitions, invited speakers regarding legislative issues, and/or attended rallies, report this in your Annual Report. Showcase your endeavours, inspire councils with your ideas. Follow the example of the twelve councils that submitted displays at our annual Toronto Diocesan Convention. Research resolutions that have passed at national level and take action.

Federal Legislation

Bill C-36 An Act to Amend the Criminal Code in Response to the Supreme Court of Canada (New Prostitution Law)

Recently there has been controversy in the newspapers and The Catholic Register on Bill C-36. The federal government chose to protect women and children with its new prostitution laws. Bill C-36 has been adopted by the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights. In September

when Parliament resumes, the Chair of the Committee will report the Bill back to the House of Commons where it will go through Report Stage and Third Reading. The proposed changes to section 213 of the Criminal Code were vague and would allow prostituted women to continue to be criminalized. The Conservative government put forward an amendment that narrowed the offence to accomplish what it was meant to accomplish. The results of the amendments puts the focus on discouraging solicitation from specific places where youth should be able to be free from sexual commodification and objectification. Visit www.LEGISinfo.ca to view full details of Bill C-36 and the proposed amendments.

Food Labeling

Health Minister Rona Ambrose launched a consultation process across Canada in January 2014. The feedback received from these consultations highlighted that many Canadians find the information currently on food labels useful. However, there were many ideas on how to improve the labels to help find, understand and better use the information. Among the changes both 'total sugar' and 'added sugar' would be required information on nutrition labels. Resolution 2008.04 Accurate Food Labeling, addressed issues on food labels.

Action: Follow the progression of the amendment by visiting Health Canada website www.hc-sc.gc.ca. Write letters to Health Minister Rona Ambrose supporting the amendment.

Provincial Legislation

Bills that did not reach Royal Assent prior to the June 12, 2014 election are deemed to have died on the Order Paper. Those bills cannot be carried forward to the new Parliament; however, a similar bill may be introduced by members of the new Parliament.

Action: Visit www.ontla.on. Monitor bills introduced by MPs.

Municipal Legislation

The majority of councils do not take action on municipal issues in the community. Municipal elections will be held on October 27, 2014. We need to focus on how our tax dollars are being utilized in our communities. Are you satisfied with your Mayor, councilors and school trustees? Ensure your name is on the voters' list. When a candidate knocks on your door, ask pertinent questions regarding issues and concerns you may have. Vote on Election Day - we can make a difference in our communities.

RESOLUTIONS

Hilarion Mitchell

Sub-convener: Patricia Wilson
Wilma van den Hurk

Ontario Provincial 2014 Convention

Update: Another convention year has been completed as the newest resolutions were adopted at the various provincial diocesan conventions during the spring. In July, two resolutions from Toronto and Thunder Bay dioceses were adopted in Cobourg. By the time you receive this newsletter, some or all of these resolutions may have been adopted at the national convention in Fredericton in August. As members, we can continue to address the action plans associated with a resolution as they are always active at their adopted level until they are resolved or acted on by the authorities directed.



ON.14.01 Mandatory Labeling of Genetically Modified Food

Products: This resolution was adopted at our Toronto Diocesan Convention in May. We thank St. John Fisher, Peel Region, the originating council, for submitting it. The resolution acknowledged that Canada has no mandatory labeling legislation for food and animal feed products that have been genetically modified (GM). The use of these products is increasing since the early 1990's and there is an emerging body of research relating GM foods with health and environmental concerns. As a result, the resolution urges the federal government to amend the Food and Drug Act to include the mandatory labeling of all Canadian and imported food and animal feed products that have been genetically modified and or contain genetically modified ingredients.

Action:

- Write letters to the Prime Minister, Health Minister and local elected Members of Parliament to amend the Food and Drugs Act as noted in the resolution's resolved clauses.
- Encourage members to become informed about genetically modified products.
- Monitor Bill C-257 Mandatory Labeling for Genetically Modified Foods.
- Write letters to manufacturers.

Monitor Health Canada Nutrition Labeling Modernization: Add your voice to Health Canada proposed changes to nutrition labeling legislation

and regulations. The report on *Consulting Canadians to Modernize and Improve Food Labels: What We Heard* was published in June 2014. It was based on consultation across Canada with parents, consumers and stakeholders between January and April 2014. The report highlighted that consumers use food labels as the main source to make informed choices on what they eat and compare products for their purchasing decisions. It also noted that consumers use the food label to meet health, dietary, environmental, cultural needs or social needs, such as where a product is from or how it is made. The labeling of genetically modified foods was one of their suggestions in this area. See Health Canada website for the report at http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/alt_formats/pdf/label-etiquet/modernize-report-moderniser-rapport-eng.pdf.

ON.14.02 *Feathers of Hope* – Empowering First Nations Youth resolution originated from Thunder Bay Diocese. The resolution addressed the decades of systemic issues of poverty faced by youth in First Nations communities. The resolution urged the Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth to initiate a meeting of the Provincial and Federal Ministries, First Nations leaders and First Nations youth to discuss and create a five-year strategy to implement the recommendations set out in the *Feathers of Hope* action plan and to extend it to all provinces and territories.

Action: See the provincial CWL website at www.cwl.on.ca for the action plan as it was not available at the time this article was prepared.

TDC 2014.02 Support for a National Dementia Strategy

We thank Immaculate Heart of Mary Council, Scarborough Region, for bringing awareness of this growing economic and societal concern. Unfortunately, the resolution was withdrawn at our Toronto Diocesan Convention in May 2014 as the resolved clause asked the Federal Government to adopt The Alzheimer Society of Canada National Dementia Strategic Plan. Because one component of the plan involved the use of human embryonic stem cells in research practices, it contravened our Catholic teachings on the sanctity of life. The Alzheimer Society relies on research conducted by the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) which is covered by federal legislation. The other areas of the plan were support for family caregivers, prevention and early intervention, integrated system of care and support for Canada's dementia workforce. Dementia is one of the top ten killers and there is no way to prevent or effectively treat it at present. It will significantly impact the health system and it is projected that 1.4 million Canadians will be affected and cost \$293 billion a year to treat. Fifty percent of the

Convention's closing Mass contribution was donated to the Alzheimer Society Day Programs.

Action:

- Encourage members to become educated about Dementia disease causes, symptoms, treatments, caregiver supports.
- Write letters the Prime Minister and Health Minister encouraging them to Support Bill C-356 An Act Respecting a National Dementia Strategy

2015 Resolution Topics Submission Deadline

Councils should be considering their resolutions topics and submit them by **Friday October 31, 2014**. Check the Toronto Diocesan website, www.cwltoronto.ca, under the *Resources – Resolutions tab* for assistance on how to get started. A successful resolution topic must contain accurate facts from reputable sources, Canadian content, focus on one topic and current within five years. Also, the resolution must align with our Catholic faith as noted in our Constitution & Bylaws, Part IV *Objects* and V *Policy*. The reward for the fruits of your labour is witnessing our faith in action as the resolutions are eventually presented to the authorities directed such as the League, government, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and organizations.

2014 Resolutions Annual Reports

Historically, resolutions annual report submissions have been low as councils may be intimidated by the resolutions process. However, interest is always high during the convention as members continue to participate, as witnessed by over 200 in attendance for this year's Convention Dialogue Session. The 2014 Resolutions Annual Report forms will be handed out during the Fall Regional Meetings and will be posted on the website www.cwltoronto.ca.

Action:

- Submit by email or regular mail by **Friday November 15, 2014**, to the Organization Chair, President-Elect Shirley Christo.
- Councils must submit a fully completed report even if there is no resolutions chair.

Newsletter Editors, Alice Warford and Tracy MacInnis try to blend in at the North York Spring Regional Meeting at Blessed Trinity Parish.



Sub-convener:

Patricia Cross

Convention season is officially over and it's time to get back to work. Alice and I had a blast, singing, dancing, and praying our way through our Toronto Diocesan Convention in May at the International Plaza Hotel, the Provincial Convention in Cobourg during July and the National Convention in Fredericton, New Brunswick this past August.



The executive of the Toronto Diocesan Council are quite excited to share their news with all of you. Father Bob, our Spiritual Advisor, talks of the Toronto Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan as set out by Cardinal Collins. Our President, Mary Capobianco, welcomes all new Regional Chairs to their positions and looks forward to seeing you all at the Fall Regional Meetings. Our Spiritual Development Chair, Lucia Vacca, sums up last year and gives us dates to remember for this year. Be sure to pay close attention to the Treasurer's Report, by Sonia Villanueva, for important updates on council financial statements, external audits and time lines to submit the report to general members as outlined in the new Constitution & By-laws from National. And finally, all the Standing Committee Chairs give their reports, which are too numerous to summarize in this small section.

You will find Service Award recipients and anniversaries, dates to remember and an advertisement for our First Annual Lecture Series on October 8th in honour of the late Moira Ste. Marie, a past diocesan president and CWL life member, in the centre pages of this publication.

Please keep us advised when there is any change in name or address, especially for your Parish Spiritual Advisor. Contact Alice Warford at fleur.59@hotmail.com with those changes. It's probably not a bad idea to let your Regional Chair and the Diocesan Corresponding Secretary aware of these changes as well. As always, we welcome submissions of Service Award recipients and anniversaries. Be sure to get them in to Tracy MacInnis, tmacinnis@rogers.com, by October 30, 2014, to make the next edition.

Happy reading and see you all at the regional meetings in the fall!

CANDID MOMENTS



CWL Members attend Right For Life Rally at Parliament Hill in Ottawa May 8, 2014.

Diocesan President Mary Capobianco poses with a CGL at the Toronto Diocesan Convention May 29 & 30, 2014



CWL Provincial President Betty Colaneri smiles for the camera at the National Convention in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Thank you to our amazing Convention Committee, Madeline Burke, Debbie Bates and Mary Antonio, for organizing a splendid Toronto Diocesan Convention.



CANDID MOMENTS



Barbara Dowding (teal jacket) newly installed National President with our own Mary Capobianco by S'mores display at the Provincial Convention in Cobourg.

We're going to make you ROAR for S'mores - follow-up to "Catch the Fire". Toronto Diocesan Executive members help to kick off the program at the Provincial Convention.



Toronto Delegates pose by the Welcome sign at the National CWL Convention in Fredericton, New Brunswick in August 2014.

Provincial Flags placed at the front of St. Dunstan's Church in Fredericton for the opening Mass of the National CWL Convention.

